

# Introduction To Submarine Networks



Present & Future Challenge  
Historical Perspective

Valey Kamalov, Vijay Vusirikala, Jose Chesnoy

**Monday, August 5, 2019**

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**Welcome from Google and OSA**

**lecture # 1-1. Valey Kamalov. Introduction to Submarine Networks**

**lecture # 2. Raynald Leconte. Cable ships and Marine equipment**

**lecture # 1-2. Vijay Vusirikala. Introduction to Submarine Networks**

**lecture # 4-1. Jean Christophe Antona. Optical transmission**

**lecture # 10-1. Michael François. System Planning**

**Roundtable 1. “Evolution of submarine networks and technology”, Lead:  
Elizabeth Rivera Hartling**

# Outline

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9:00-10:15

- ▶ Foreword to Subsea OFC, Valey
- ▶ What is a submarine Network, Valey
- ▶ Flying over 150 years of submarine cable technology, Valey

1:30-2:30

- ▶ Modern networking: Life of a packet / Social Networks, Vijay
- ▶ Google and Google Cloud global network, Vijay
- ▶ Reaching the physical limit, Vijay
- ▶ What's next, Vijay

# Foreword to Subsea OFC Innovation School 2019

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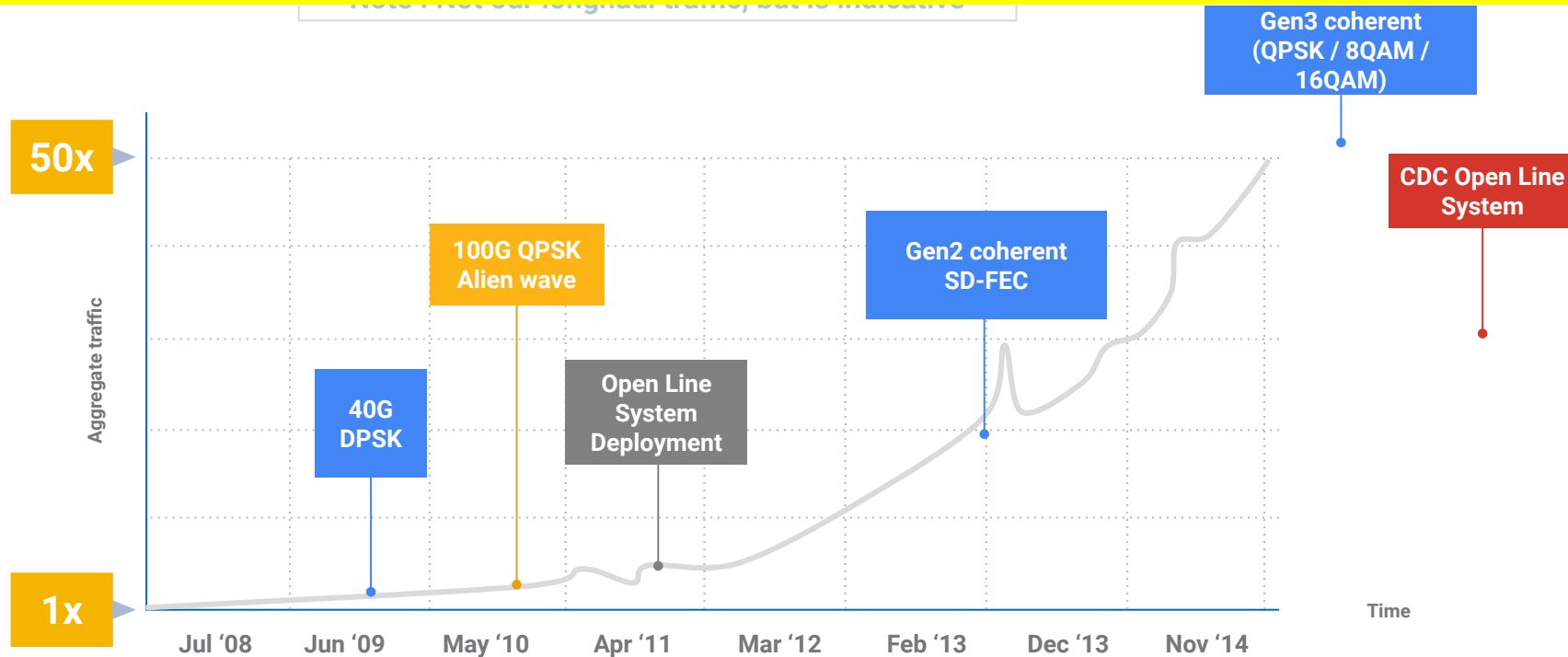
- ▶ Math is required in 2020
  - *If I were again beginning my studies, I would follow the advice of Plato and start with mathematics (**Galileo Galilei**)*
- ▶ Spirit of innovation is desirable
  - *1st Trans-Atlantic Cable Adventure 1858 (lots of math involved)*
  - *Sputnik 1957 (and Sputnik moment), Apollo 1969 .....*
- ▶ Worldwide tech talent gap is large
  - *A Star Is Born, Map of our students homeland*
  - *Young people need opportunities*
  - *Subsea industry needs young people, this school is to make you interested to join*

# Subsea OFC 2019 Students



# Information Revolution

- ▶ The information revolution led us to the age of the internet
- ▶ Optical communication networks play a key role in delivering massive amounts of data

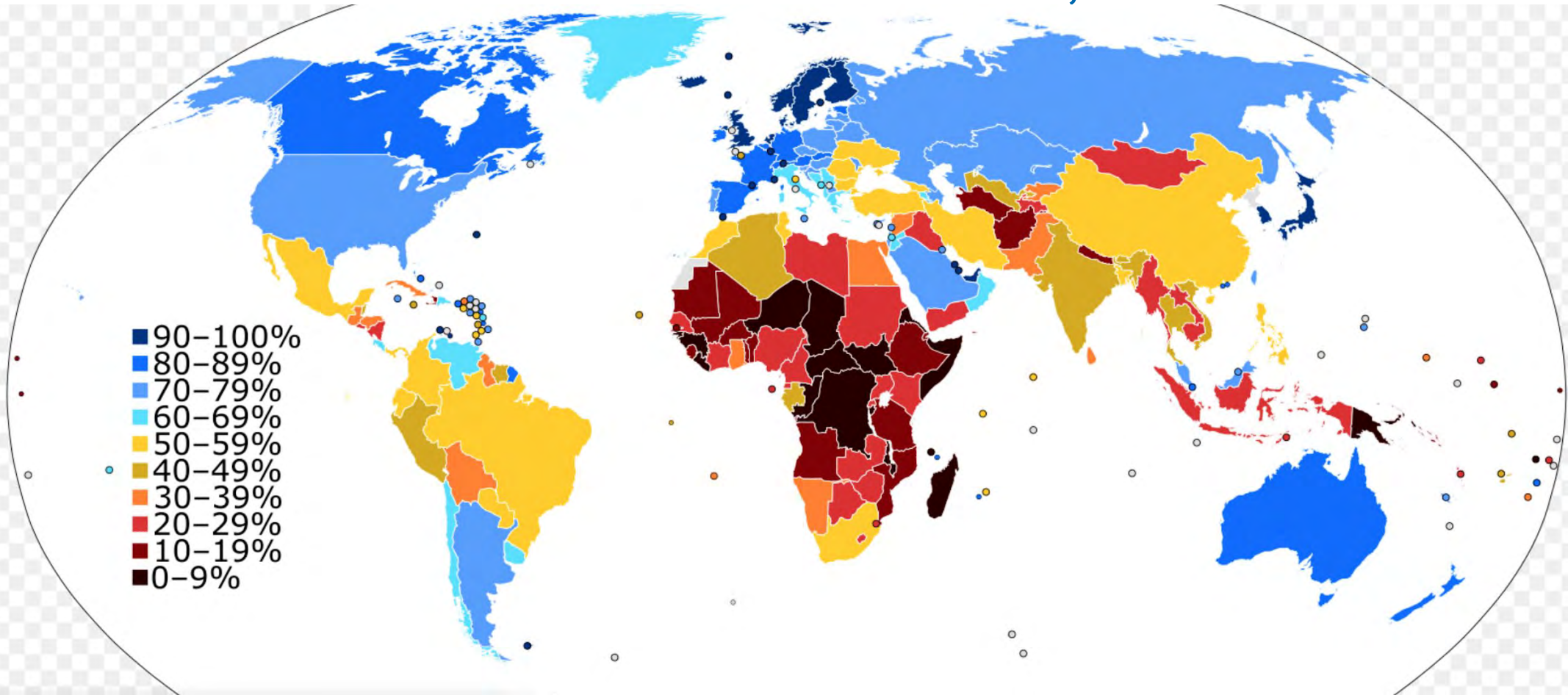


# Further Growth Is Imminent

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- ▶ The internet will continue to expand due to user population growth and internet penetration
  - *Previously inaccessible geographical regions in Africa and Asia will come online*
- ▶ Network growth will only be accelerated by improvements in integrated circuits
  - *Nielsen's law of internet bandwidth states: A high-end user's connection speed **grows by 50% per year.***
  - *Nielsen's Law of Internet Bandwidth has held true throughout a 36-year period. That doesn't necessarily mean that it will continue to be true for the next several decades, but it's certainly likely*

# Internet Penetration Finland >90%, Africa <40%

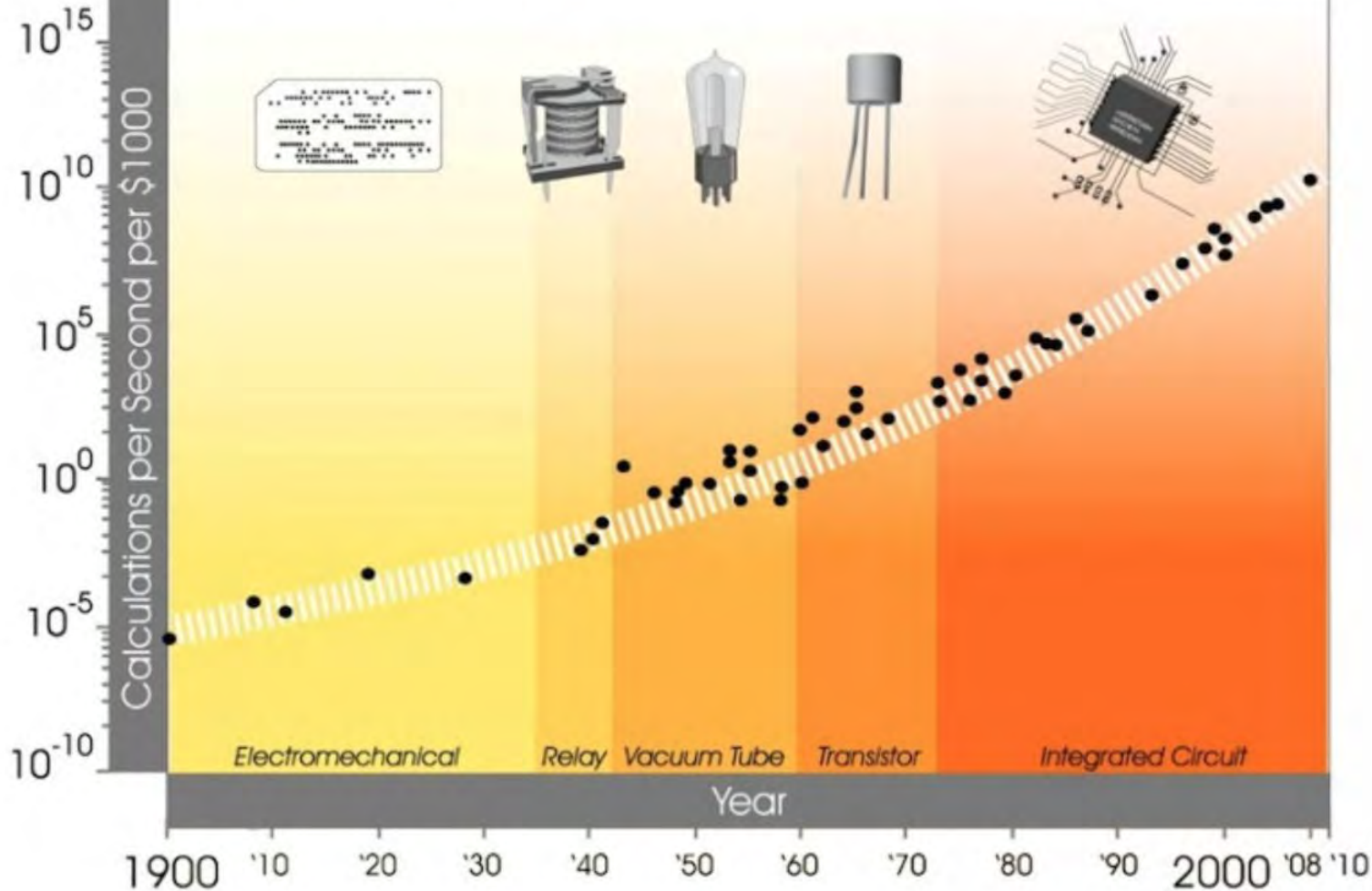




## Exponential Growth of Computing for 110 Years

Moore's Law was the Fifth, not the First, Paradigm to Bring Exponential Growth in Computing

Logarithmic Plot



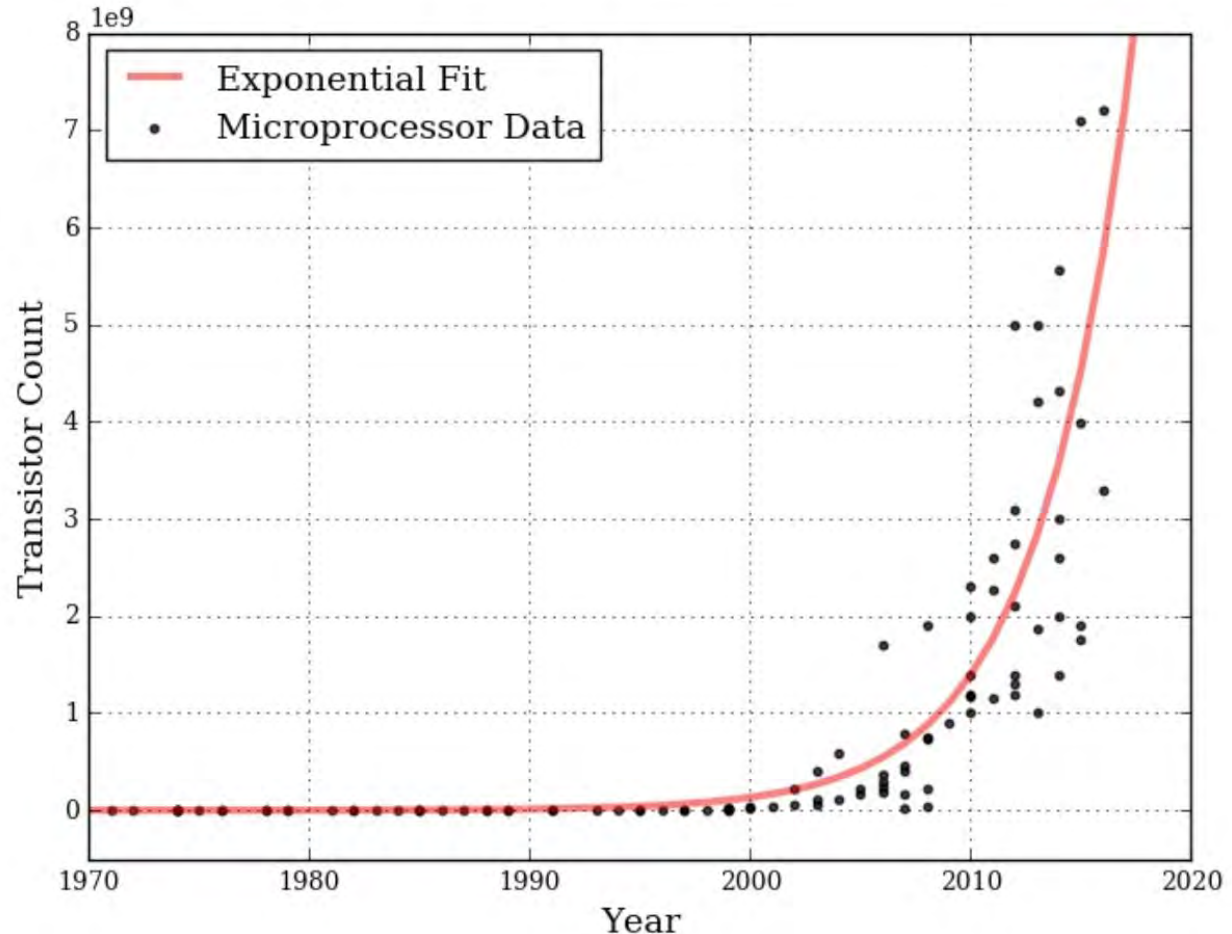
Kurzweil: evolutionary progress is exponential because of positive feedback (2001 essay entitled "The Law of Accelerating Returns")

# Challenges in Subsea Communication Industry

Challenge 1: continue exponential push (more fibers or more cables?)

Challenge 2: add developing countries on the digital train (too expensive to build and maintain)

Number of transistors on the chip

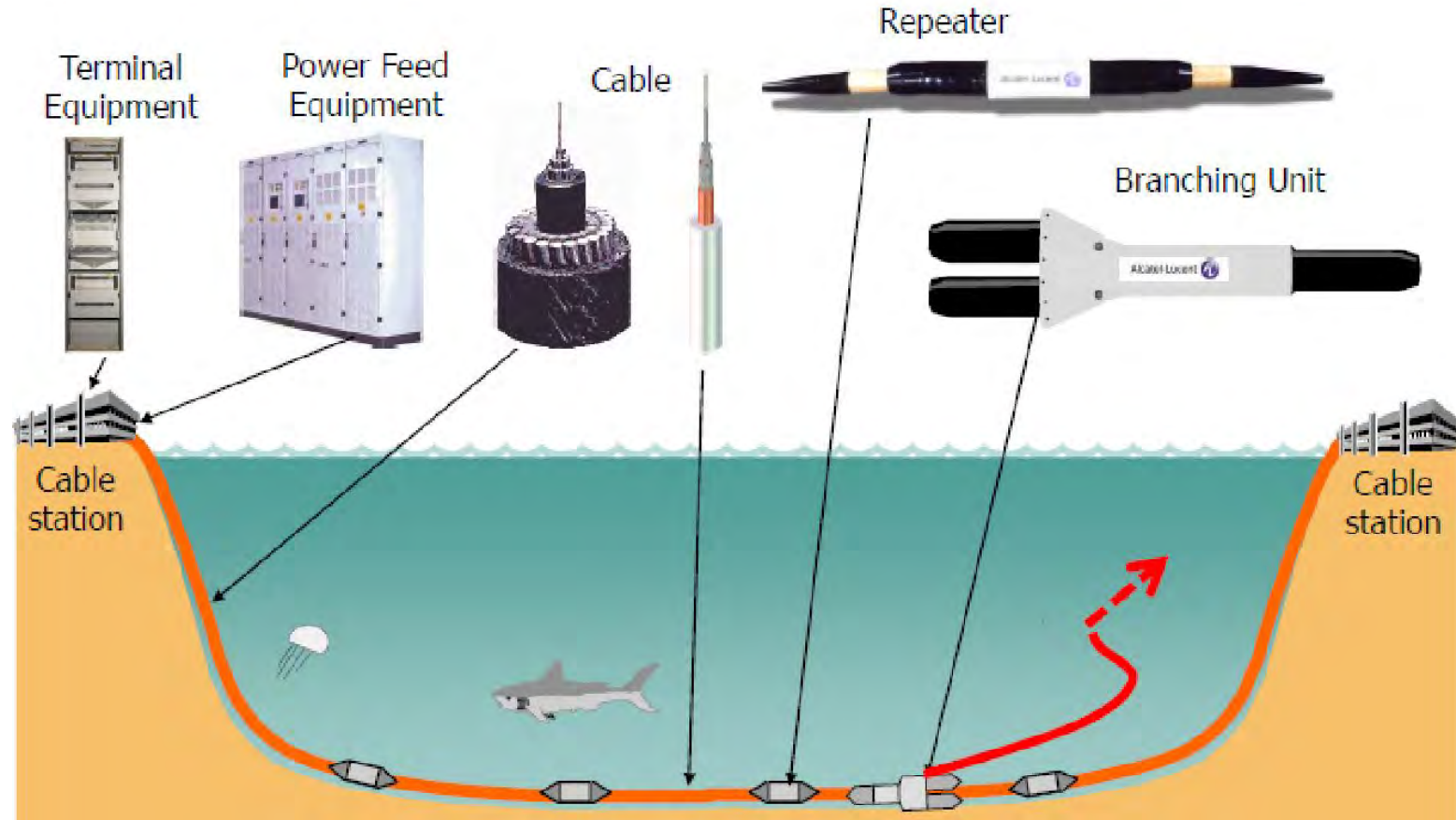


# What is a submarine Network

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- ▶ Basic configurations
- ▶ Marine operations
- ▶ Submerged equipment
- ▶ Networks

# What is a submarine network/ basic configurations

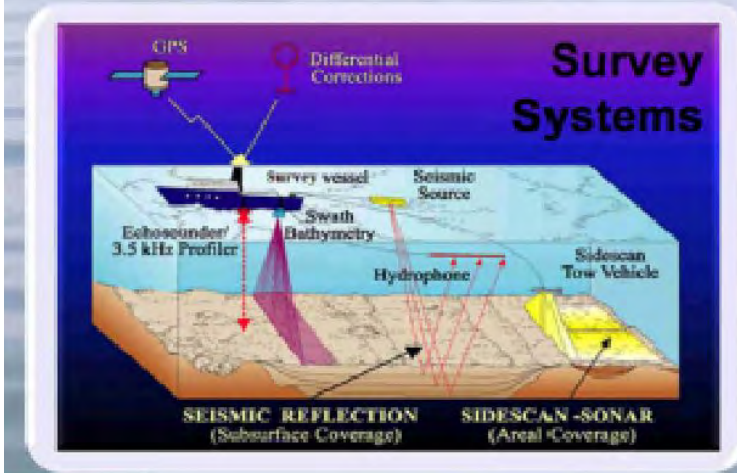


# What is a submarine network/ marine operations

- ▶ Large part of Cable cost
- ▶ Present along lifetime
  - Survey
  - Installation
  - maintenance



# Marine operations: Survey



# Marine operations: Installation



## Ploughing



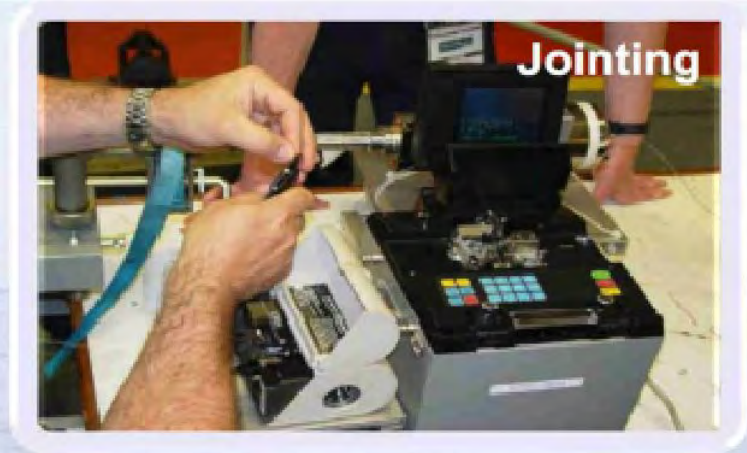
## Shore Ends



## ROV Burial

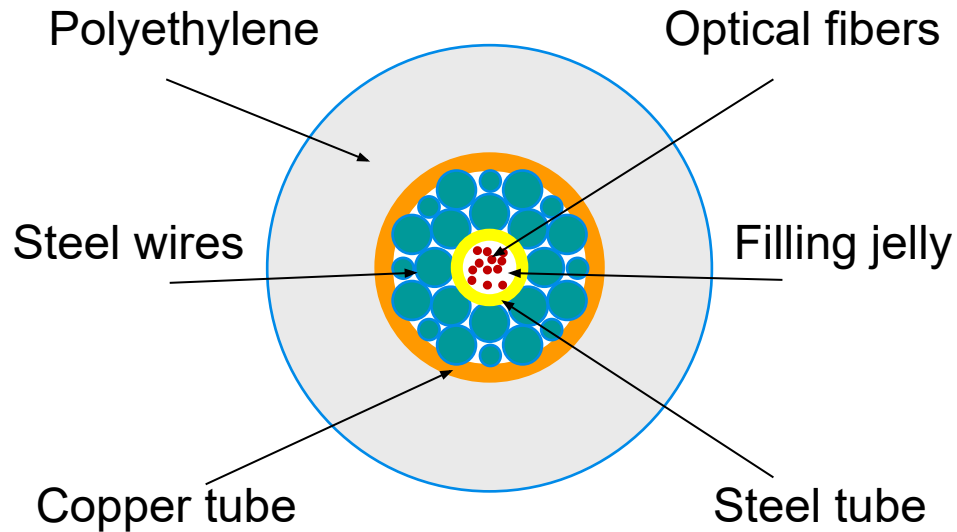


# Marine Operations: maintenance & repair





# What is a submarine network/ Cable



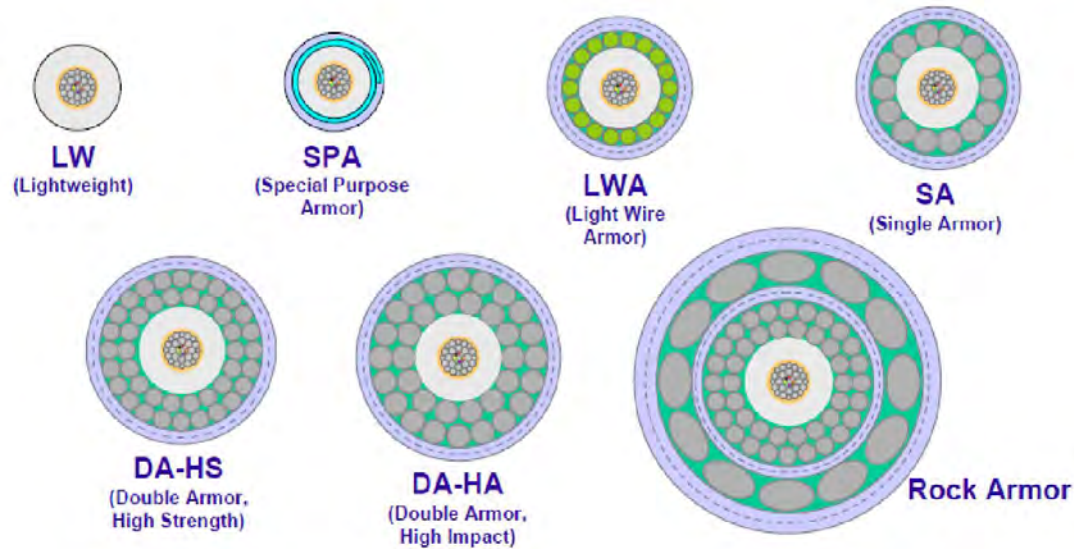
## ► Function

- Protect the optical fiber
- Power repeaters

## ► Properties

- Optical
- Mechanical strength
- Pressure
- Abrasion
- Voltage
- Chemical
- H<sub>2</sub>O barrier
- H<sub>2</sub> barrier
- Design life 25 years

# What is a submarine network/ Cable



- ▶ All types based on the deep sea cable (Light Weight / LW)

# What is a submarine network/ Repeater



## ▶ Function

- Amplify optical signal
- After attenuation through fiber

## ▶ Properties

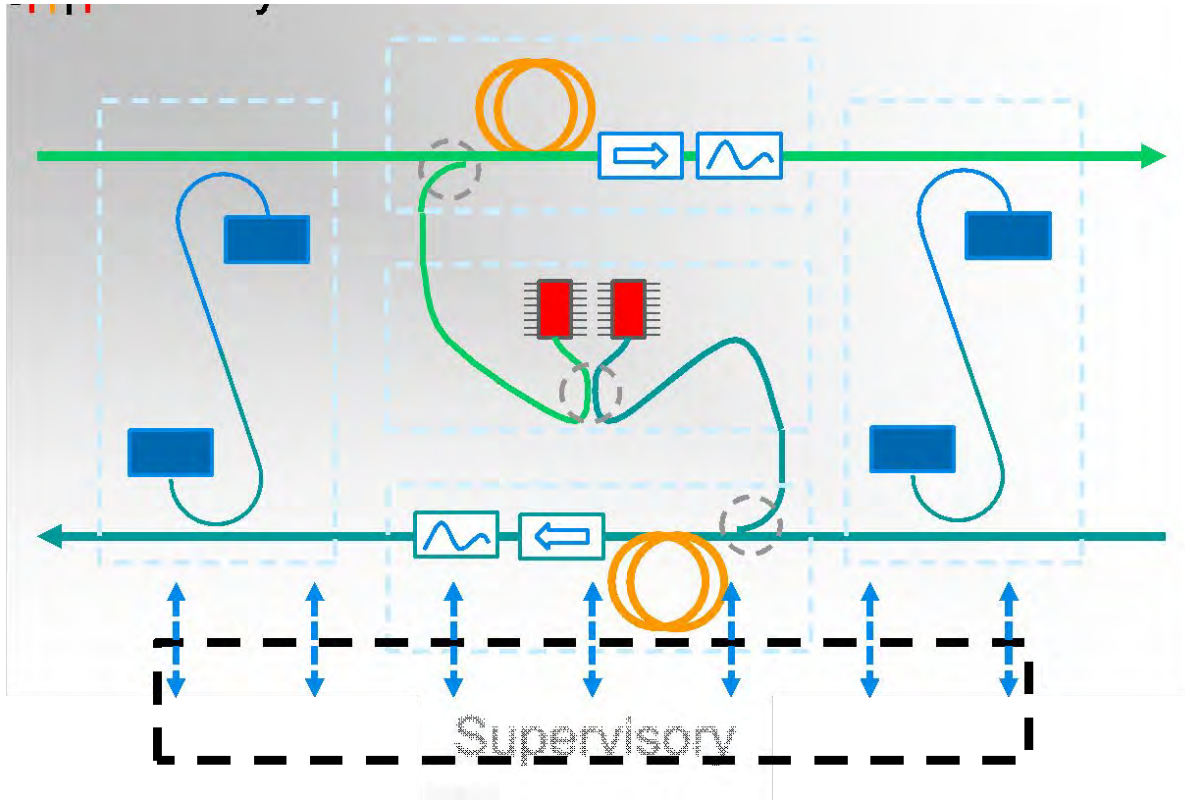
- Optical
- Mechanical
- Pressure
- Voltage
- Water ingress with difficulty of mobile fiber penetrators

## ▶ Active equipment

- Semiconductor Optical pump lasers
- Specific qualification/redundancy for 25 years design life

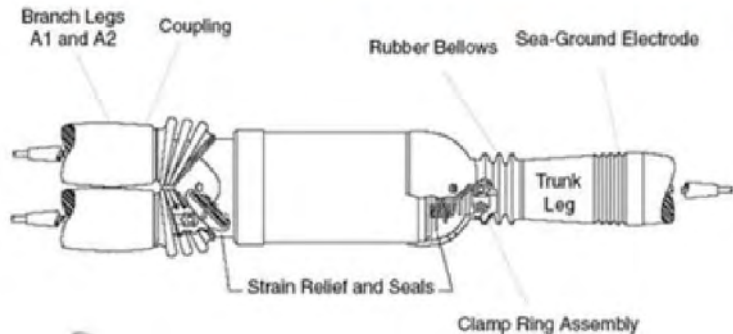
# What is a submarine network/ Repeater

## ▶ EDFA (Erbium Doped Fiber Amplifier)



- ▶ EDFA Introduced in 1994
- ▶ Few change since...
  - Transparent
  - Enabling WDM
  - Reliable
- ▶ Ongoing evolution
  - Higher power
  - Pump « farming »
  - C + L band (?)
  - Raman (?)
  - SOA(?)

# What is a submarine network/ Branching Unit (BU)



## ▶ Function

- Split fiber path between 3 directions

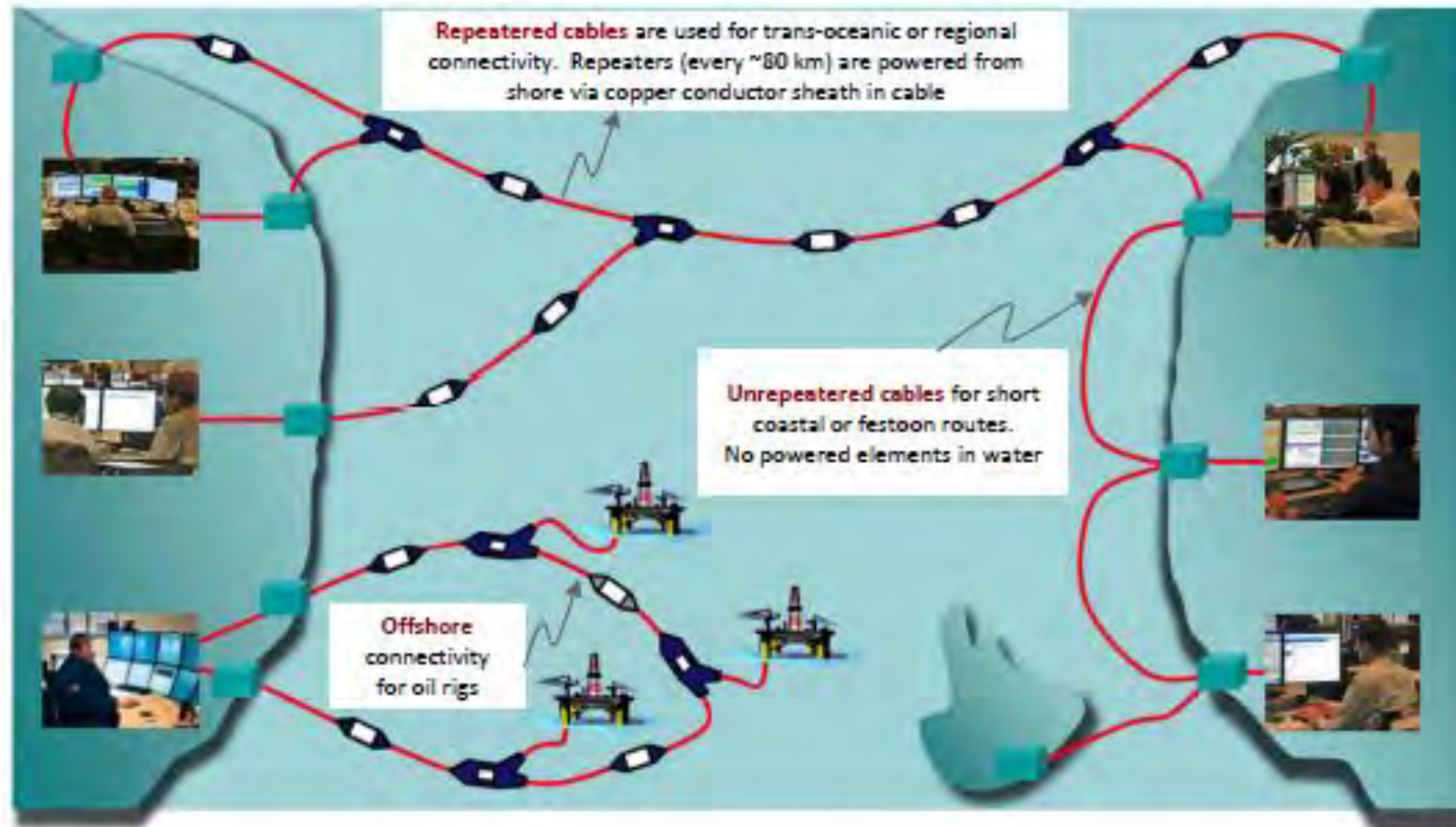
## ▶ Properties (similar to repeater)

- Optical
- Mechanical
- Pressure
- Voltage
- Water ingress with difficulty of mobile fiber penetrators

## ▶ Active equipment

- Modern BU switch wavelengths and fibers
- The more complex wet plant equipment

# What is a submarine network/ basic configurations



Permits

# Large capital investment

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- ▶ Each cable is a Large capital investment
- ▶ Complexity requires long lifetime
  - Modern cables are often designed for 25 years of service
  - Successful installation
  - Operation
  - Repairs
- ▶ All above depend on the system architecture and component reliability
- ▶ Solid project management is the key to success

# Experience of several generations of engineers

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- ▶ Lecturers bring you real life expertise
  - Subsea cable design
  - Installation
  - Maintenance in the harsh environment
- ▶ Lecturers are top experts in the field, recognized globally. I want to sincerely thank Lecturers of this School who spent considerable time to prepare, and to share their knowledge and expertise
  - Establish friendship and mentorship Lecturer - Student



# Summer School Subsea OFC 2019

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- ▶ School is intended to help the next generation of researchers and engineers who wants to change the world of subsea communications
- ▶ Could we find better and cheaper conductors compared to copper, which has been used since 1858? Could we find materials with better isolation properties than polyethylene, which was discovered almost a century ago?
- ▶ We have much more to do: the cost of submarine cables is unbearable for developing countries. Cable repair takes weeks. We lay cables at about the same speed as HMS “Agamemnon” did in 1858.

# Innovations based on knowledge

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- ▶ New ideas keep coming from the information transport community
  - Shannon / 32 y.o.
- ▶ We transport an order of magnitude more bits than just five years ago
  - We encode information into phase, polarization, and amplitude of electro-magnetic wave.
- ▶ Michael Faraday would be proud of us knowing that we send over 10,000,000,000,000 bits every second across the Atlantic Ocean in a single strand of fiber.
- ▶ We would leave in awe Sir William Thomson (known as Lord Kelvin), who was the scientific leader of an 1858 endeavor

# The Uniqueness 1

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- ▶ The **SubOptic community** is unique in that it has to care about environmental impacts
- ▶ AND the safety of cables
- ▶ AND the safety of data
- ▶ AND maintain a fleet capable of overcoming the challenges of the high seas
- ▶ AND solve the multi-dimensional problems of submarine projects and complexity of project management

# The Uniqueness 2

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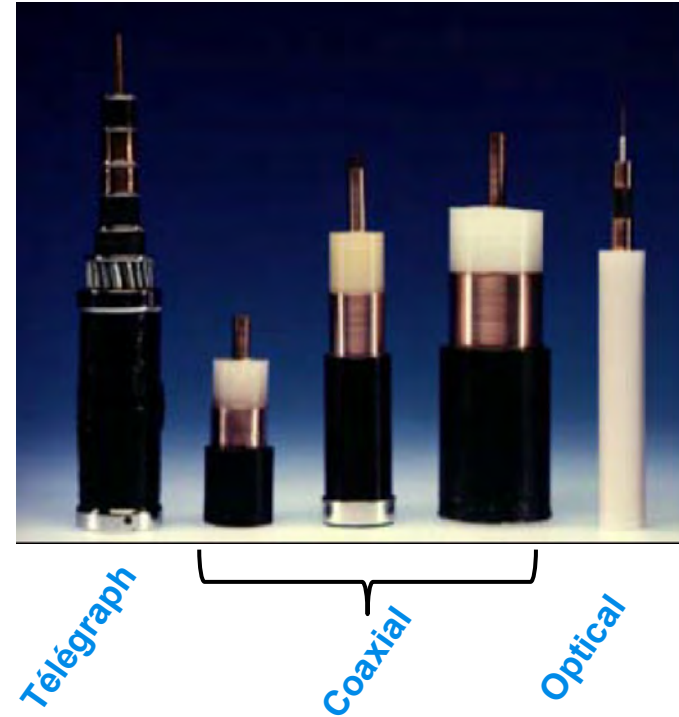
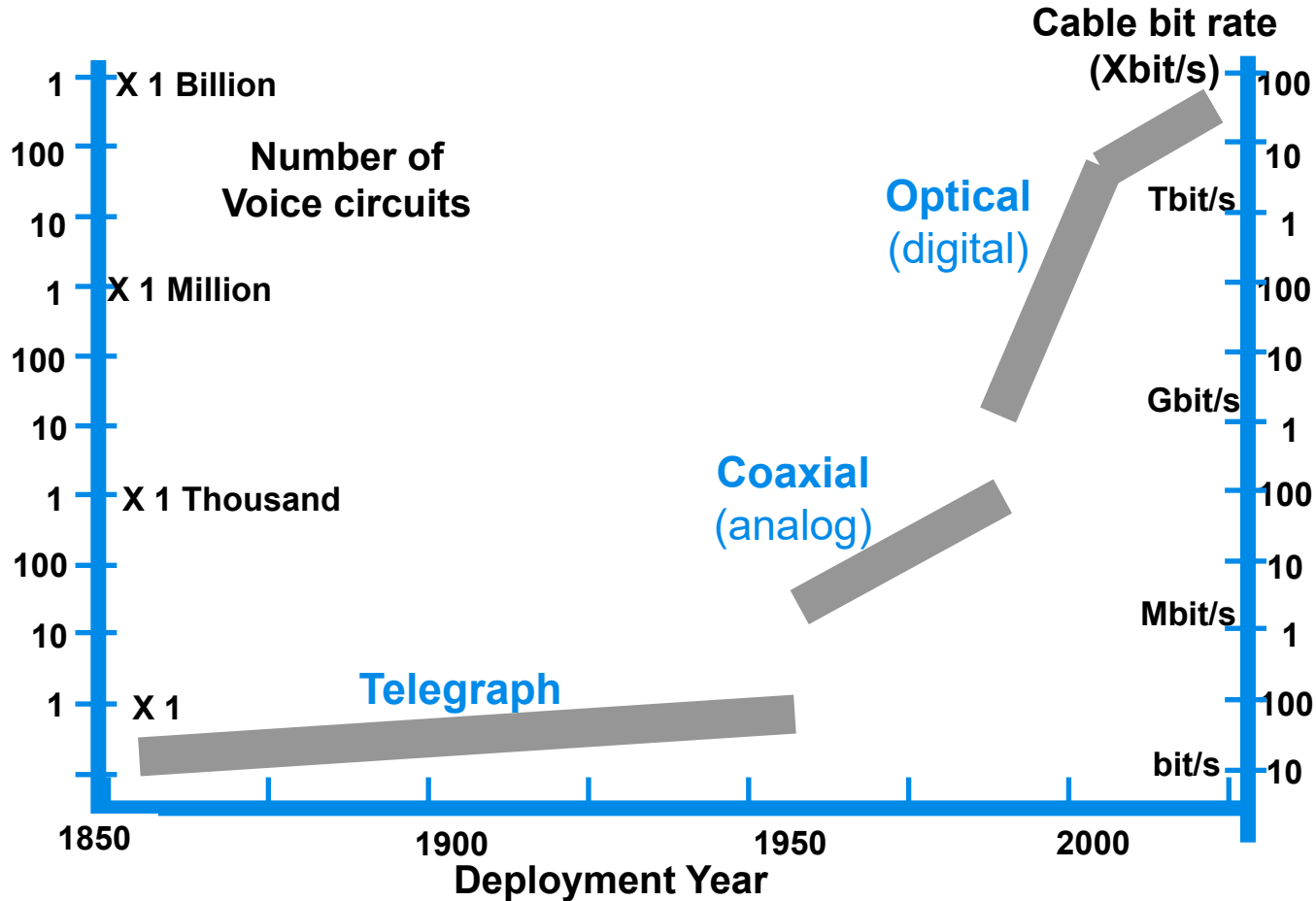
- ▶ The uniqueness of this engineering marvels is a combination of
  - information science,
  - nonlinear optics,
  - electrical engineering,
  - material science,
  - engineering practices,
  - project management,
  - marine expertise,
  - high reliability standard
- ▶ Undersea fiber communication systems will continue to serve society (with important contributions from the SubseaOFC2019 students?)

# Outline.

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- ▶ What is a submarine Network
- ▶ The endless race for capacity
- ▶ Life of a packet / Social Networks
- ▶ Flying over 150 years of submarine cable technology
  - Era of telegraphs
  - Era of Coaxial
  - Advent of fiber optics
- ▶ Basics of optical communications
- ▶ Reaching the physical limit
- ▶ What's next

# Flying over 150 years of submarine cable technology



# 150 years of submarine cable: telegraphic cable



The Great Eastern laying a cable 1866  
(Original painting in ASN in Greenwich)

- ▶ USA connected to England in 1858
  - 1 word per minute...and lasting 20 days....Not reliable at all
- ▶ Blue book in UK in 1861
  - Opening the telegraphic era
  - 25 cables in the Atlantic from 1858 to 1928
- ▶ Epics of Great Eastern !!!!!
- ▶ Fortune of Telcon in UK
  - Telcon becoming later STC still presently integrated in ASN

# 150 years of submarine cable: coaxial cable

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- ▶ With TAT-1: Coaxial cables won definitely against radio
- ▶ USA thus entered the game
  - AT&T took the lead of TAT-2
  - TAT-2 target to transport 3kHz voice channels
  - AT&T Invented consortiums: 1st construction & maintenance agreement
  - AT&T Invented the IRU: easy to share capacity between cable users
  - AT&T invented the model of « specification and inspection »
    - Permitting design in USA while production and lay was still European
- ▶ From years 1960' all telegraphic cables were abandoned
  - With the transistor, wideband coaxial cables reached 40 MHz
  - In 20 years, STC and Alcatel built 250 000 km cables and 1000 repeaters



# 150 years of submarine cable: the advent of Optics

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- ▶ Radiocommunication had not said its final word!!!!!!
- ▶ April 6th 1965 Launch of Early Bird:
  - the the first communication satellite
- ▶ All countries equipped with their satellite earth stations from 1965
  
- ▶ During this « dark » time, coaxial cable technology stagnated
  - The common view in 1970 was that submarine cables are dead
- ▶ But submarine cables were saved by optical fibers!!!
  - Terrestrial radio-satellite stations all decommissioned before 2000 !
  - The idea that satellite can do better than submarine cables survived !

# 150 years of submarine cable: the advent of Optics

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- ▶ What made possible optical cables
  - Invention of silica optical fibers: 1966 by KC.Kao (Nobel prize)
  - Simultaneous invention of the semiconductor laser by R.Hall (1962)
  - New competition of satellite telecommunications (Intelsat 1 in 1965/4 years in service)
  - Fast optical technology development
- ▶ In years 1960's:
  - Multimode fibers at 850 nm
  - single mode fibers at 1300 nm, then 1500 nm
- ▶ Key demonstration in 1970 with optical fibers
  - 20dB/km fiber + GaAs room temperature laser

# 150 years of submarine cable: the advent of optics

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- ▶ First demonstration of regenerated optical cables
  - Demonstrator (2 repeaters) Antibes-Port Grimaud : 1984
  - First optical transoceanic **TAT-8** & TPC-3 in 1987 (1300nm 280 Mbit/s)
  - Second generation transoceanic TAT-9 in 1989 (1500nm 560Mbit/s)
- ▶ Modern cables came with optical amplification
  - Fiber amplifiers EDFA demonstration in 1986 (E.Desurvire)
  - First EDFA transoceanic cable **TAT-12/13** in 1996 (5 Gbit/s)
- ▶ Then the capacity of optical cables increased by X2 every year
  - 250 Tbit/s with TA DUNANT Cable
- ▶ Low latency Satellite Communication - new competition cycle is coming

# SpaceX(Elon Musk) 4,425 satellites with 24Tbit/s bandwidth

Compare to 2,000 Tbit/s international capacity today = 1% will be AFTER SpaceX is accomplished

new LEO satellites are designed for 5 years service (vs 25 years cables)

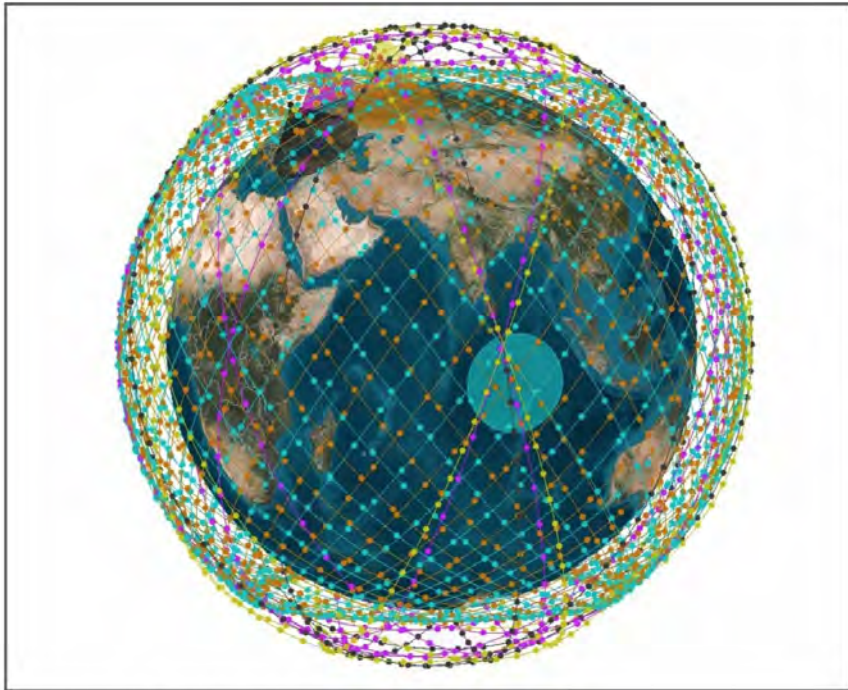


Figure 2.- SpaceX 4,425 satellites constellation

## System characteristics

- 4,425 Satellites in 83 planes. Inclined orbits + polar orbits.
- User links @ Ku-band, gateway links @Ka-band
- Optical crosslinks between satellites
- Digital payload with beam steering and shaping capabilities
- Medium size satellites 386 kg, in house designed.
- Target first launch 2019 (~170 Falcon 9 launches for full constellation deployment)
- Beginning of service 2020



Image credit: SpaceX

# Epilogue of historical survey: Believe in the future

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- ▶ Submarine cables are enabling the today Internet
  - Thanks to optical fiber and optical amplifiers
- ▶ Remember:
  - In 1920: submarine cables were challenged by radiocommunications
    - And could have disappeared in 1930
  - In 1980: submarine cables were challenged by satellites....
    - And could have disappeared in 1990
  - In 2019: submarine cables carry >99% of the intercontinental Internet traffic
    - Satellites are still nice for television distribution and communication in the deserts....
- ▶ Submarine cables wait for their next challenger...

# Outline

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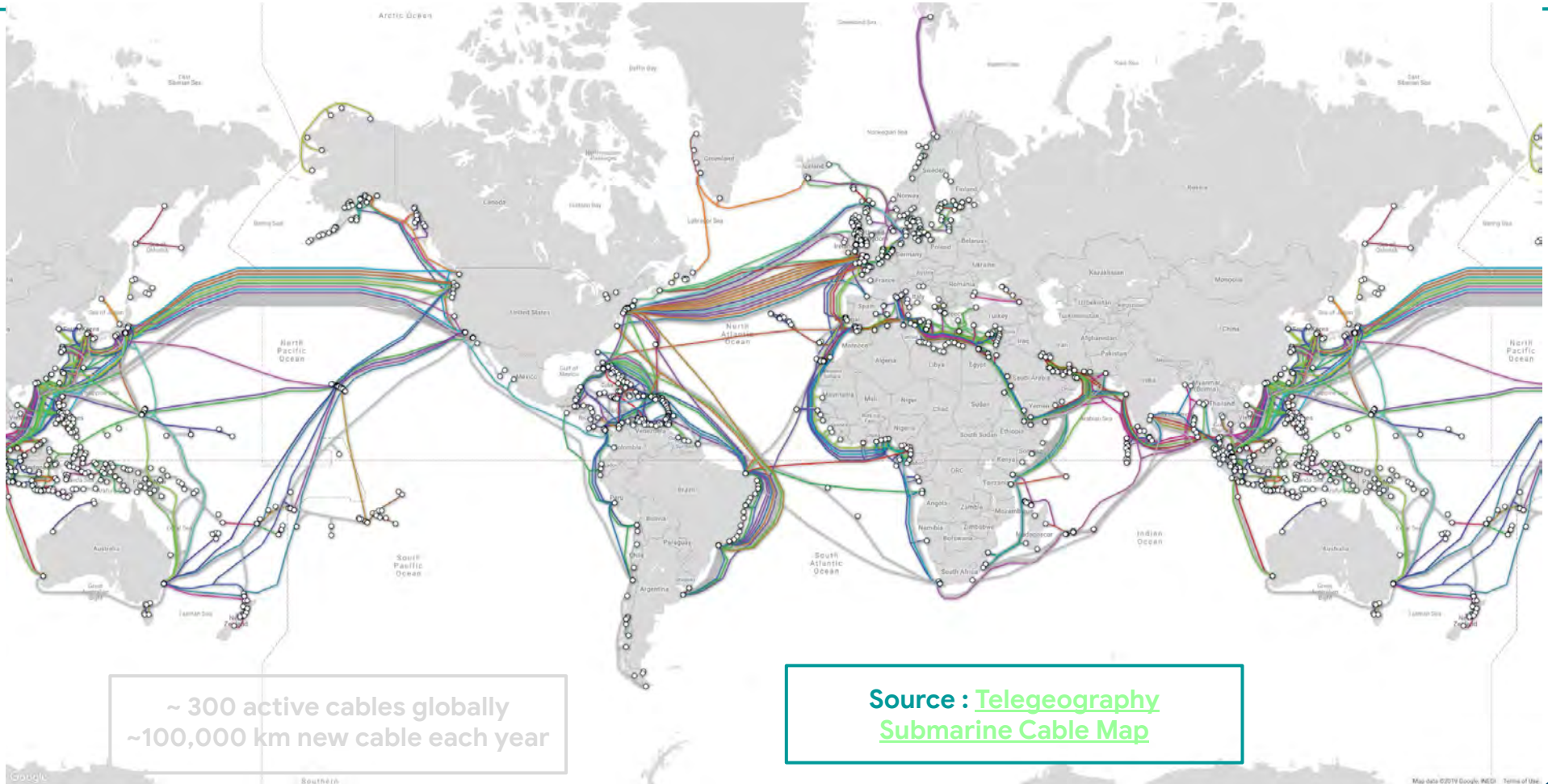
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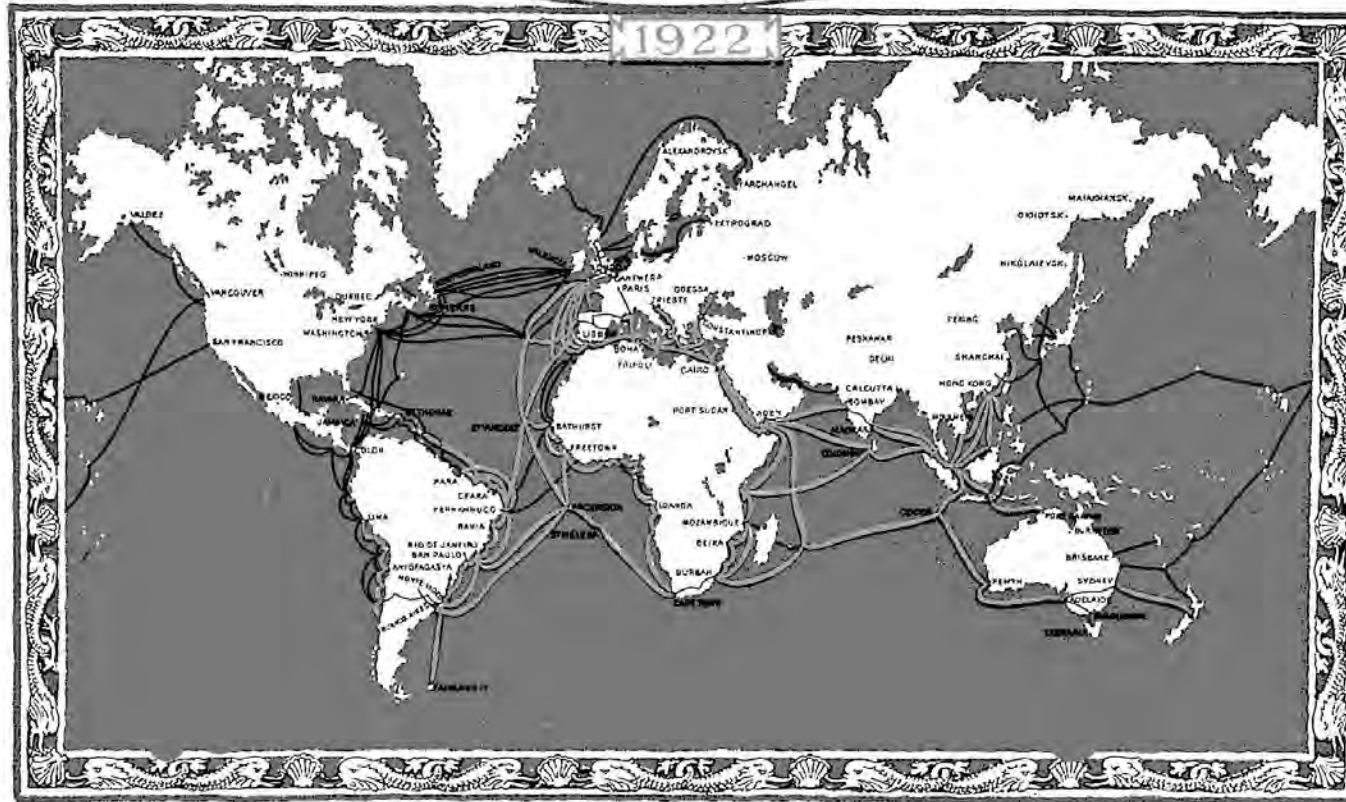
- ▶ Modern networking: Life of a packet / Social Networks, Vijay
- ▶ Google and Google Cloud global network, Vijay
- ▶ Reaching the physical limit, Vijay
- ▶ What's next, Vijay

# The endless race for capacity: Global networks today



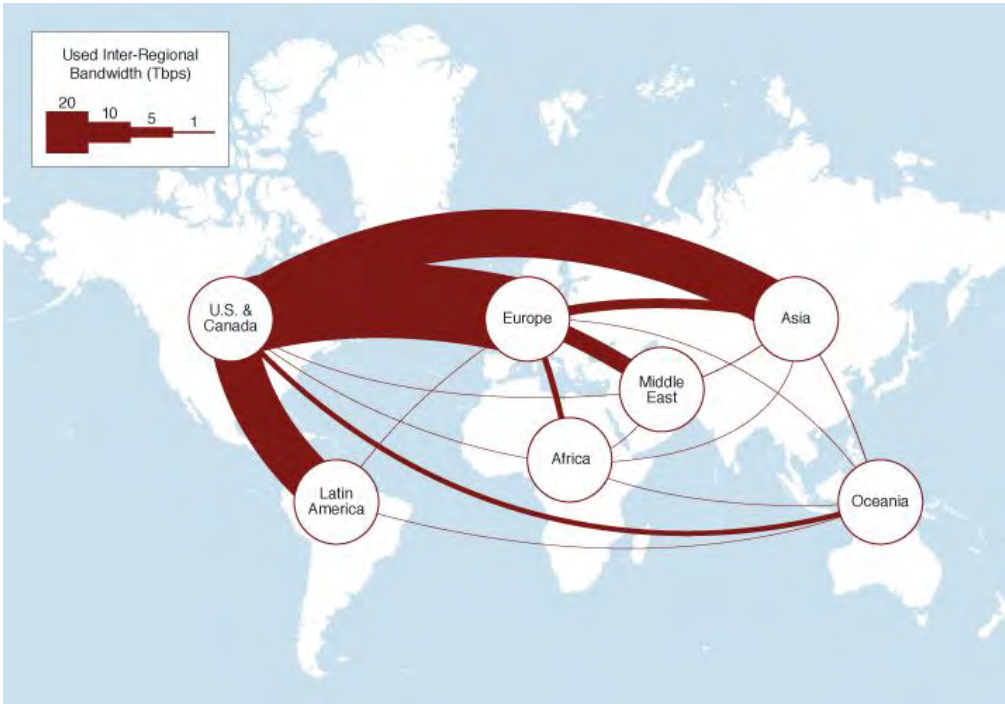
# The endless race for capacity: 100 Years Ago !!!

*The Eastern and Associated Telegraph Companies'*  
*"Via Eastern" Cable System. "Via Eastern"*  
*(Indicated in Red)*





# Population (GDP) Gravity Models and Data center Overlay

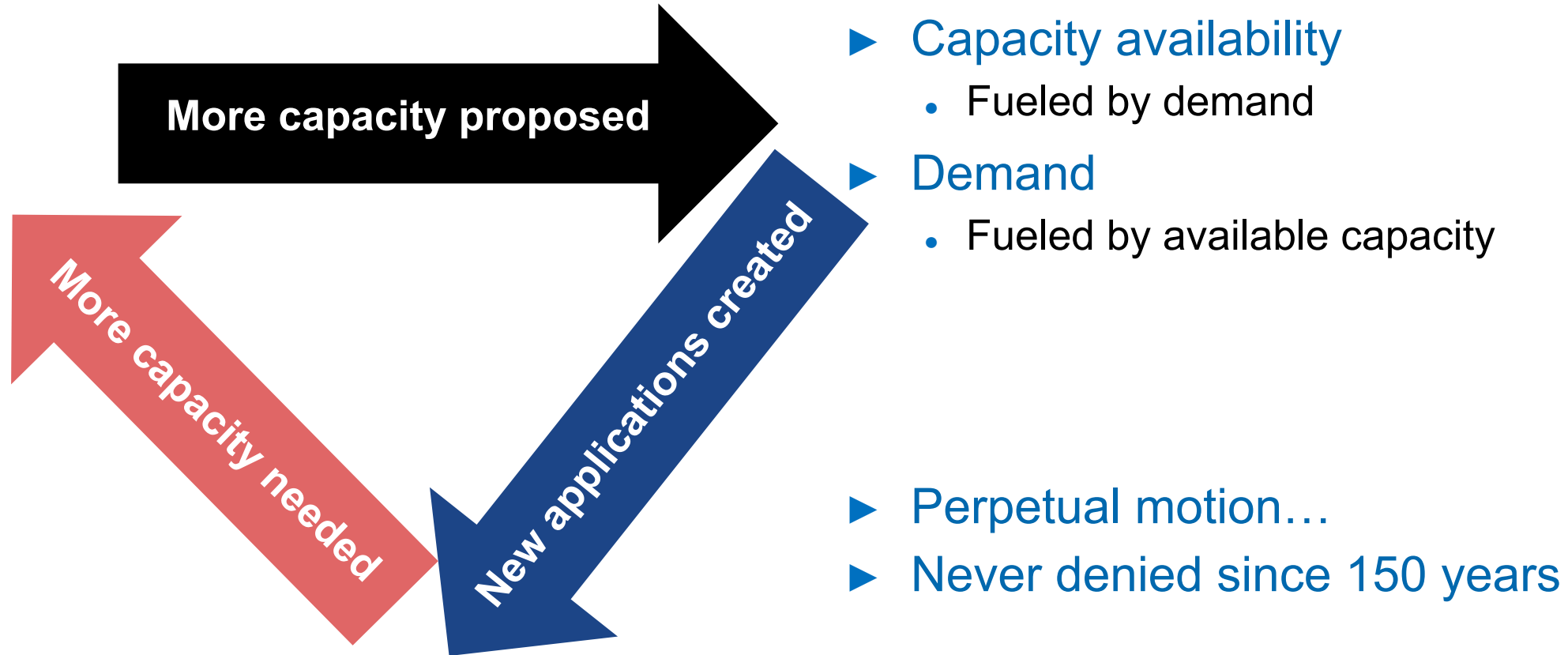


- Capacity needs have traditionally followed population and GDP gravity models (user facing networks)
- Overlaid on this are datacenter connectivity trunks, if DCs are located in remote locations

Source : Telegeography

# The endless race for capacity: the virtuous cycle

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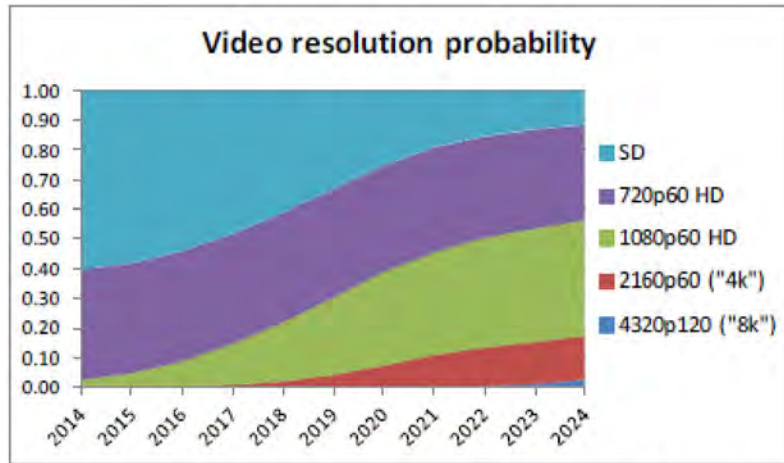
# Outline

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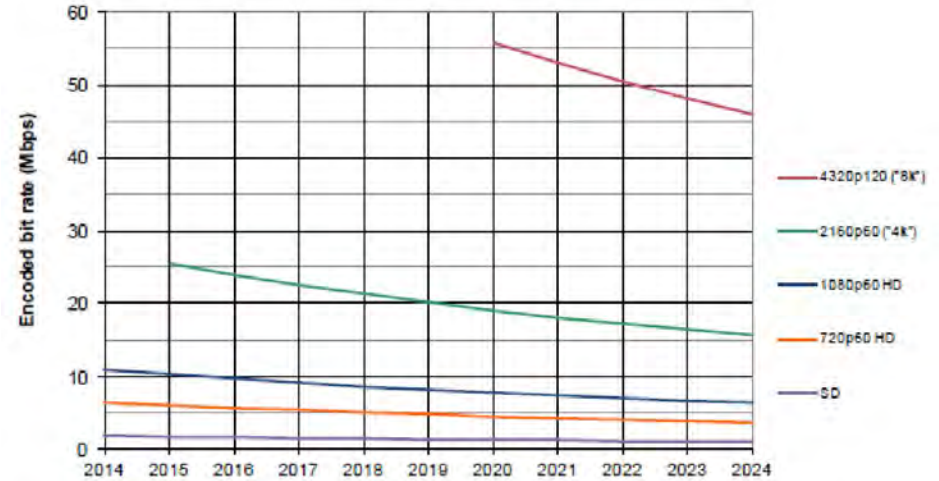
- ▶ What is a submarine Network
- ▶ The endless race for capacity
- ▶ **Life of a packet / Social Networks**
  - Needs for more traffic
  - Google and Google Cloud Global Network
- ▶ Flying over 150 years of submarine cable technology
- ▶ Basics of optical communications
- ▶ Reaching the physical limit
- ▶ Zoom on upgrades
- ▶ From Telcos to OTTs
- ▶ What next

# Lifetime of a packet - Social Networks

- ▶ Video demand quality: increasing video stream bit
- ▶ Slow progress of video compression



Stream resolution distribution forecast <sup>t</sup>

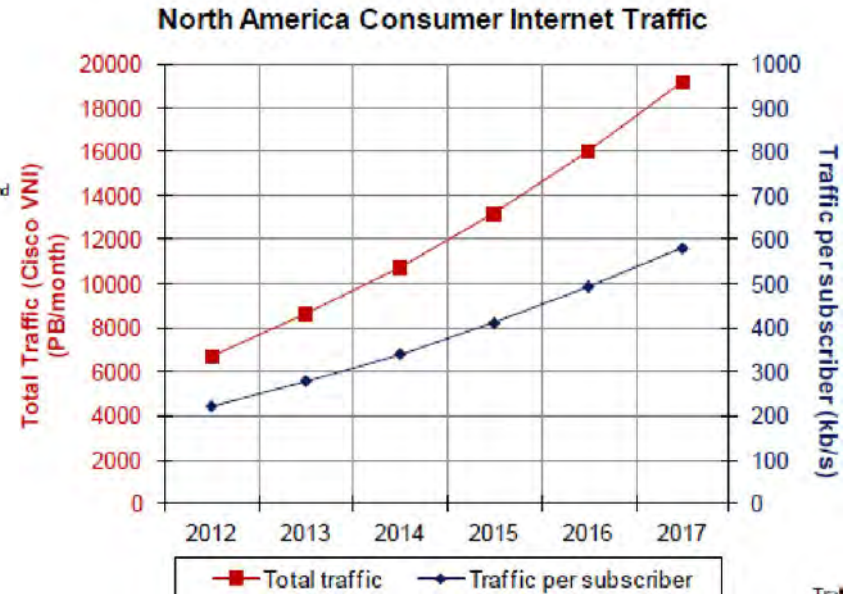
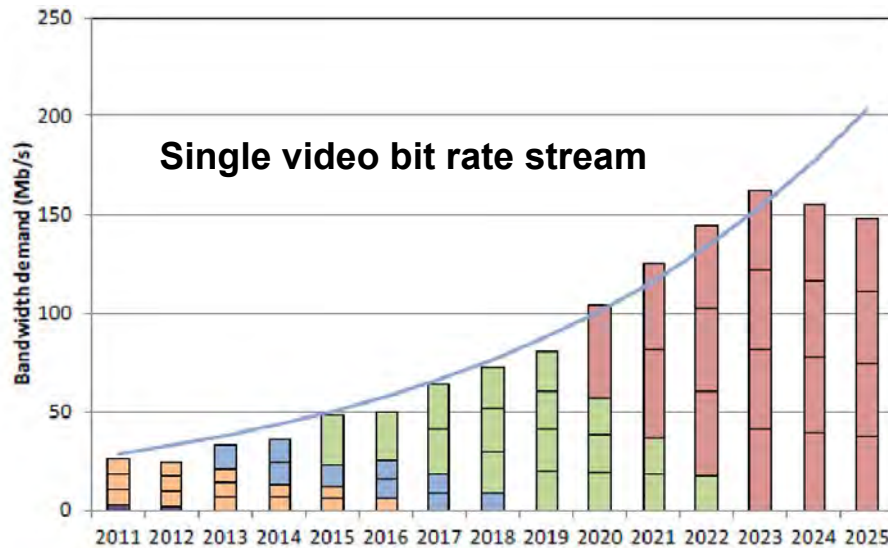


Encoded video bit rate forecast

Source Alcatel-Lucent 2014







# Lifetime of a packet - Social Networks

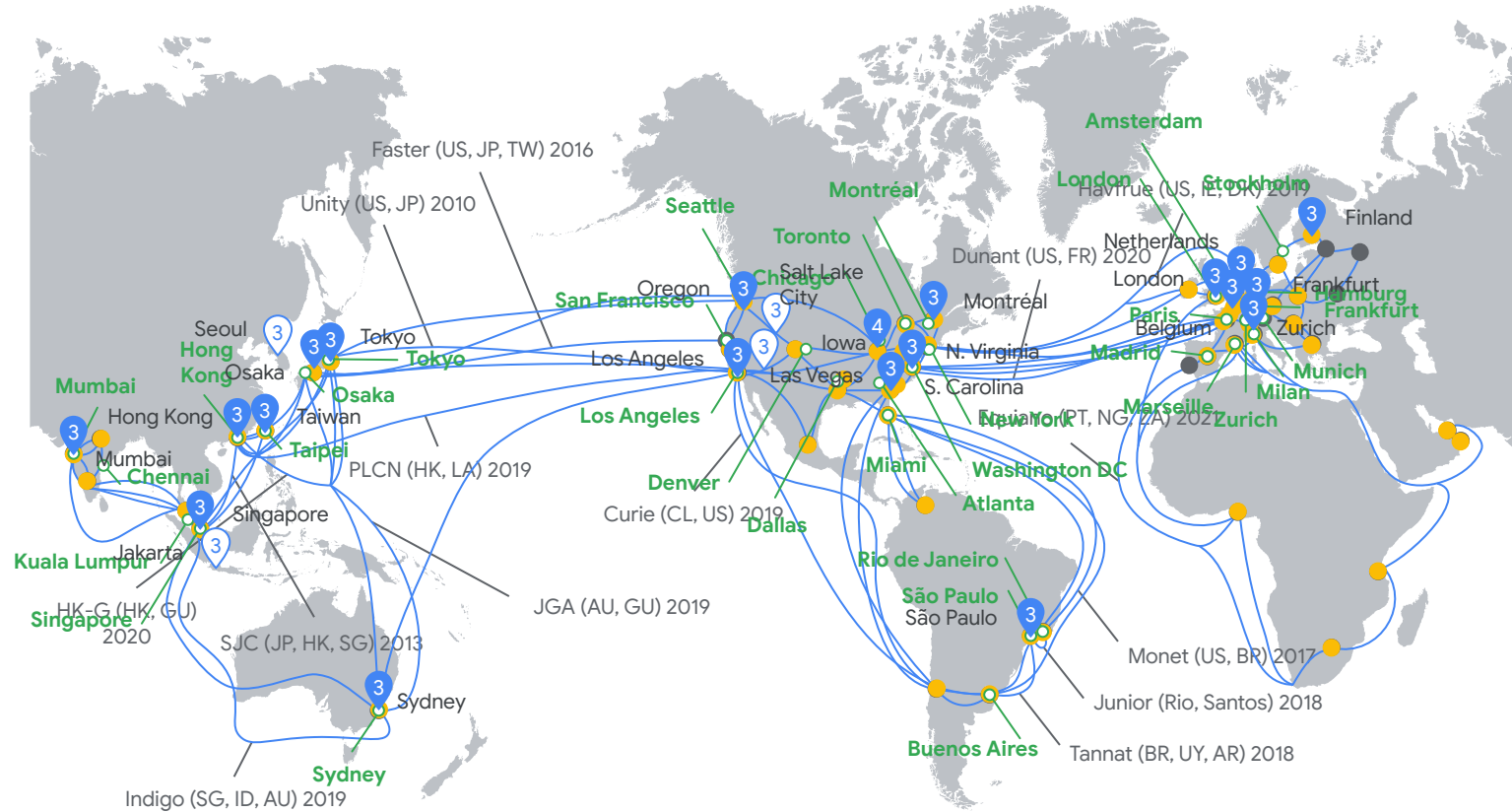
- ▶ The video bit rate stream increases
  - Illustrating low impact of improved compression
- ▶ In addition the traffic grows due to increasing time per user



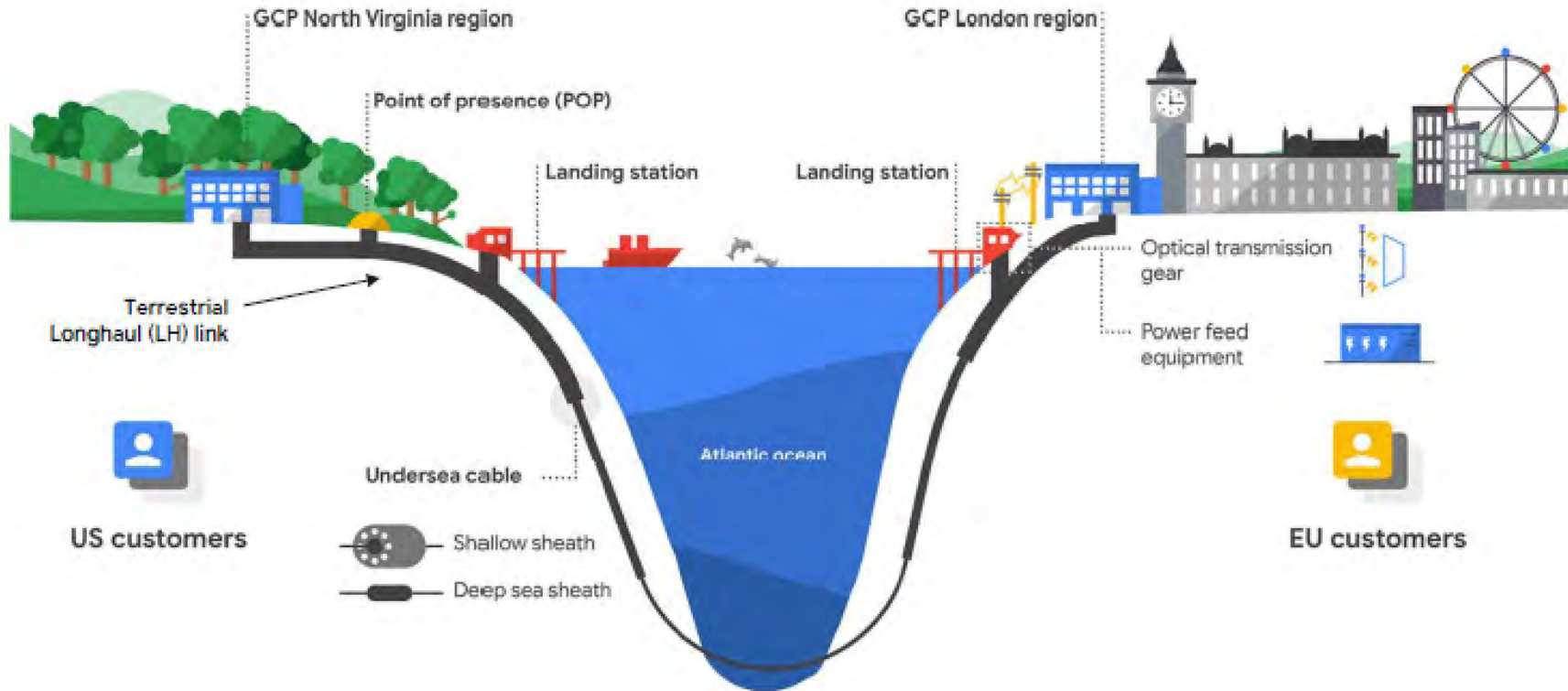
# Google Cloud Platform

## Our global infrastructure

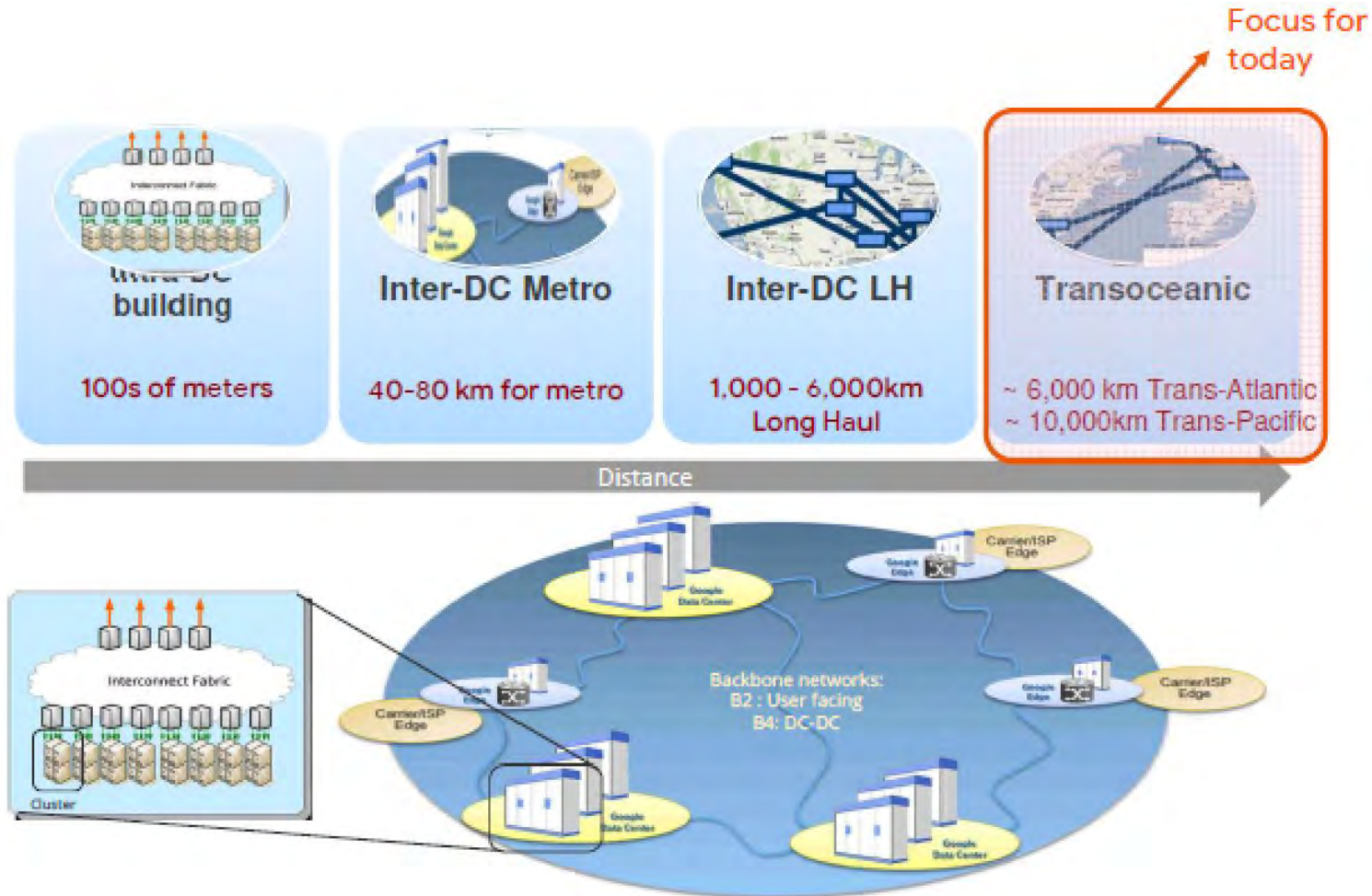
-  Current regions and number of zones
-  Future regions and number of zones
-  Edge points of presence
-  CDN nodes
-  Network
-  Dedicated Interconnect



# Google Subsea network- High level Overview



# Google Optical Transport network Overview





# Hyperscaler Datacenters

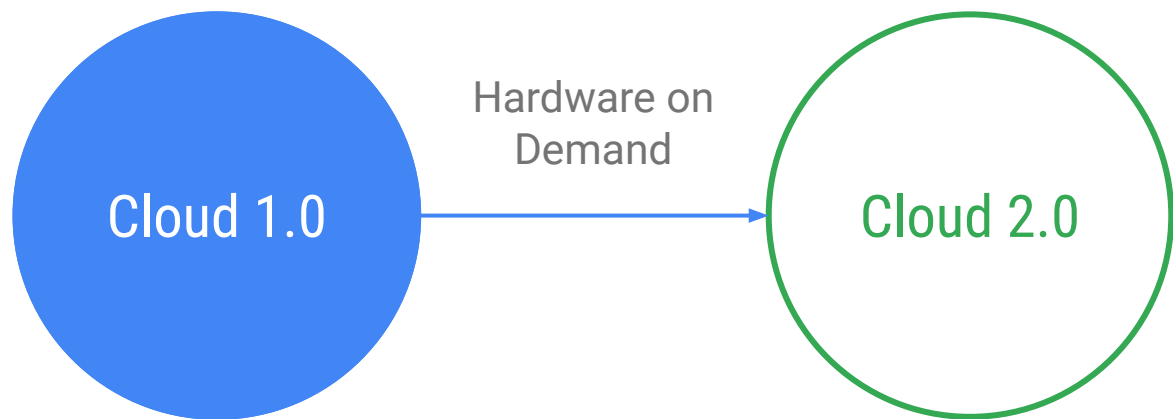


# Cloud: The Last Decade, around 2000



Virtualization delivers capex savings to enterprise DCs

# Cloud: Now



Public cloud frees enterprise from private HW infrastructure

Scheduling, virtual servers, fast growth

# The Third Wave of Cloud



Serverless compute, actionable intelligence, and machine learning

Google DeepMind Challenge GO Match

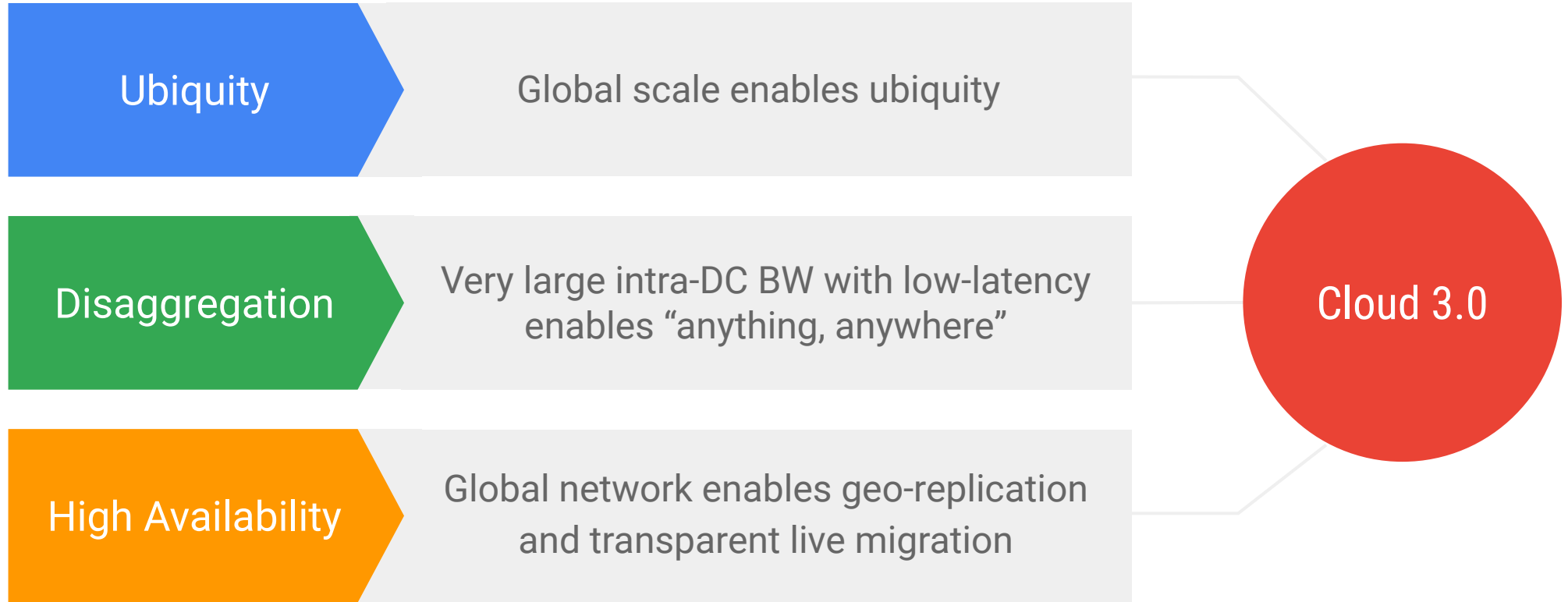
Enable Start-ups, Cat recognition, voice recognition

# The Third Wave of Cloud



Networking enables Cloud 3.0

# Step Function in Networking and Cloud 3.0



# Outline

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- ▶ What is a submarine Network
- ▶ The endless race for capacity
- ▶ Life of a packet / Social Networks
- ▶ Flying over 150 years of submarine cable technology
- ▶ **Basics of optical communications**
  - Back to basics
  - The optical fiber
  - Optical communication
  - Modulation formats
- ▶ Reaching the physical limit
- ▶ What's next

# Optical communications: Back to Basics

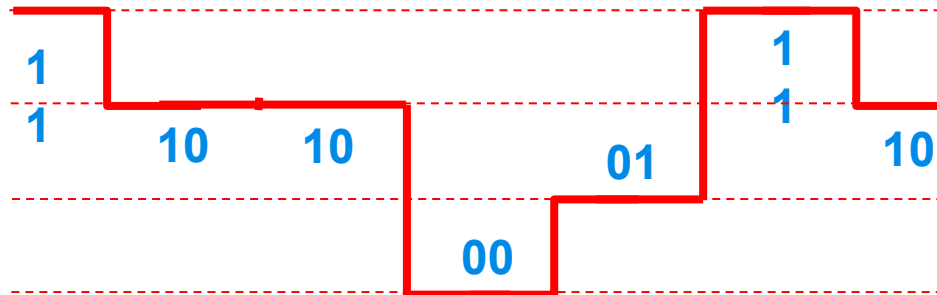
## ► Digital communications

- Basics of communication is simple:
  - modulation of signal at the transmitter between 0 and 1



1 bit = 2 levels

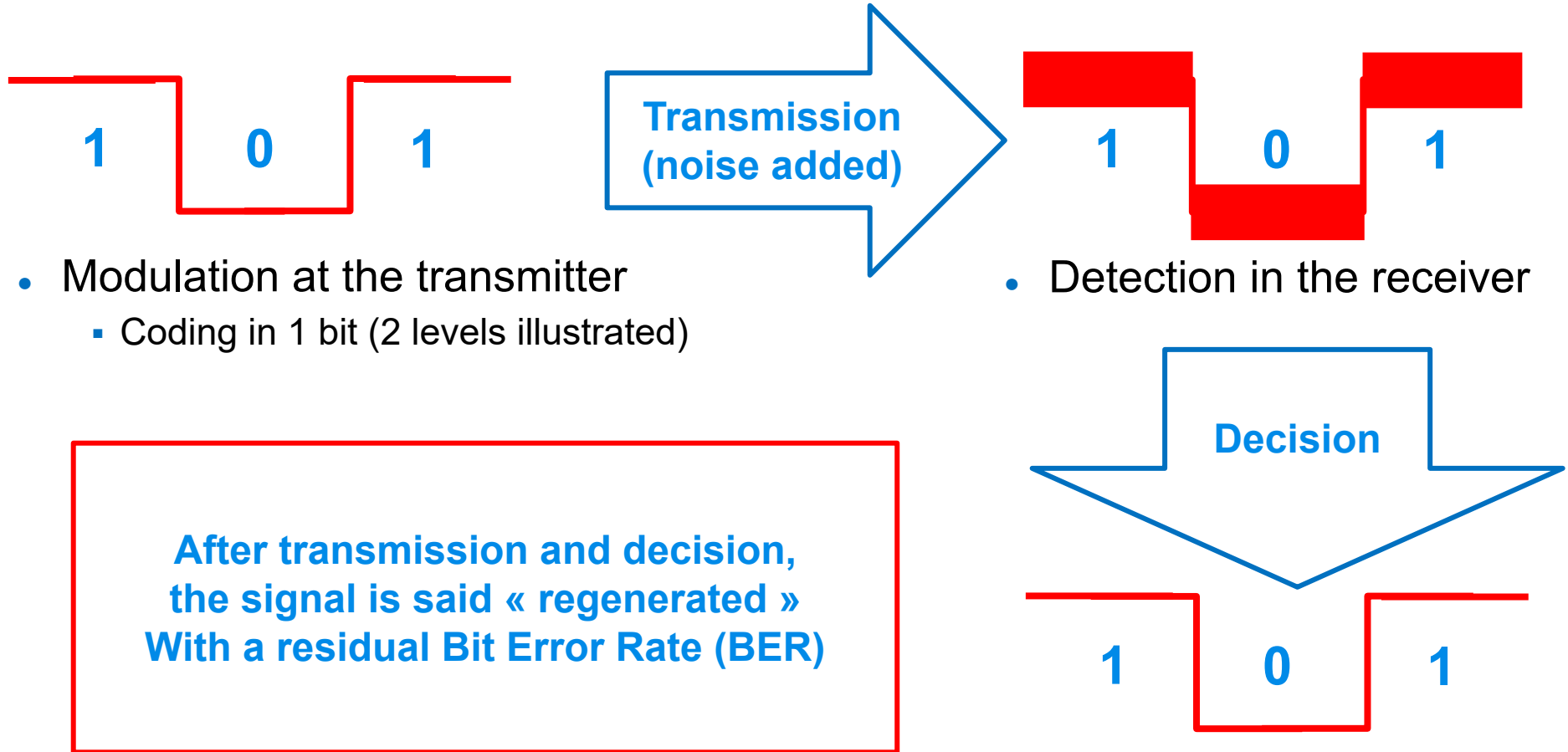
- Multilevel by grouping several elementary bits together



2 bits = 4 levels  
( 2 x 2 levels )

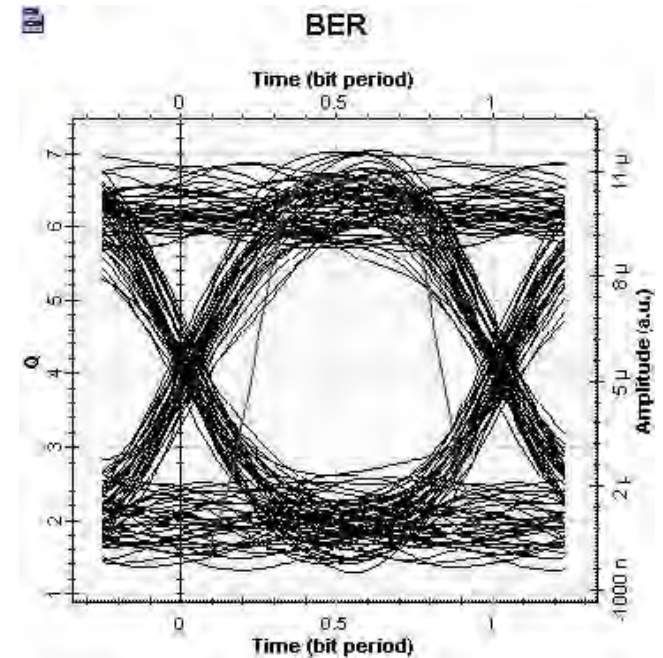
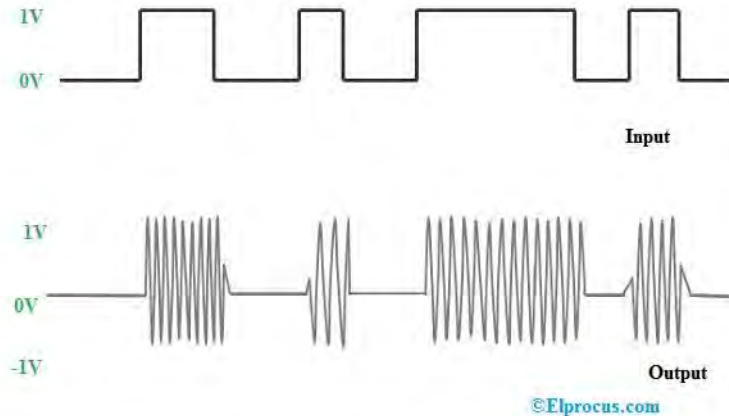


# Optical communications: Back to Basics



# Optical communications: Back to Basics

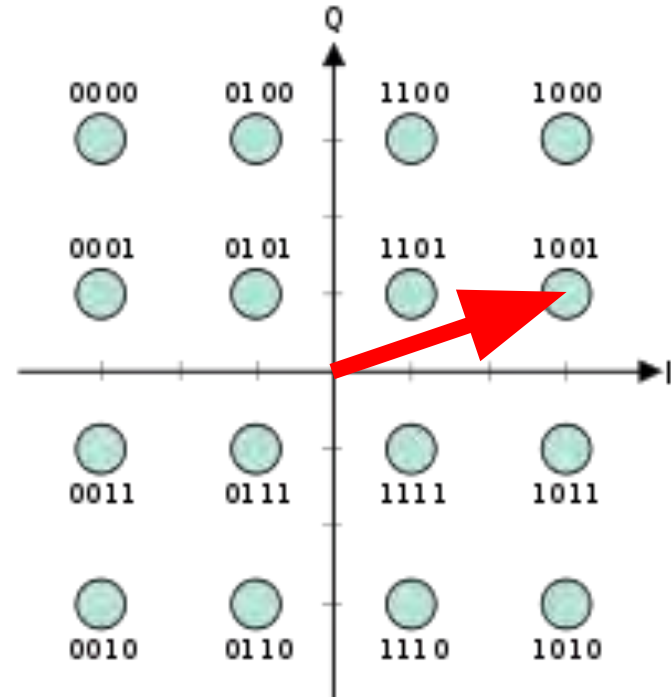
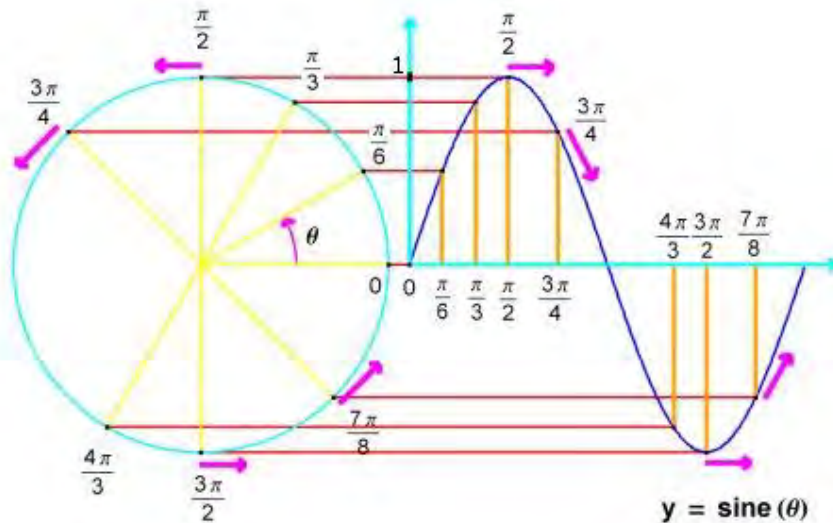
- ▶ In optical fibers: signal coded on a electromagnetic lightwave
  - The more simple coding is Intensity Modulation (IM)
    - On Off Keying (switching the light On or Off)
  - Decision is done by Direct Detection (DD)
  - During 20 years IM/DD was the unique solution



# Optical communications: Back to Basics

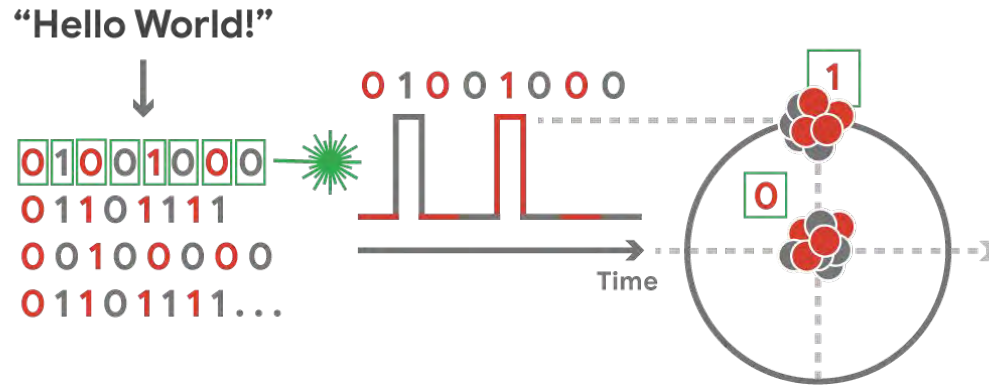
- ▶ An optical signal is also an electromagnetic lightwave
  - Information can be carried by field amplitude (light intensity)  
+ optical phase (that can be represented by a vector on a circle)

## Phase information represented on a circle



# The path from 10G to 100G: a 10x story

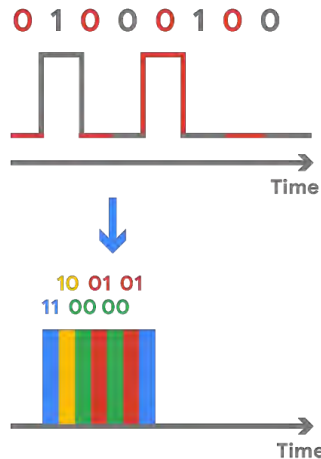
Legacy IMDD: 10 Gb/s per laser



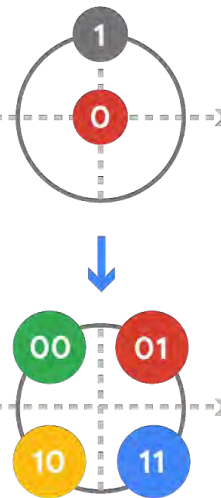
# The path from 10G to 100G: a 10x story

10x capacity increase: 100 Gb/s per laser

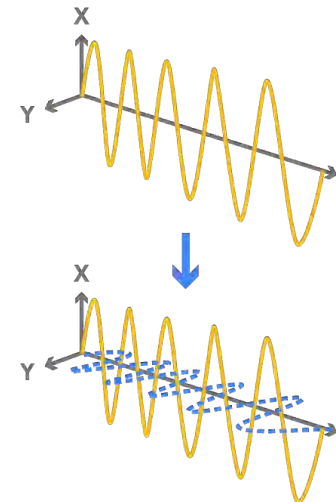
Faster transmitter 2.5x



More bits per symbol 2x



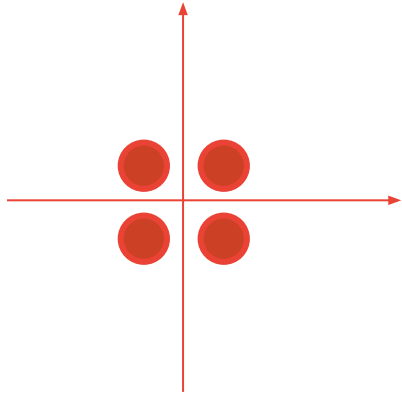
2 polarizations 2x



The next 10x : From 100G to 1T per carrier

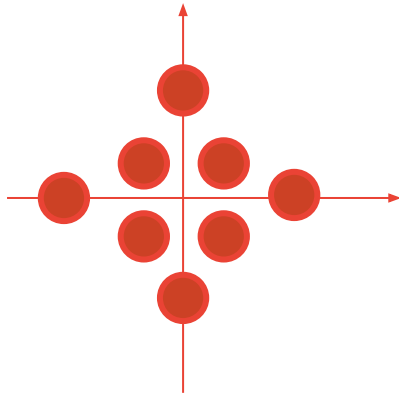
# Evolution of Digital Modulation

QPSK



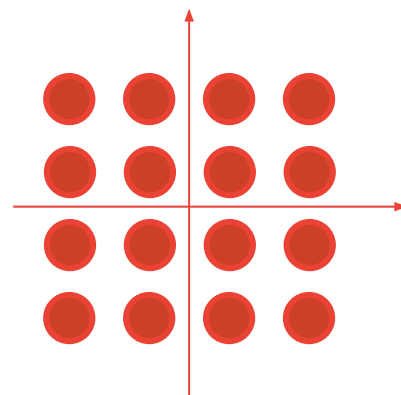
2 bit/symbol/pol

8-QAM



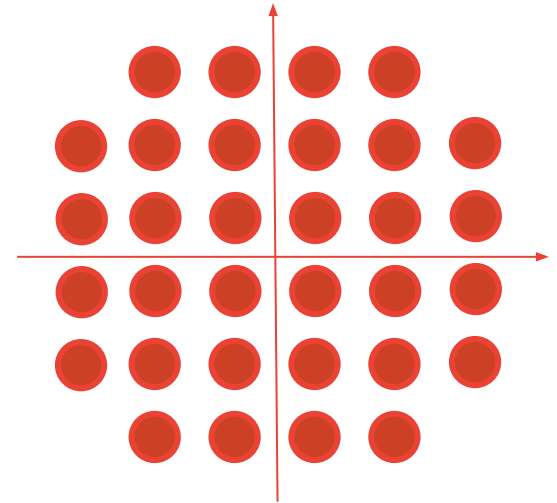
3 bit/symbol/pol

16-QAM



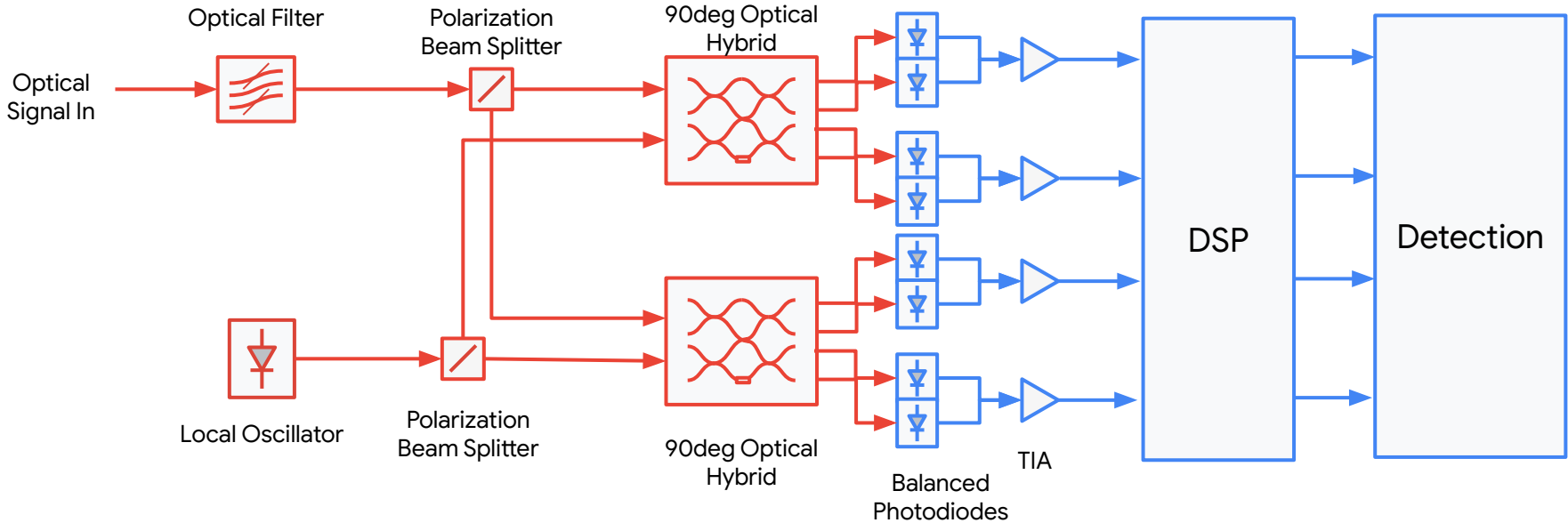
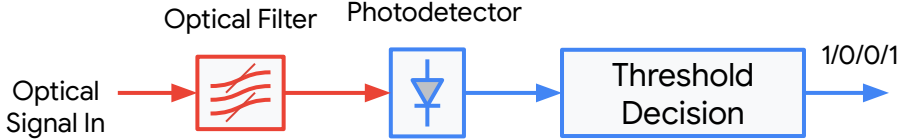
4 bit/symbol/pol

32-QAM

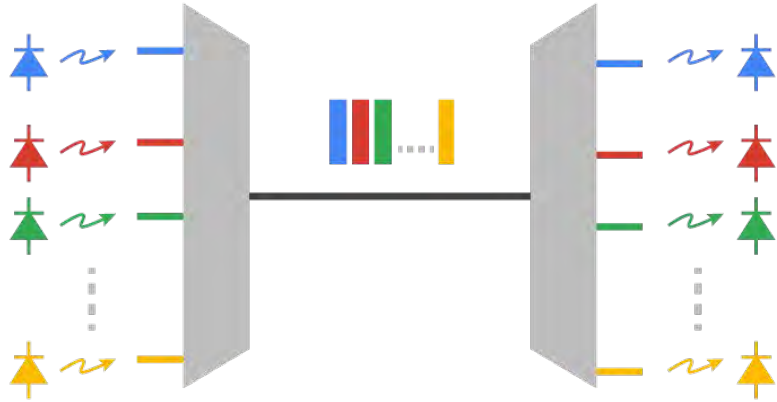


5 bit/symbol/pol

# But comes with complexity ...



# Wavelength Division Multiplexing: Scaling Fiber Capacity



- In fiber optic systems we have
  - **THz of low loss** fiber spectrum
  - **THz of amplification** bandwidth
- We can use such a wideband by **multiplexing / demultiplexing multiple TX/RX pairs at different wavelengths** (colors)
- This technique is called **Wavelength Division Multiplexing (WDM)**
- In this way we can squeeze linearly scale the capacity of our system going from hundreds of **Gbps of capacity per channel** to **Tbps of fiber capacity**



# Back to basics: Cable Capacity

---

**Cable capacity =**

**(Spectral Density) X (Fiber Bandwidth) X (No. Fiber Pairs)**

- ▶ **Spectral density (bits/s per Hz)**
  - Has increased rapidly by increasing channel bit rate
- ▶ **Fiber bandwidth**
  - Determined by the Erbium spectrum of EDFA
- ▶ **No. of Fiber Pairs**
  - Number of fiber pair was typically 4FP to 6FP, Max 8FP
  - With DUNANT 12FP TA cable, SDM enabled 12/16/24FP cables

# Outline

---

- ▶ What is a submarine Network
- ▶ The endless race for capacity
- ▶ Life of a packet / Social Networks
- ▶ Flying over 150 years of submarine cable technology
- ▶ Basics of optical communications
- ▶ **Reaching the physical limit**
  - Physical limit (Shannon)
- ▶ What's next

# Scaling Subsea Capacity - Shannon's Playground



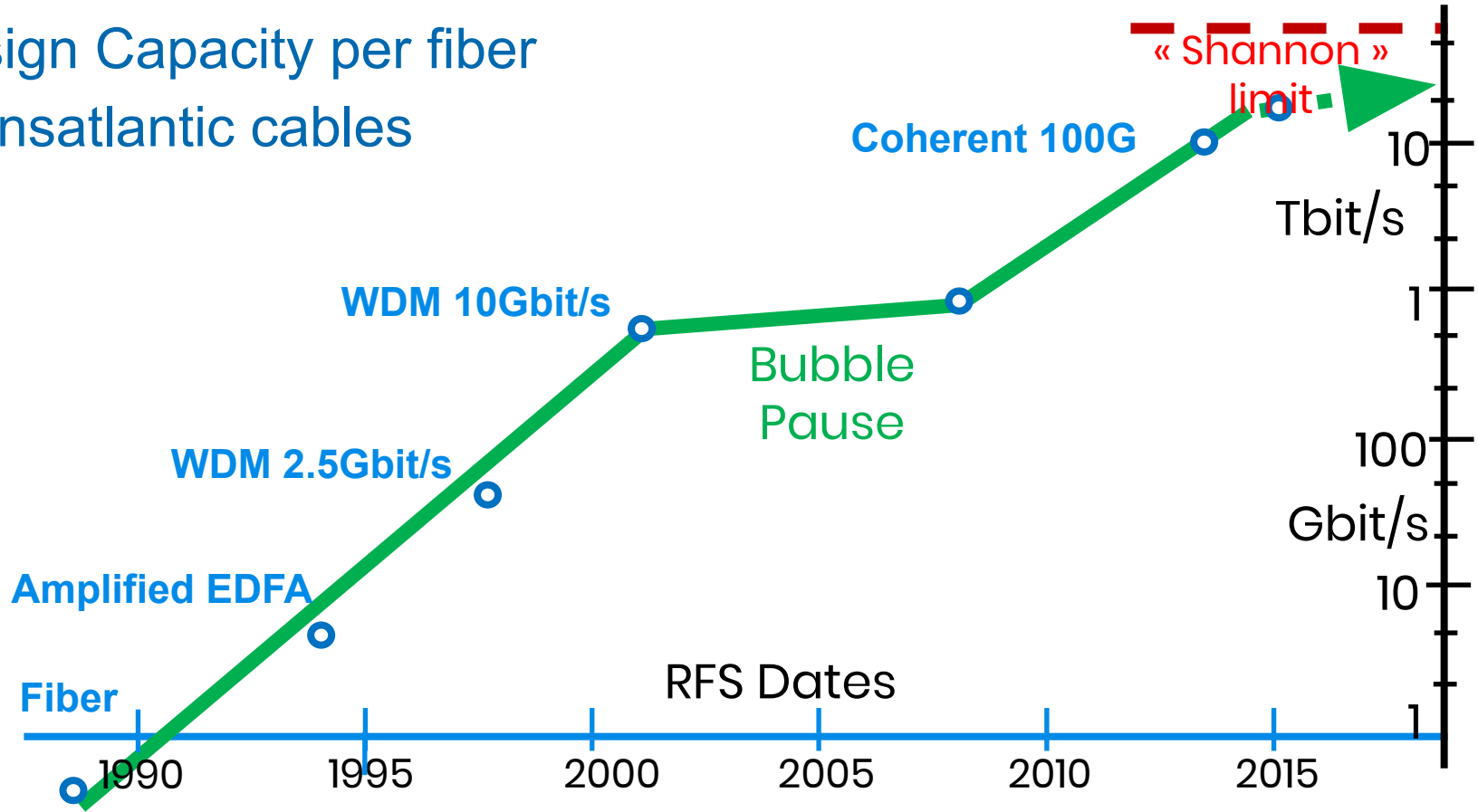
$$C = B \log_2(1 + \text{SNR})$$

↑                      ↑    ↑  
 Channel              Bandwidth    Signal to  
 capacity    noise ratio

- **Two knobs** to play with
  - **Signal-to-Noise Ratio**
  - **Total System Bandwidth** (whole cable, i.e. multiple FPs)
- For **power limited** systems like subsea systems, it is **more effective to scale** the total system **bandwidth** (linear with capacity), rather **than** optimizing the **SNR** (log with capacity)
- More B = **more fibers**
- Higher SNR = more power, more repeaters, better quality fibers

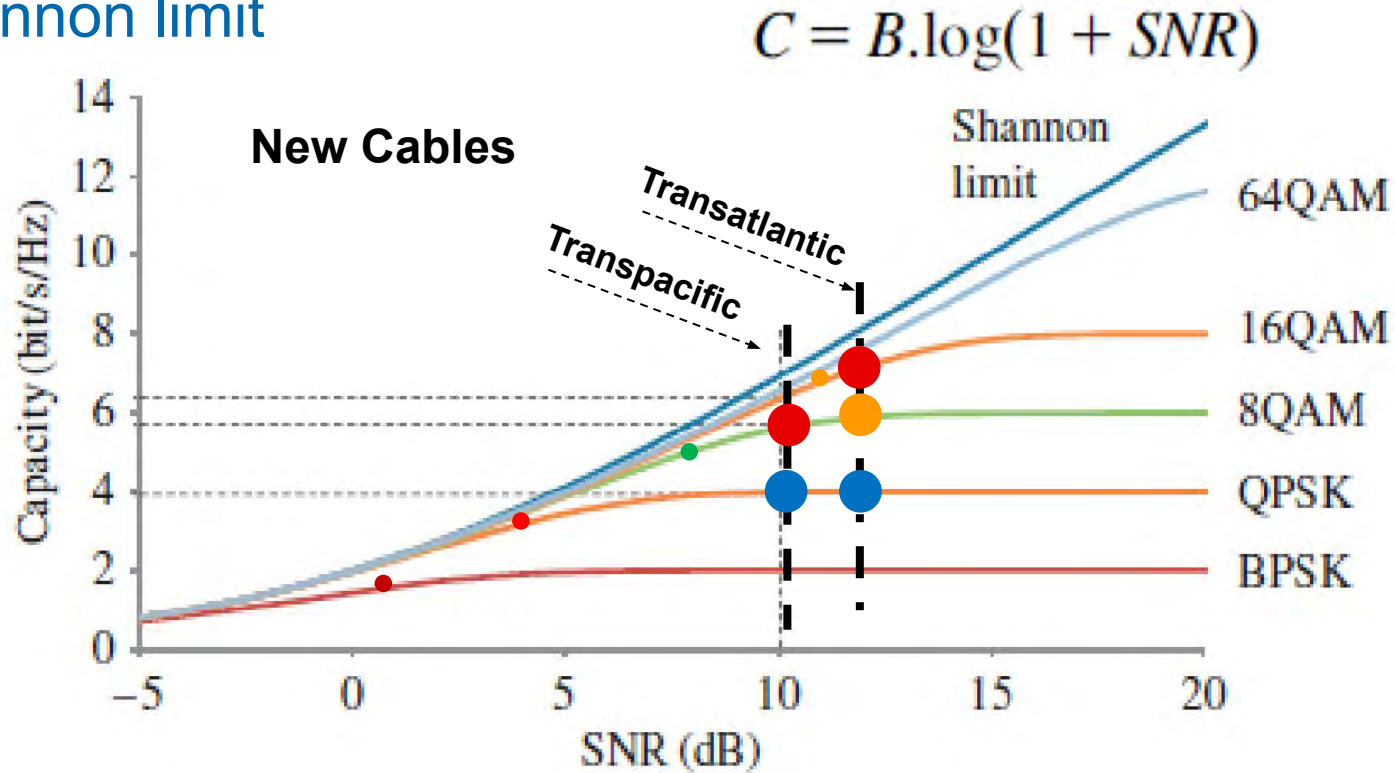
# Reaching the physical limit: Shannon Limit

- Design Capacity per fiber for transatlantic cables



# Reaching the physical limit: Shannon Limit

## ► Shannon limit



(Note: intermediate values between QPSK, 8QAM, 16QAM will be achievable)

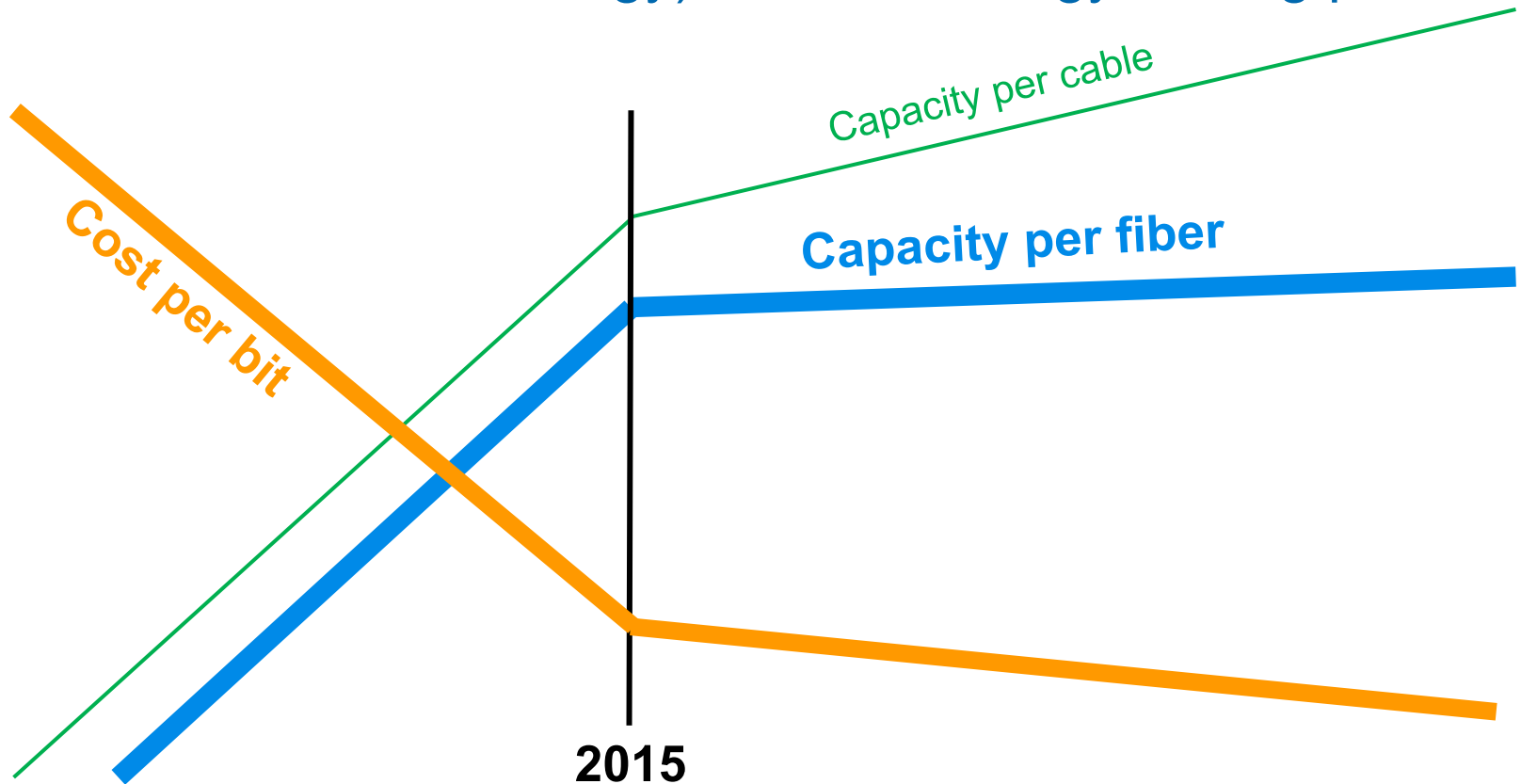
# Remarks about Shannon limit

---

- ▶ Shannon theory established since a century...
- ▶ Theoretical spectral density  $\sim 10$  bit/s/Hz for transatlantic
- ▶ But practical penalties have to be considered
  - Ageing and repair operational margins today  $\sim 1$  dB
  - Electrical analog ADC & DAC penalties today  $\sim 0,5$ dB
  - Non optimal FEC correction penalties today  $\sim 1$  dB
  - Wavelength stability penalty today
  - Non-linear penalty coming with high OSNR (3 dB for 19dB OSNR)

# Reaching the Shannon limit: cost impact

- ▶ 2015 (mature coherent technology) is a technology turning point



# Outline

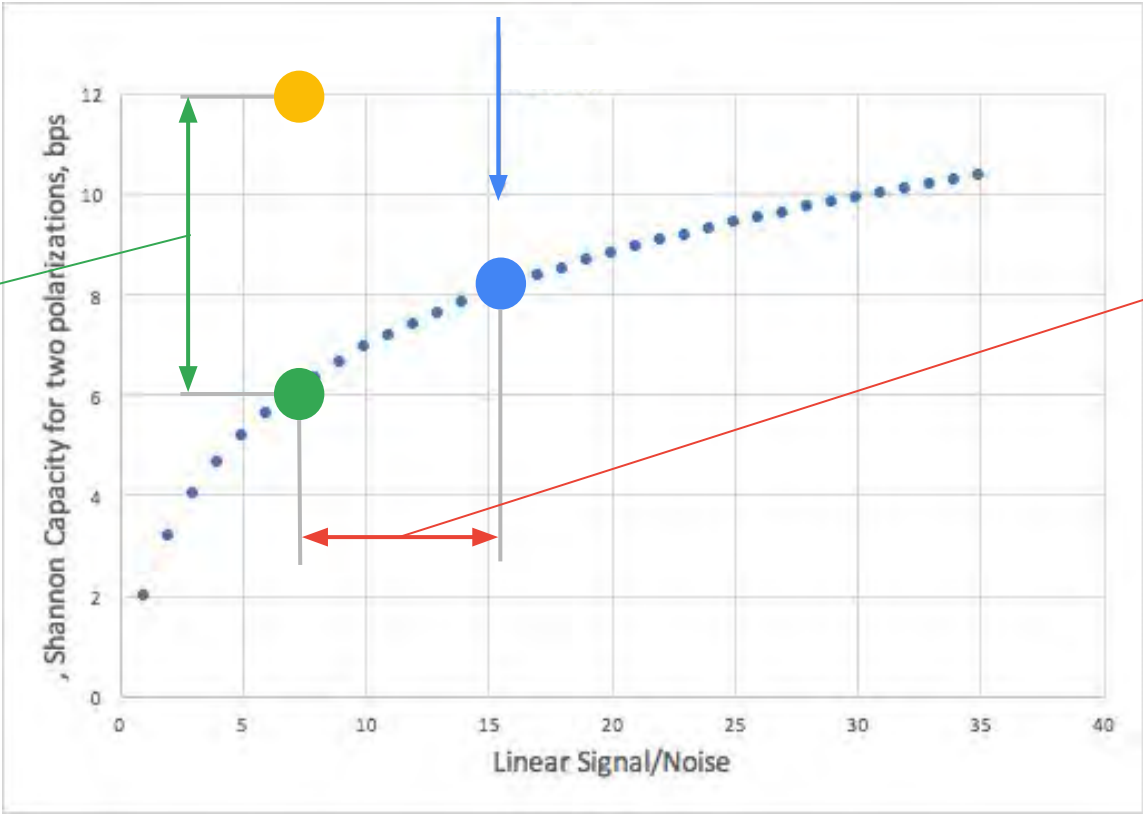
---

- ▶ What is a submarine Network
- ▶ The endless race for capacity
- ▶ Life of a packet / Social Networks
- ▶ Flying over 150 years of submarine cable technology
- ▶ Basics of optical communications
- ▶ Reaching the physical limit
- ▶ **What's next for technology**



# Further Capacity Scaling: Linear vs Log Term in Shannon

Baseline : SNR for Trans-Pacific cable FASTER designed in 2014



**Linear term :**  
2x capacity increase by increasing #FP

**Log term :**  
2x SNR change results in only 33% capacity increase

$$C = B \log_2(1 + \text{SNR})$$

↑ Channel capacity      ↑ Bandwidth      ↑ Signal to noise ratio

# Evolution of telecom applications

---

## ▶ Develop low cost solutions

- To feed internet everywhere to connect isolated populations (islands..)

## ▶ Optimising cost of terminals

- Use of higher baud rates for cost efficiency
  - Limited by the analog chain: 60Gbaud today -> 100 +Gbaud



## ▶ Wet plant cost

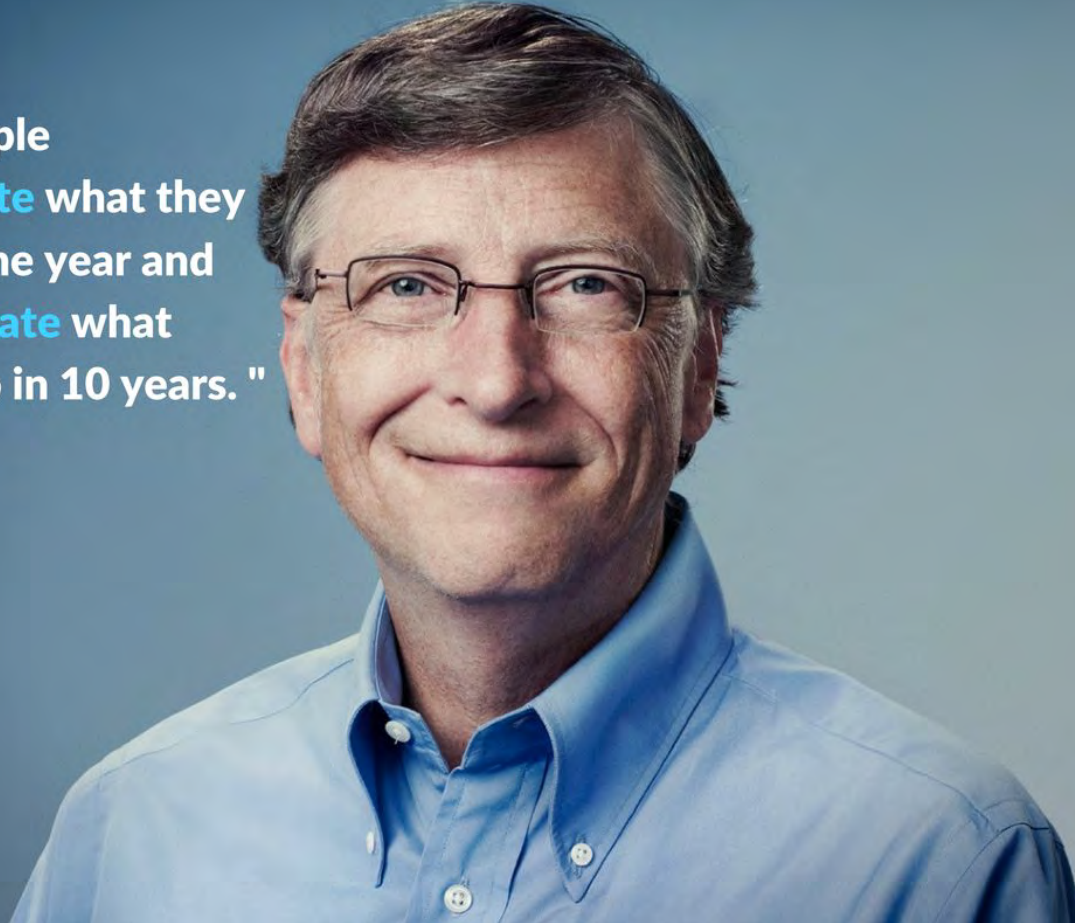
- Reducing material cost \*
- Targeting reduction of marine cost \*\*\*
- Reducing design life ?

# Short-term and Long-term Objectives

---

" Most people  
**overestimate** what they  
can do in one year and  
**underestimate** what  
they can do in 10 years. "

- BILL GATES



# Long Term Challenges in Subsea Systems

## Challenges are beyond optronics

- High cost of cables and long project durations limits ubiquitous connectivity
- Capacity growth is higher than unit cost reduction
- Need for cable and landing physical diversity for high-availability services

- Marine operations largely unchanged for decades
- Slow cable laying and repair times
- Cable breaks and damages

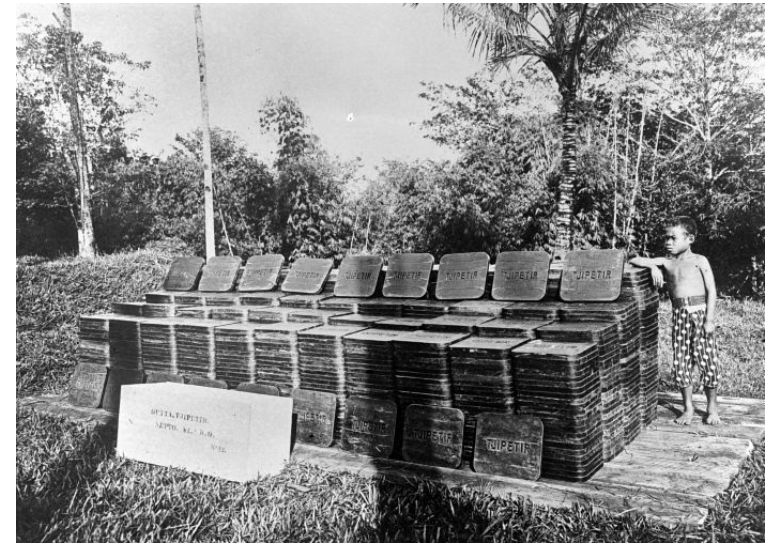
# Cable ships overview



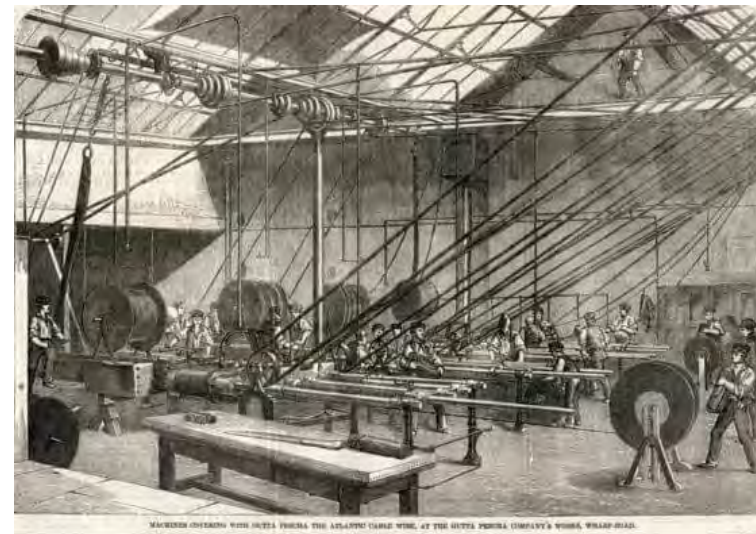
# The Gutta-Percha



Pallaquium Gutta

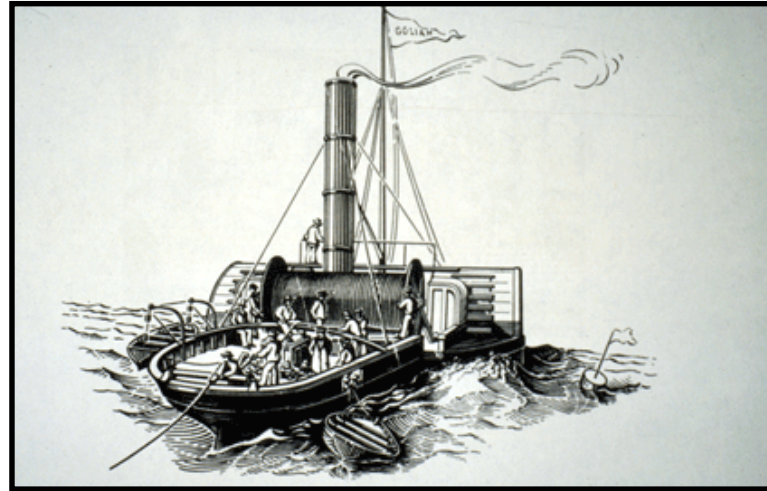


Tjipertir Plantation in Java

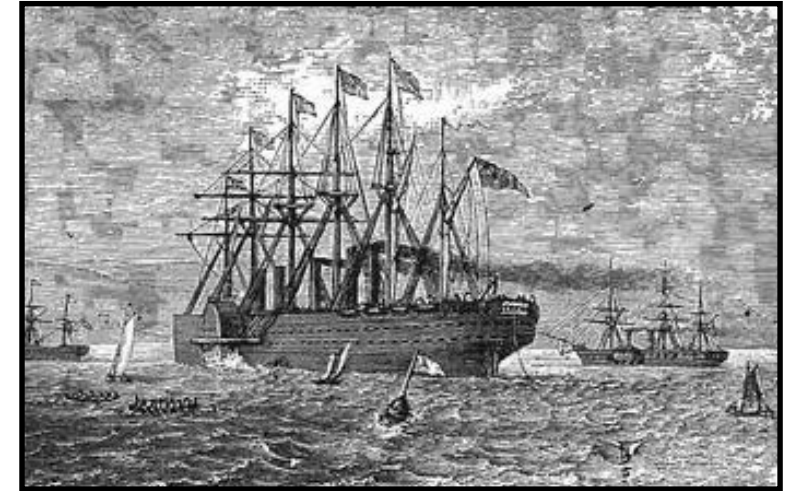


Compagnie du Gutta-Percha

# Cable ships a long history



***Goliath***: lays 1<sup>st</sup> international cable, UK-France, 1850-1  
*Source: Illustrated London News*



***Great Eastern***: laying cable off Newfoundland, 1866  
*Source: Canadian Government*

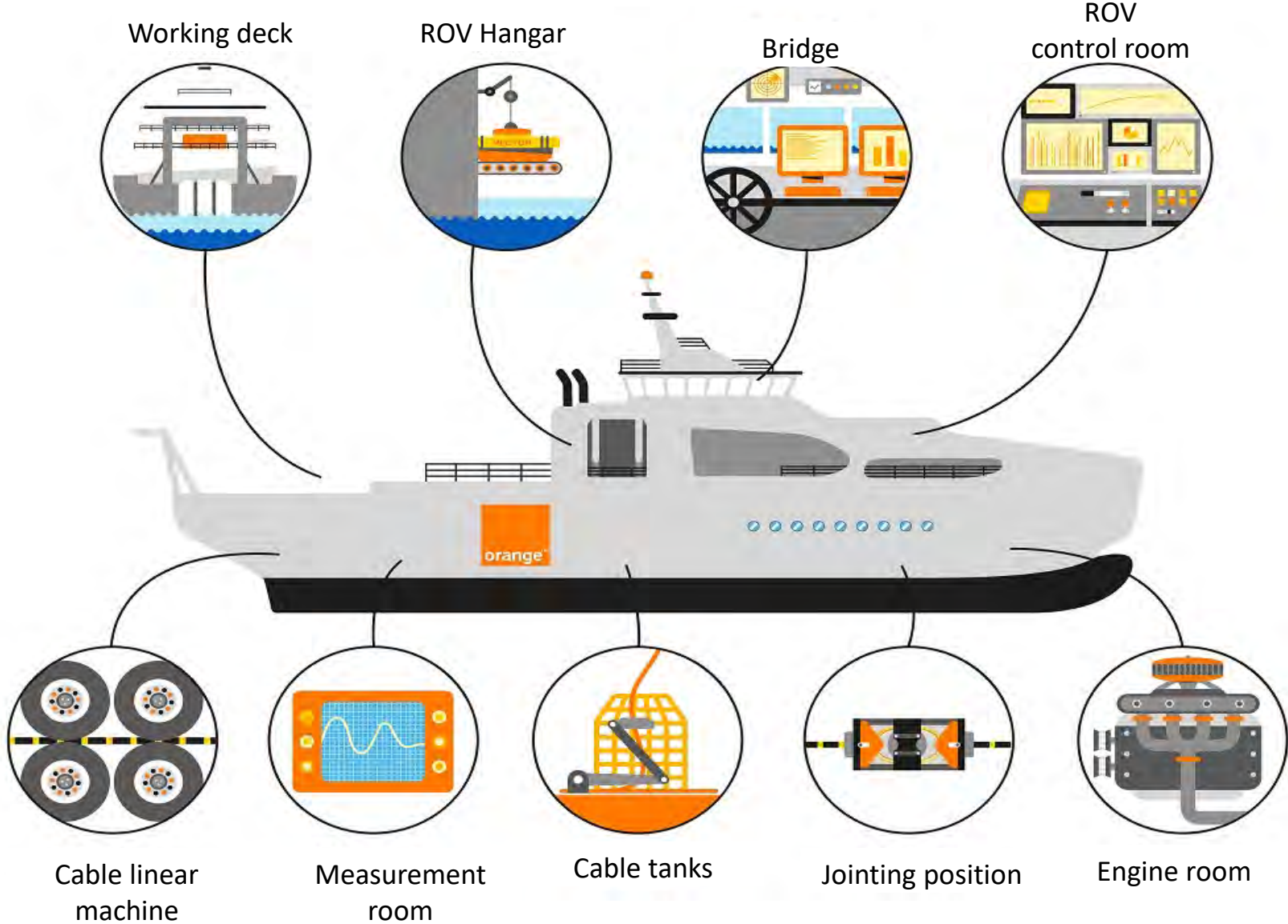


***John Pender***, named after pioneer cable maker, 1900  
*Source: Cable & Wireless*























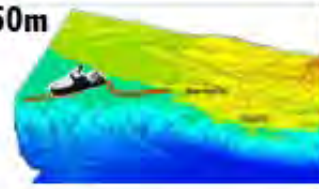
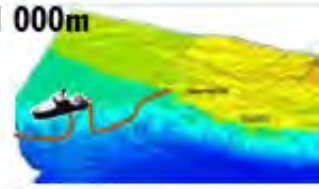
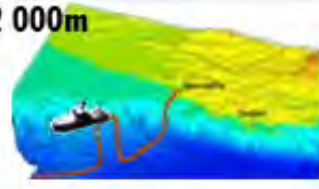
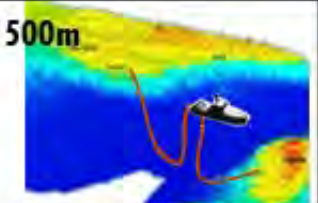
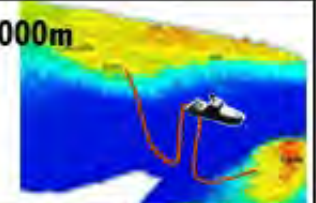
***Monarch***: laid 1<sup>st</sup> transatlantic telephone cable, 1955/6  
*Source: [www.atlantic-cable.com](http://www.atlantic-cable.com)*

# Cable ships : key elements



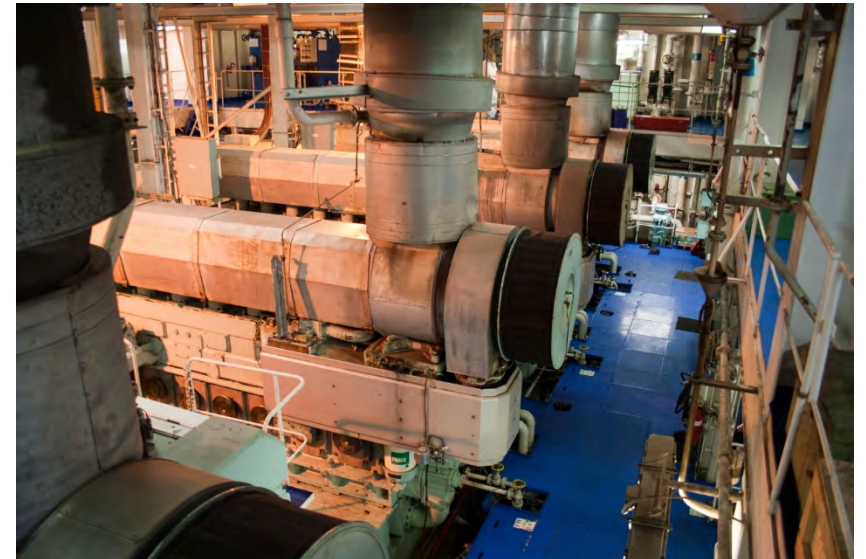


# Cable ships : size and performances

Volume	25x15m	50x10m	75x12,5m	100x20m	125x22,5m
Cable load	80T 	400T 	600T 	2500T 	4000T 
Autonomy at sea	15j 	20j 	25j 	35j-45j 	45j-60j 
Transit Speed (Sea State 4)	08nds 	09nds 	10nds 	12nds 	12,5nds 
Wave heigh at working area	0,8m 	1,0m 	1,25m 	2,0m 	3,0m 
Working depth	50m 	1 000m 	2 000m 	5 500m 	10 000m 

# Cable ships : engines

- Performances : engines should be able
  - ✓ To sustain a transit speed of 12 knots
  - ✓ To keep the working position with a sea state
  - ✓ To pull a plough (bollard pull)
- Number of engines :
  - ✓ Usually 4 engines
  - ✓ The optimum of fuel consumption could be to use only 3 or even 2 engines in parallel. The 4 engines are used for transit



# Cable ships : engines room

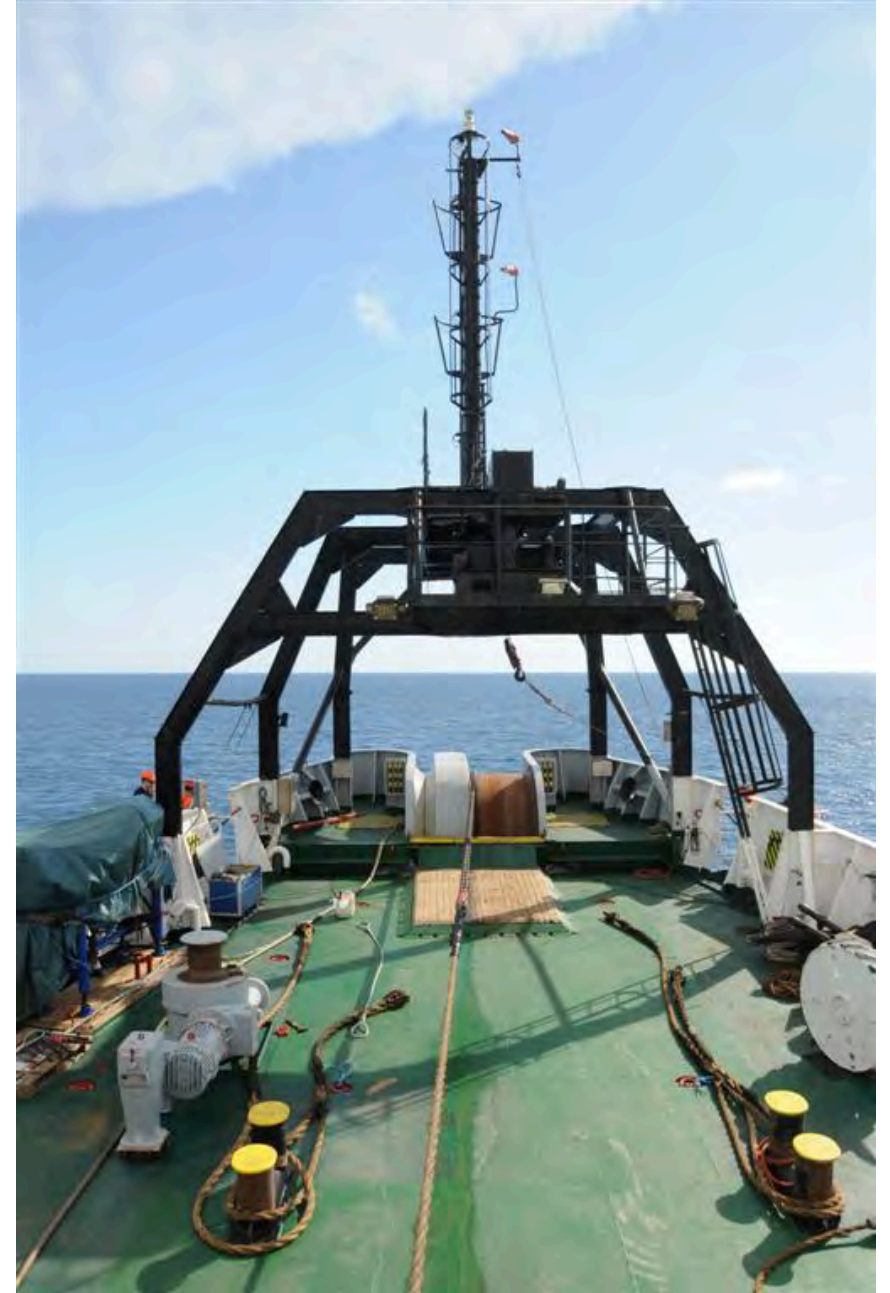
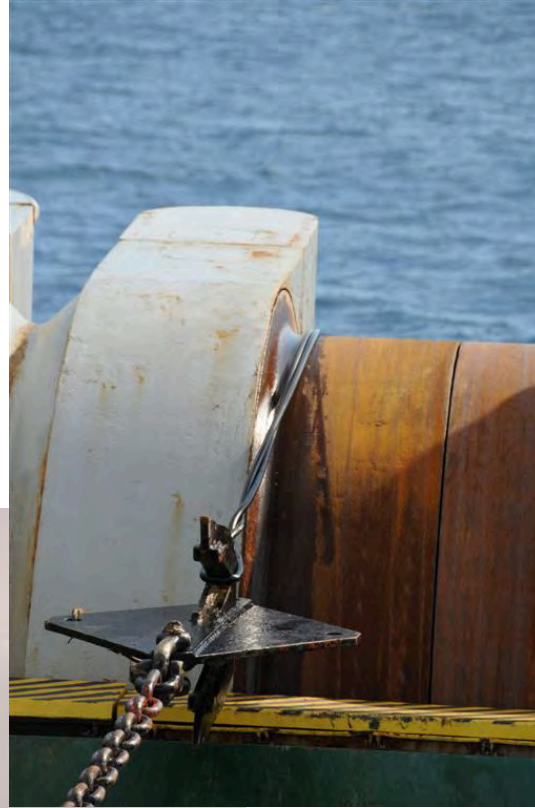
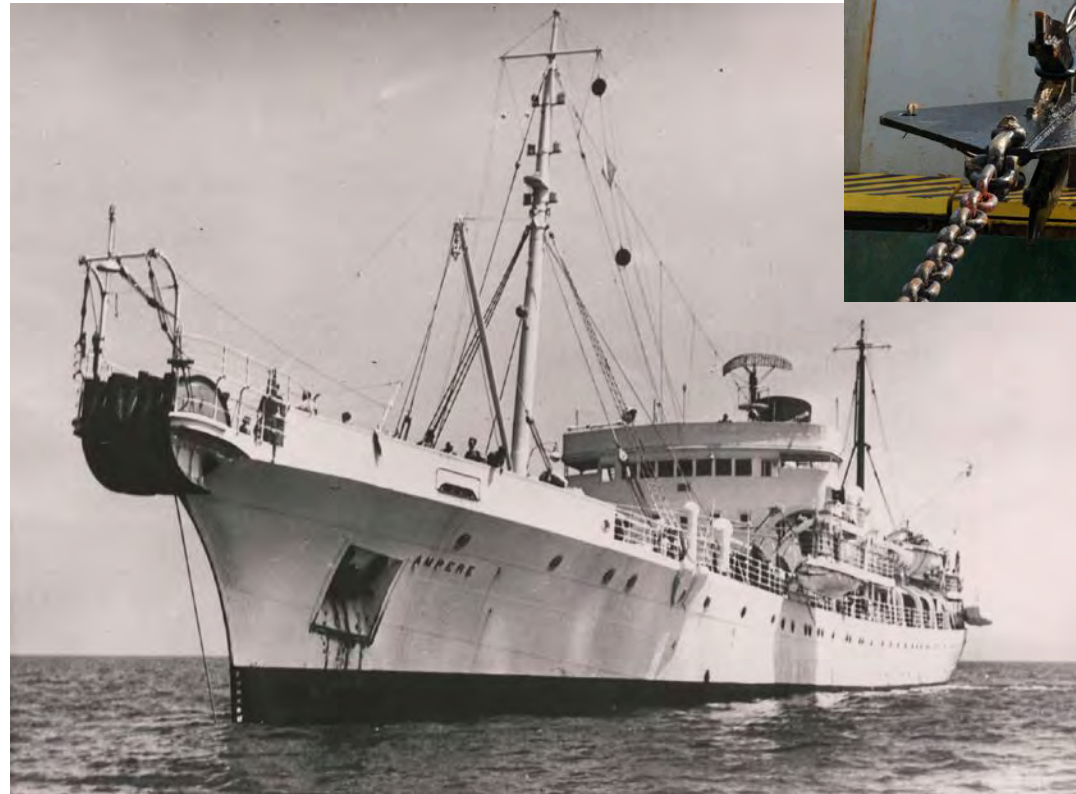


# Cable ships : Stability

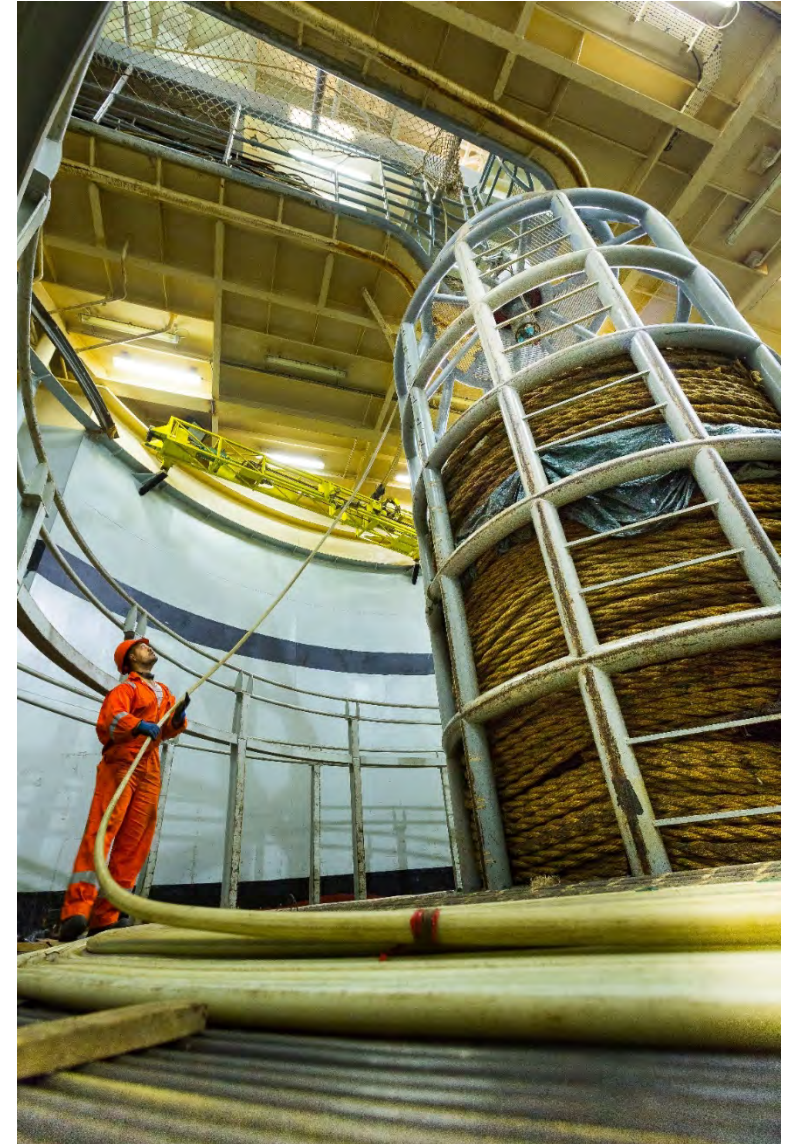
- Different devices for the propulsion:
  - ✓ Azimuthal propellers with 360° movement
  - ✓ Transverse tunnel propellers
  - ✓ The optimum of fuel consumption could be to use only 3 or even 2 engines in parallel. The 4 engines are used for transit
- The design of the bow is now optimizing the behaviour in the waves
- Dynamic Positioning : to keep an accurate position a cable ship use satellite information acquisition to command the different propellers
  - ✓ DP 2 : There is a double, independent system from data acquisition to propellers command



# Sheaves and working D Deck



# Cable tanks



# Buoys



## Repeater and Branching Unit handling





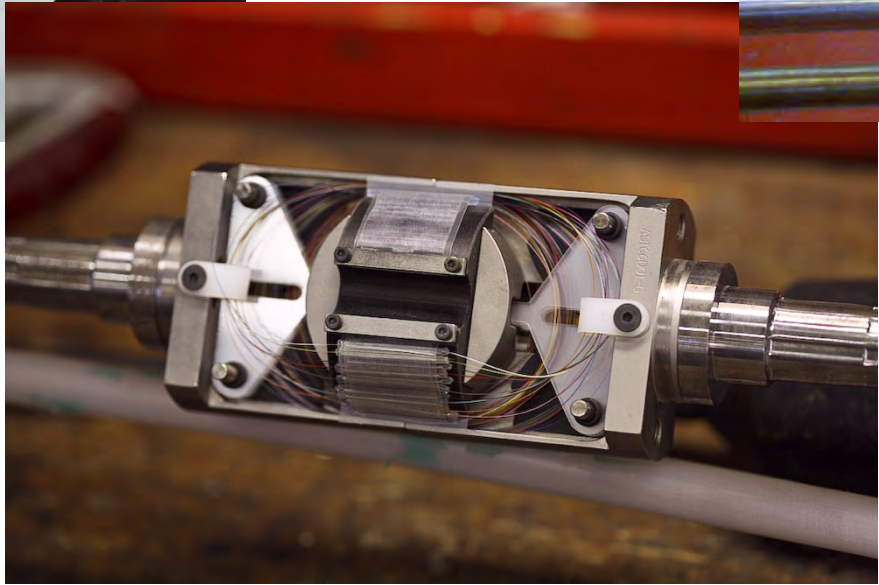
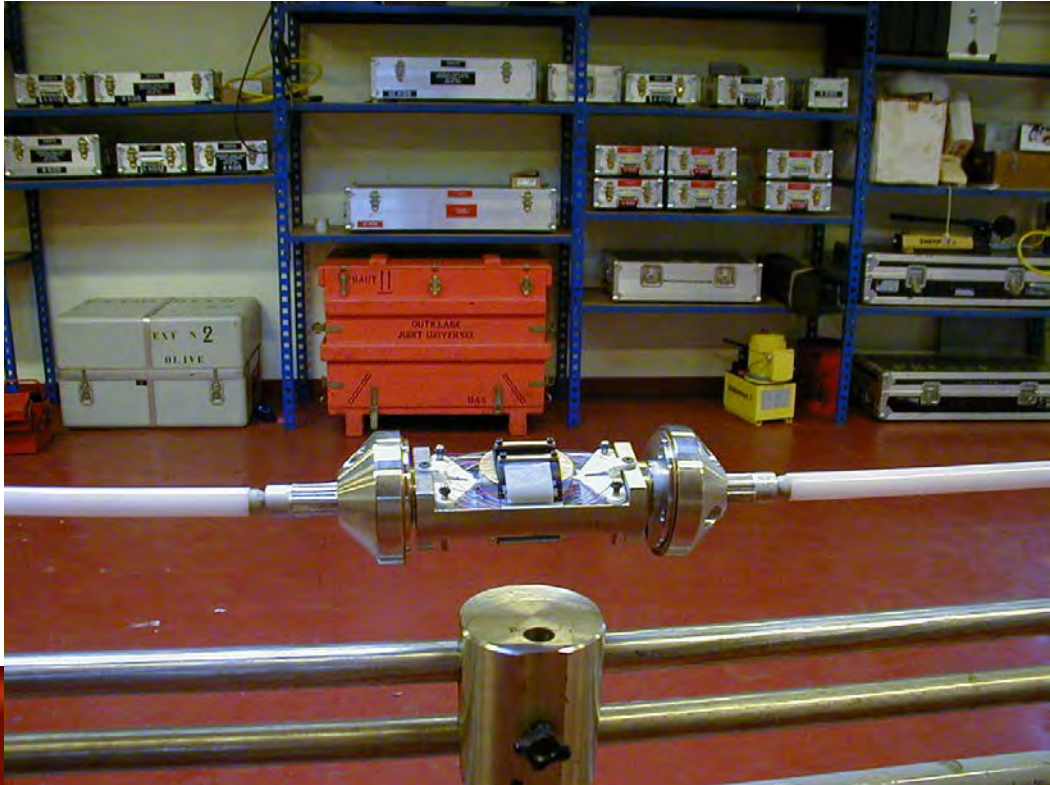
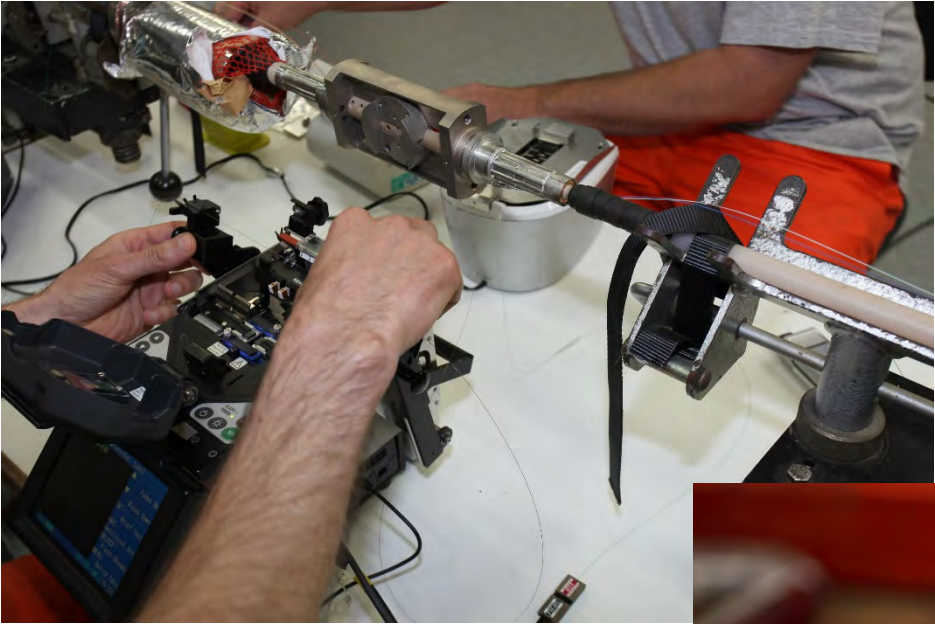
# Repeater and Branching Unit handling



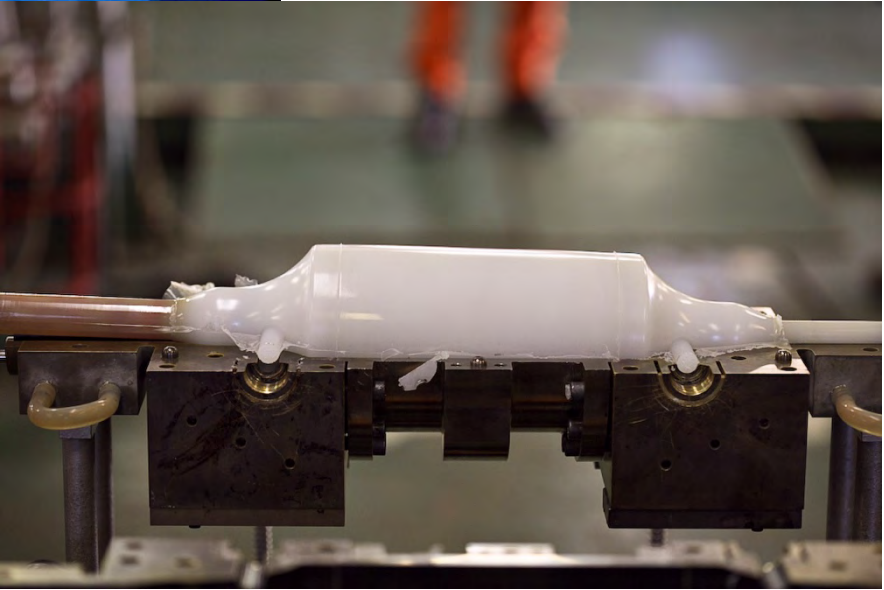
# Cable machines & cable drums



# Jointing



# Jointing



# Jointing room

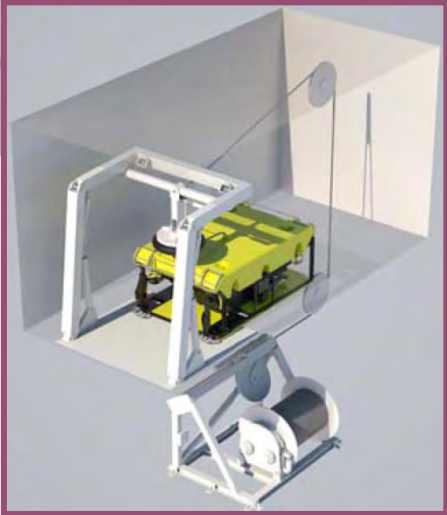
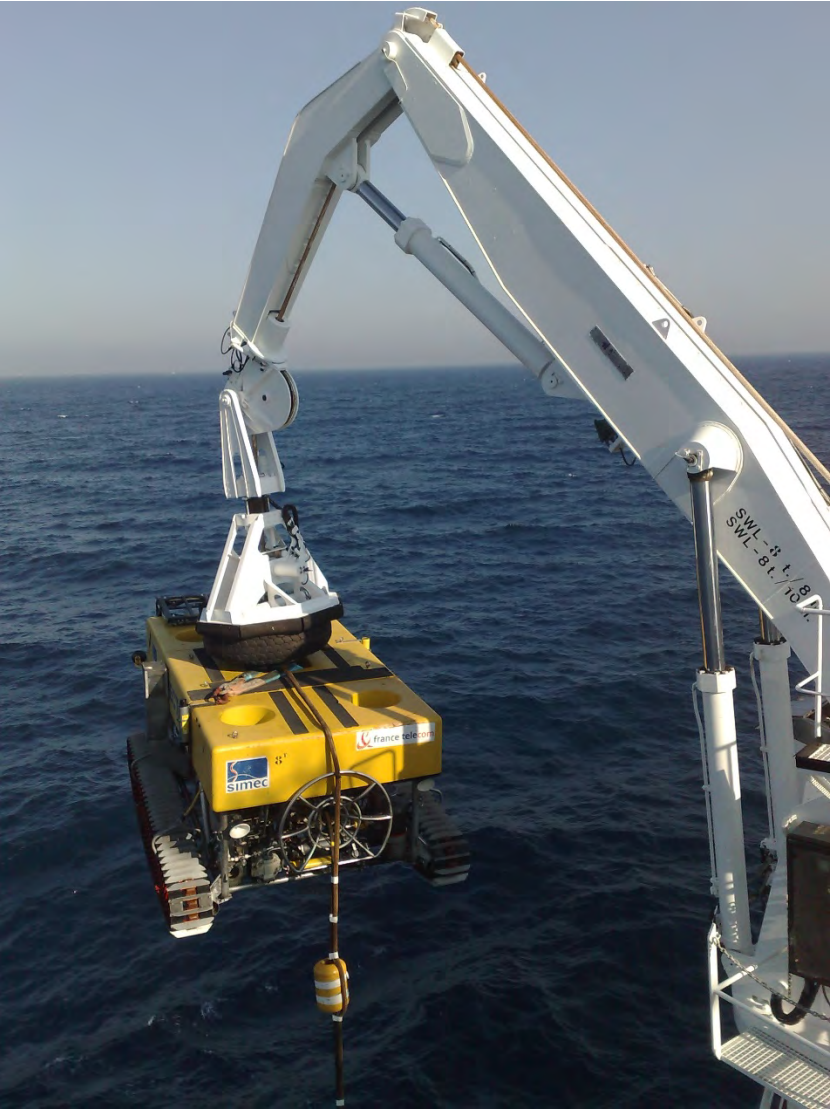


# ROV

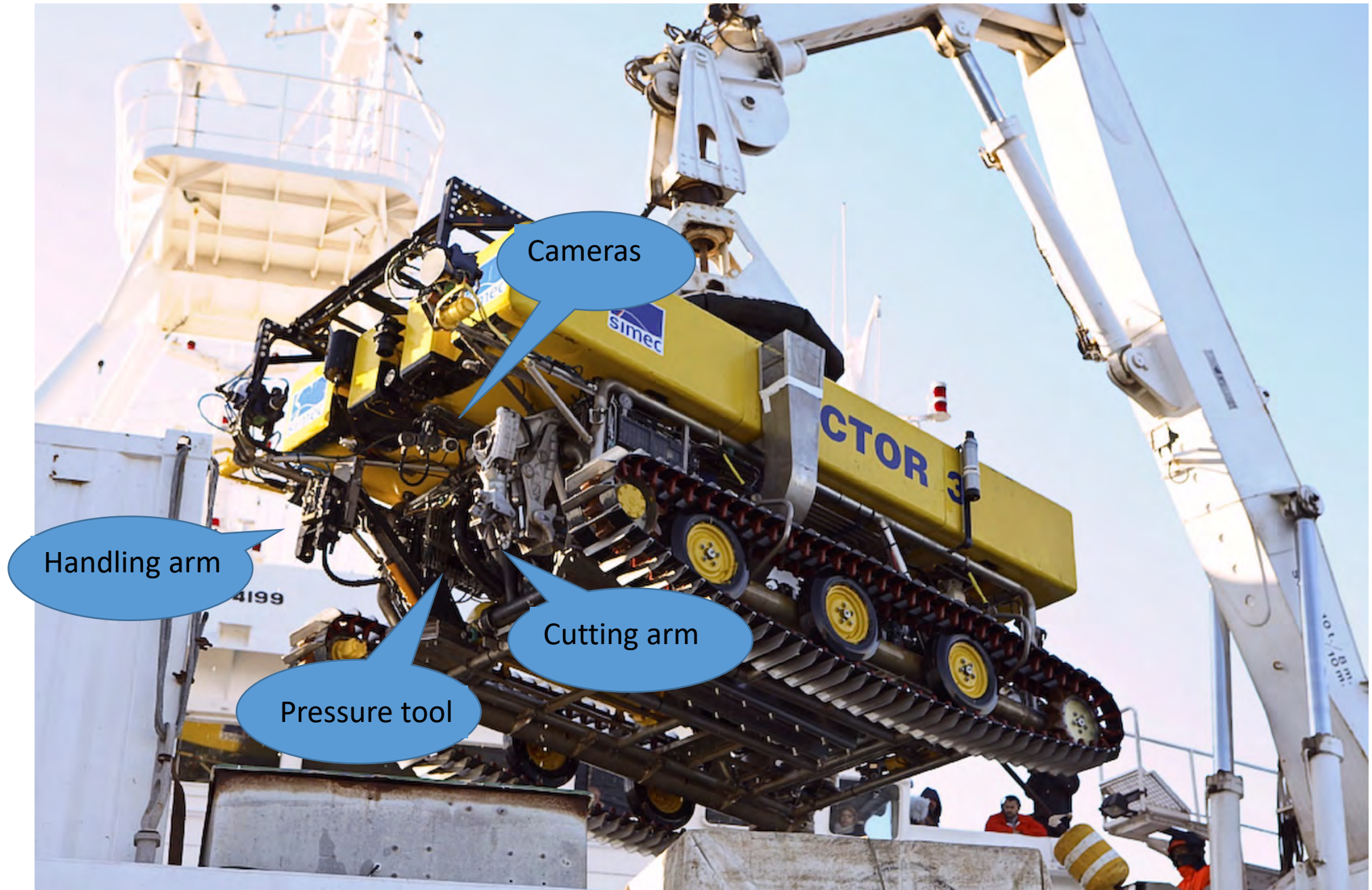
- The ROV has four functions
  - ✓ Finding the cable
  - ✓ Cutting the cable if necessary
  - ✓ Gripping the cable with a rope
  - ✓ Once the repair done, burial of the cable using high pressure tools



# ROV :immersion

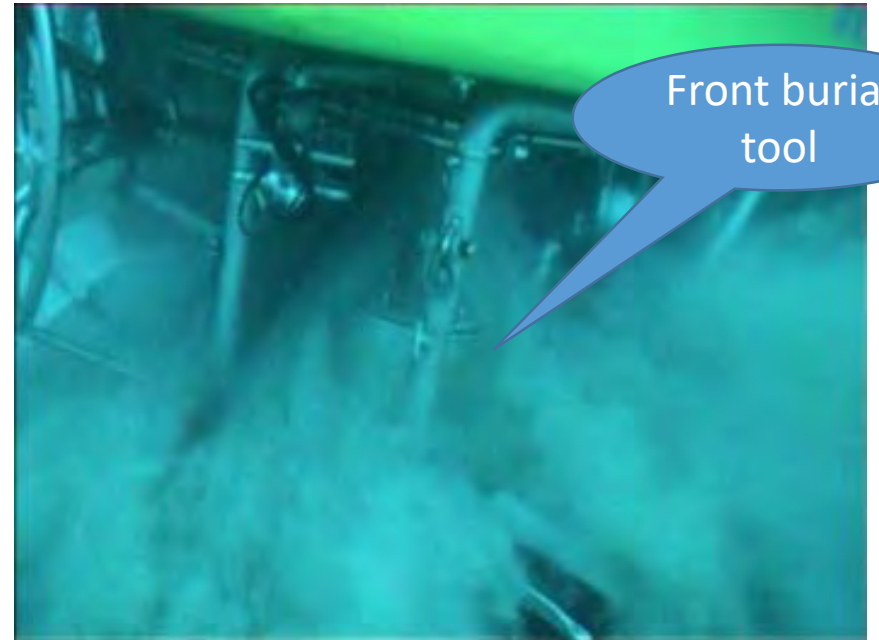
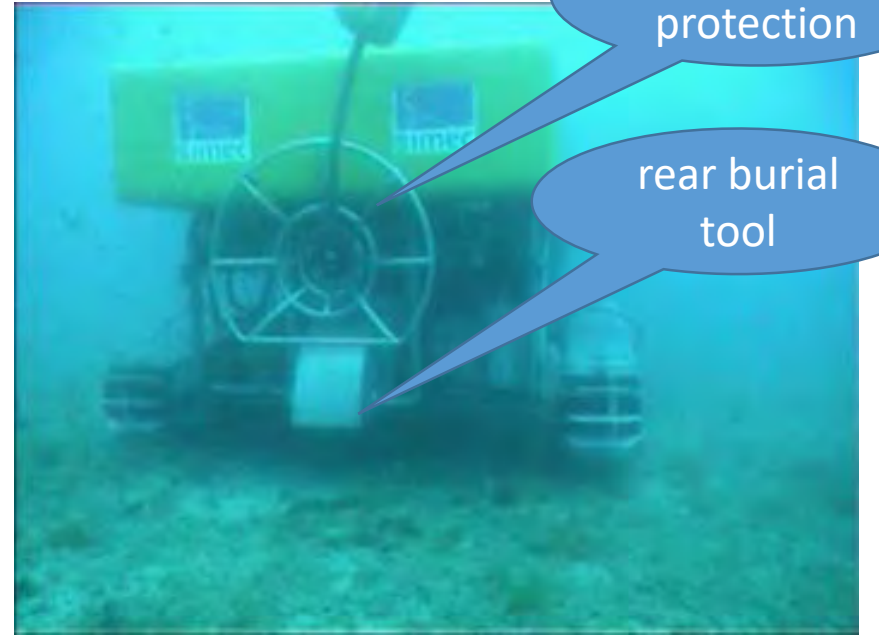
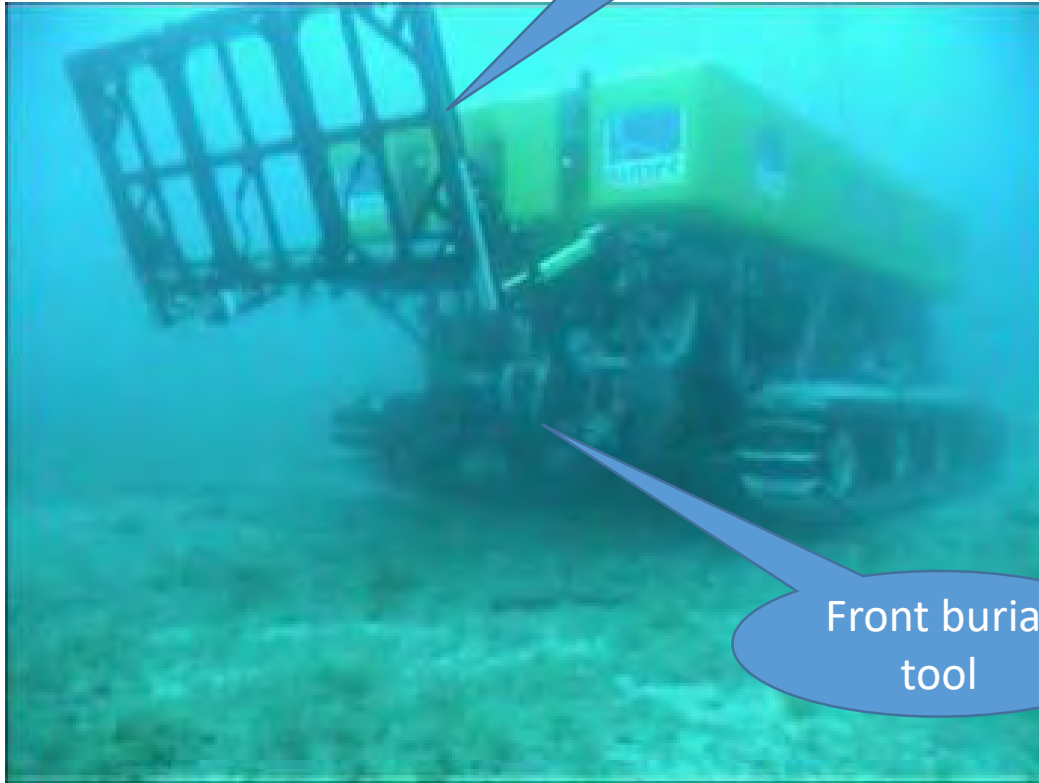


# ROV





# ROV



# ROV : control room

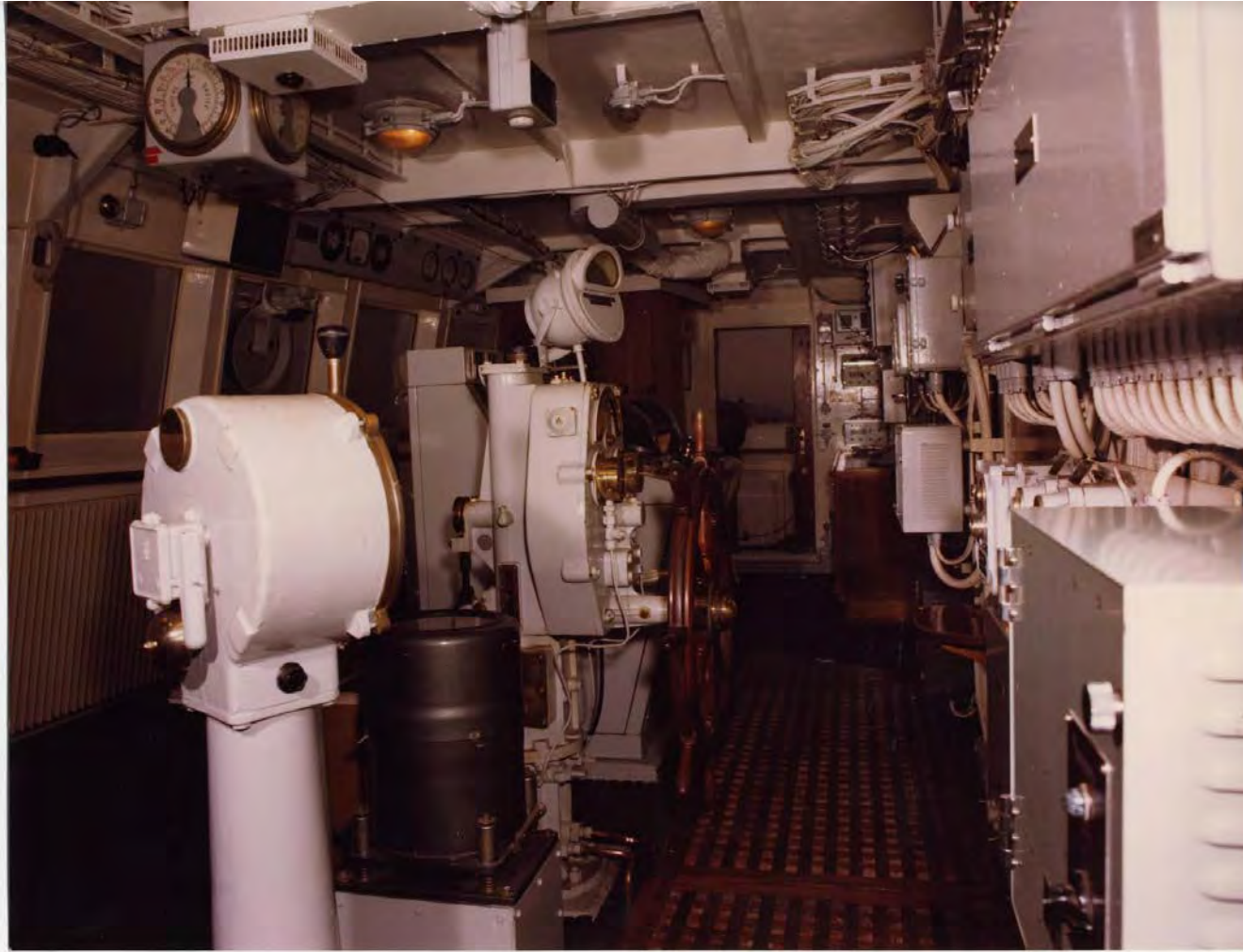
- Importance of coordinating the ROV progression with the ship navigation
- The ROV can be floating or progressing on the sea bottom using its tracks



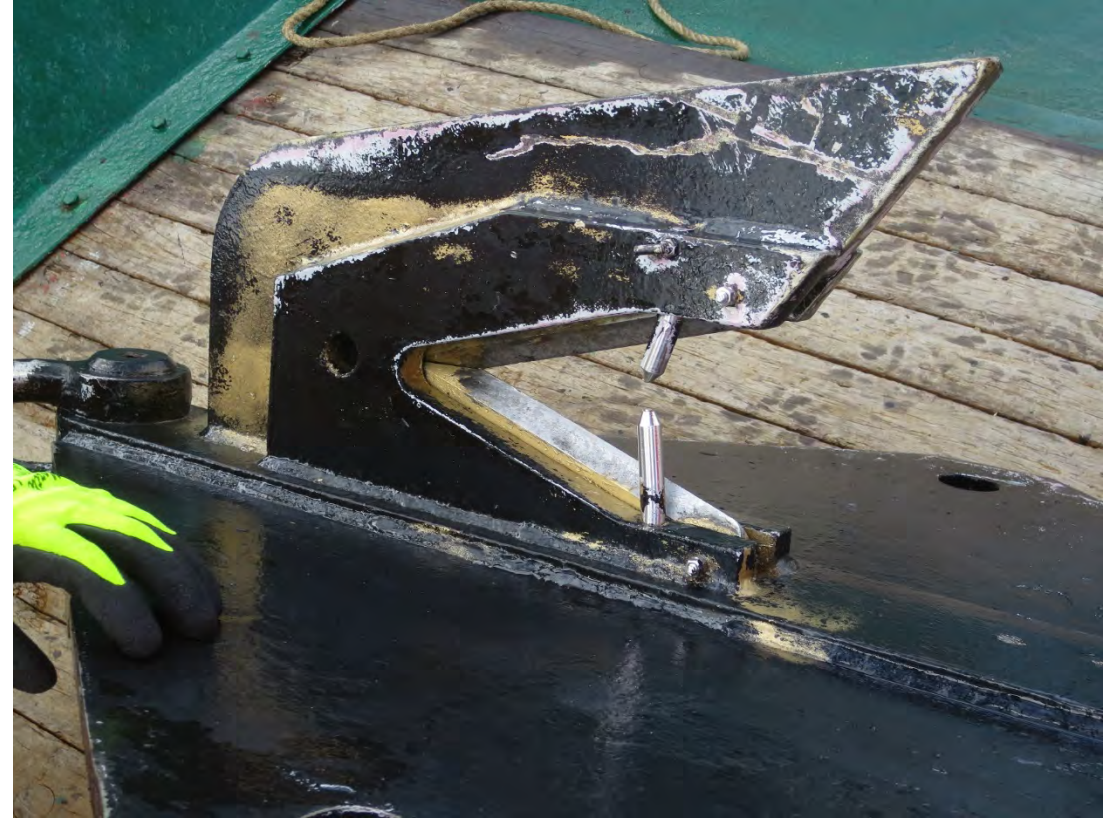
# Bridge



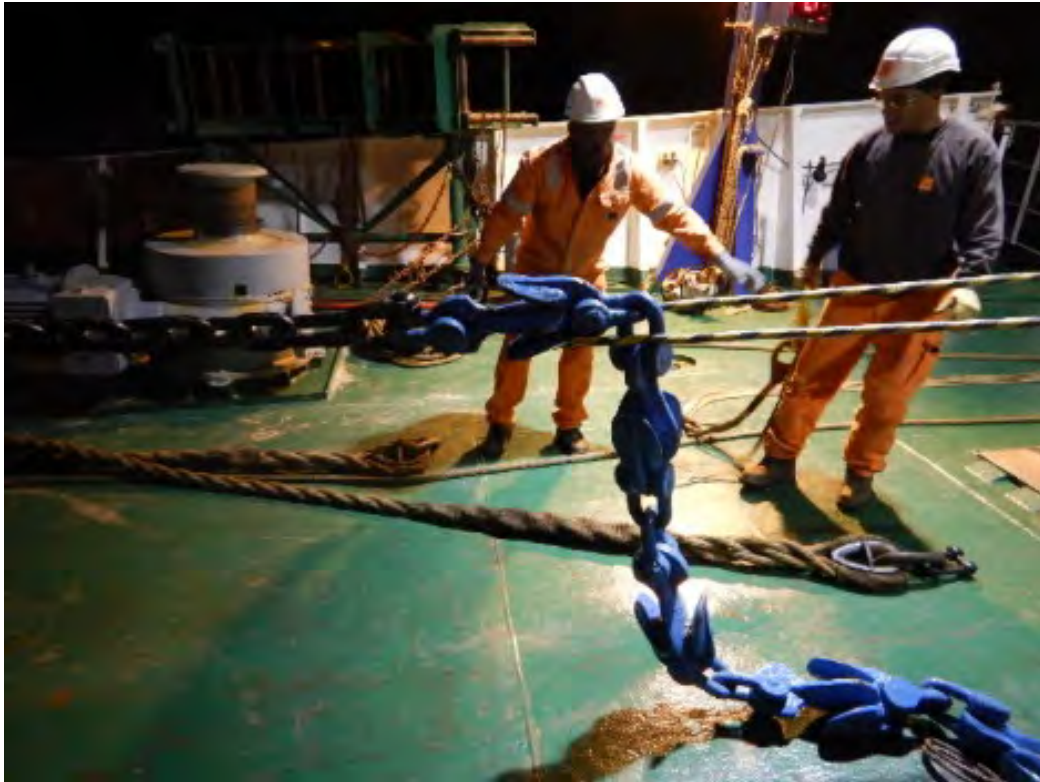
# Bridge



# Grappels : cutting



# Grappnels : retrieving

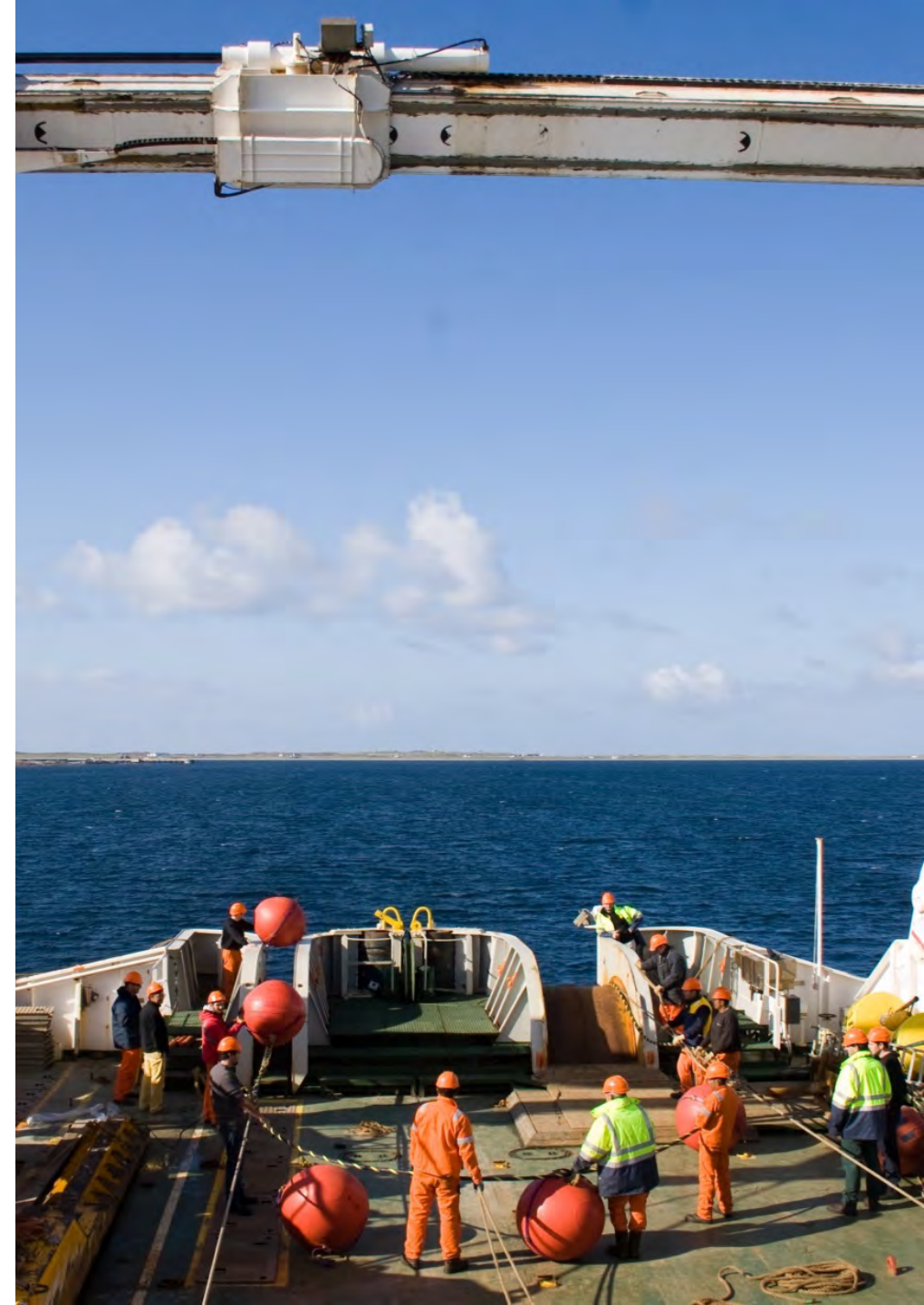


# Food and beverage



# On board :

- The Captain also called Master is in charge of the vessel and of the people on board, including customer representatives
- The vessel is organized in 3 services:
  - ✓ Bridge, navigation, and deck operations
  - ✓ Engines and all electrical devices on board
  - ✓ General services :administrative, accommodation and food
- The crew organization is different in each company, but there are 50 persons per ship : officers, petty officers and seamen (AB for the deck Able Seamen, with a unique experience)
- There is also a dedicated team for the cable operation :
  - ✓ Telecom technician for measurement and relation with on shore stations
  - ✓ Jointers
  - ✓ ROV pilots and maintenance
  - ✓ Reporting
- This team is about 10 to 12 people, it exists synergies between this team and the crew





# Route and Slack control

- The key point of a good lay (installation or repair) is a good slack management tool and an accurate navigation on the planned route
- Prior to an installation, a survey has provided among others a Route Position List (RPL) that has to be final position of the cable on the seabed
- In order to lay, or relay in case of maintenance operation, the points to be controlled are
  - ✓ The route followed by the vessel, according to the route that has been decided in the survey prior to installation
  - ✓ The speed of the vessel
  - ✓ The speed of the cable engine and the cable drums
- These points are referred to as Slack control. This allows the cable to be laid as flat as possible on the seabed and to avoid any kink due to wrong slack management
- There are several software that are dedicated to the slack management



Slack management : spaghetti and Chopsticks

# The most important : the mascotte

- The troll of the Pierre de Fermat
- Forever the Pierre de Fermat will remember being born in Norway



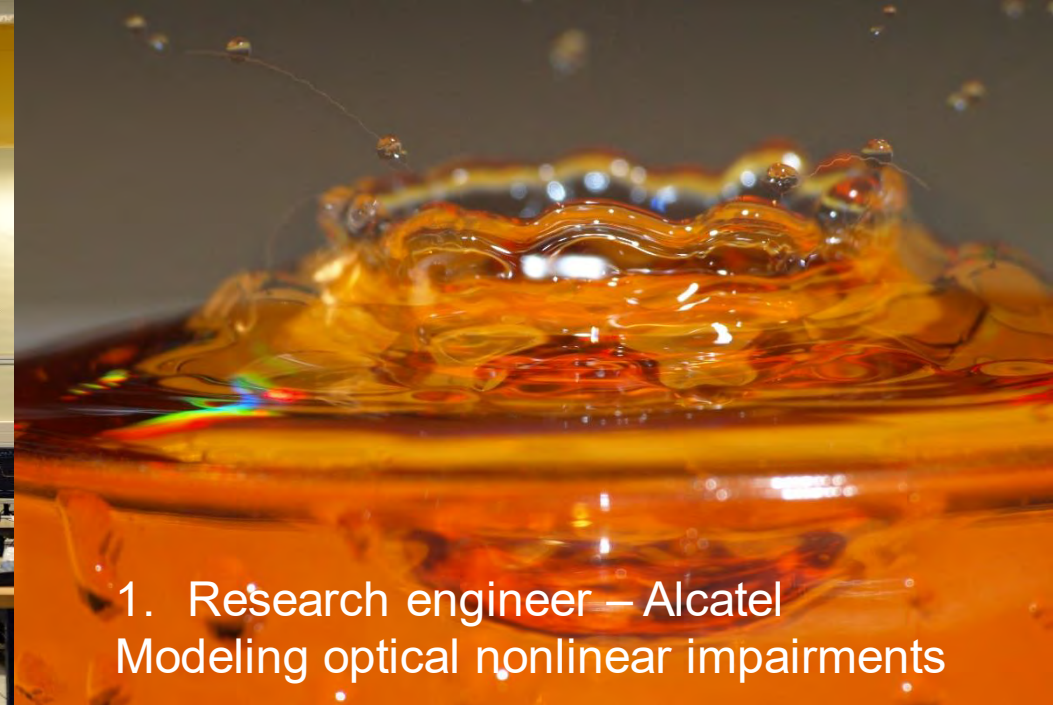
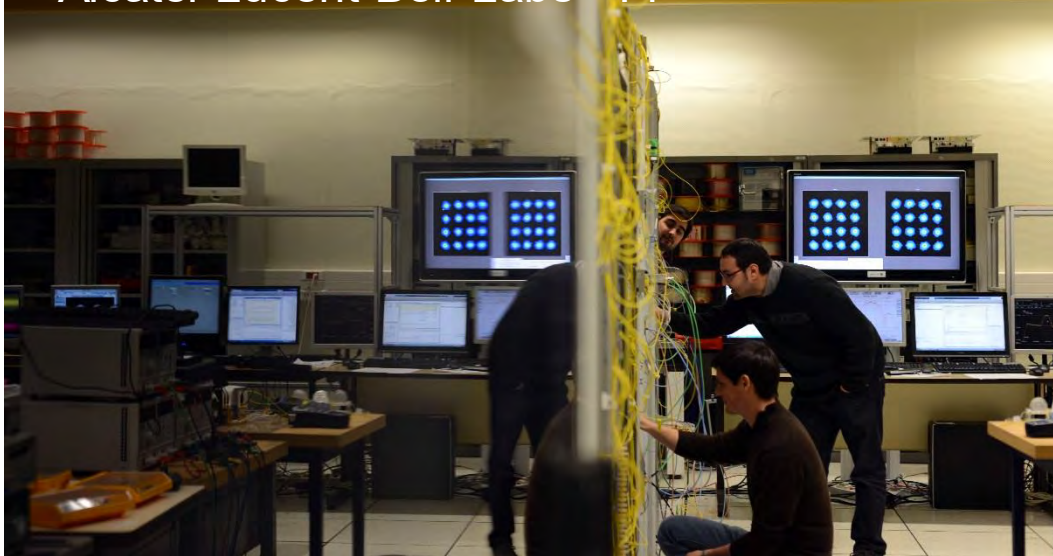
# Optical Transmission – Day 1

**J.-C. ANTONA**

**August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

# J.-C. ANTONA in brief

2. Lead Optical Networks Group  
Alcatel-Lucent Bell-Labs - Fr



1. Research engineer – Alcatel  
Modeling optical nonlinear impairments



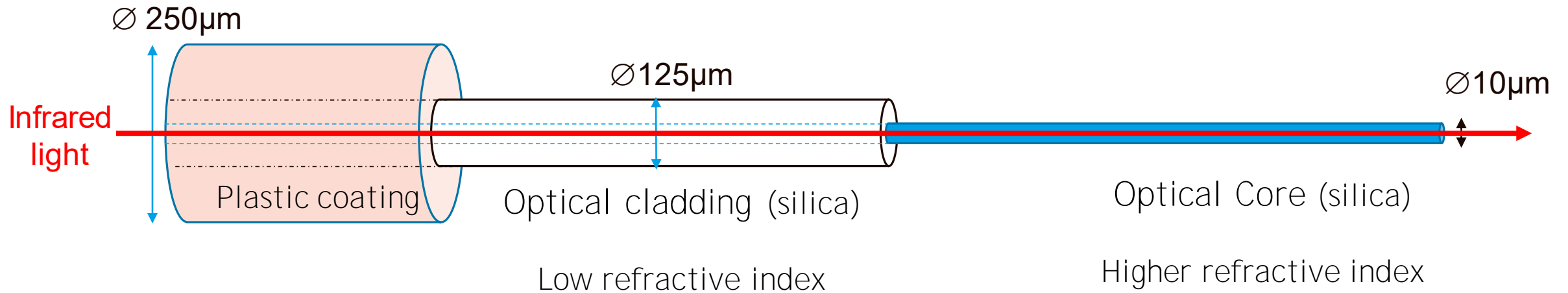
3. Alcatel Submarine Networks  
System Design – Research & Techno.



# Objectives

- Lecture 1: Basics of digital optical communications
  - Optical Fiber characteristics
  - Principles of digital optical communications
  - Directions towards high capacities
  - Transmitters and (coherent) receiversOptional / Advanced: Introduction to Shannon theory
- Lecture 2: signal distortions in a submarine cable
- Lecture 3: system design

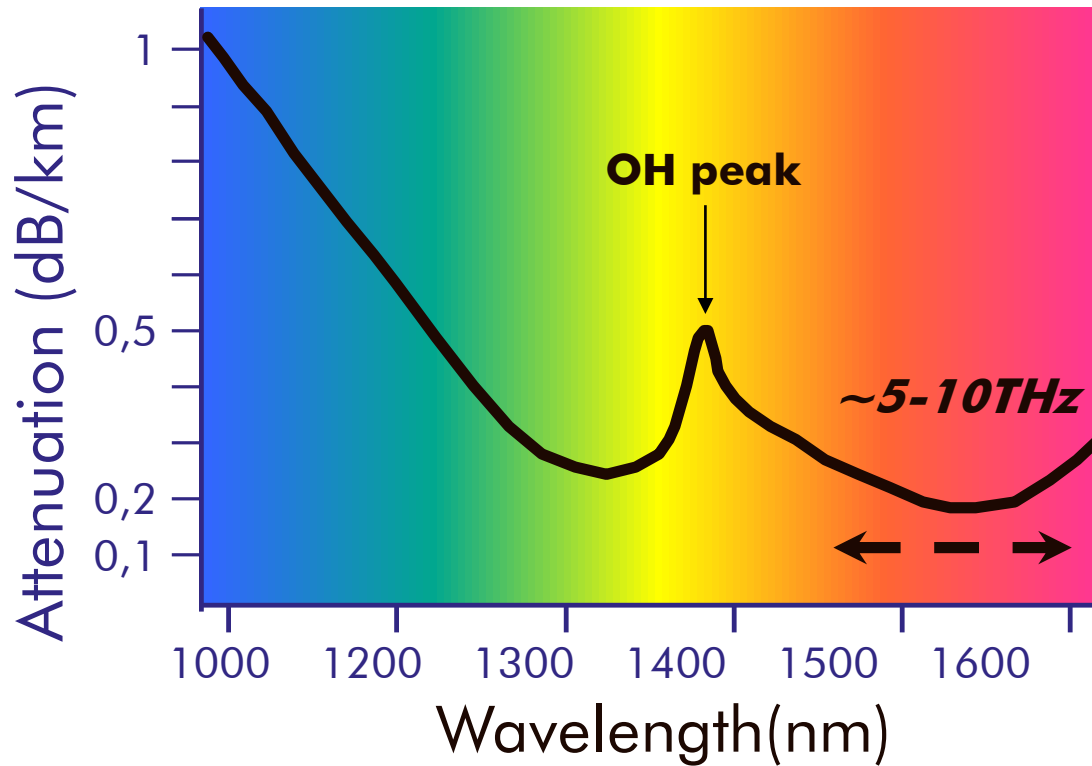
# Optical fibre = ultra-thin glass waveguide



- If core section is small,  
→ **single-mode propagation** of light starting from a given wavelength

# Optical fibre = ultra-transparent glass waveguide

- Silica-based, ultra-transparent waveguide

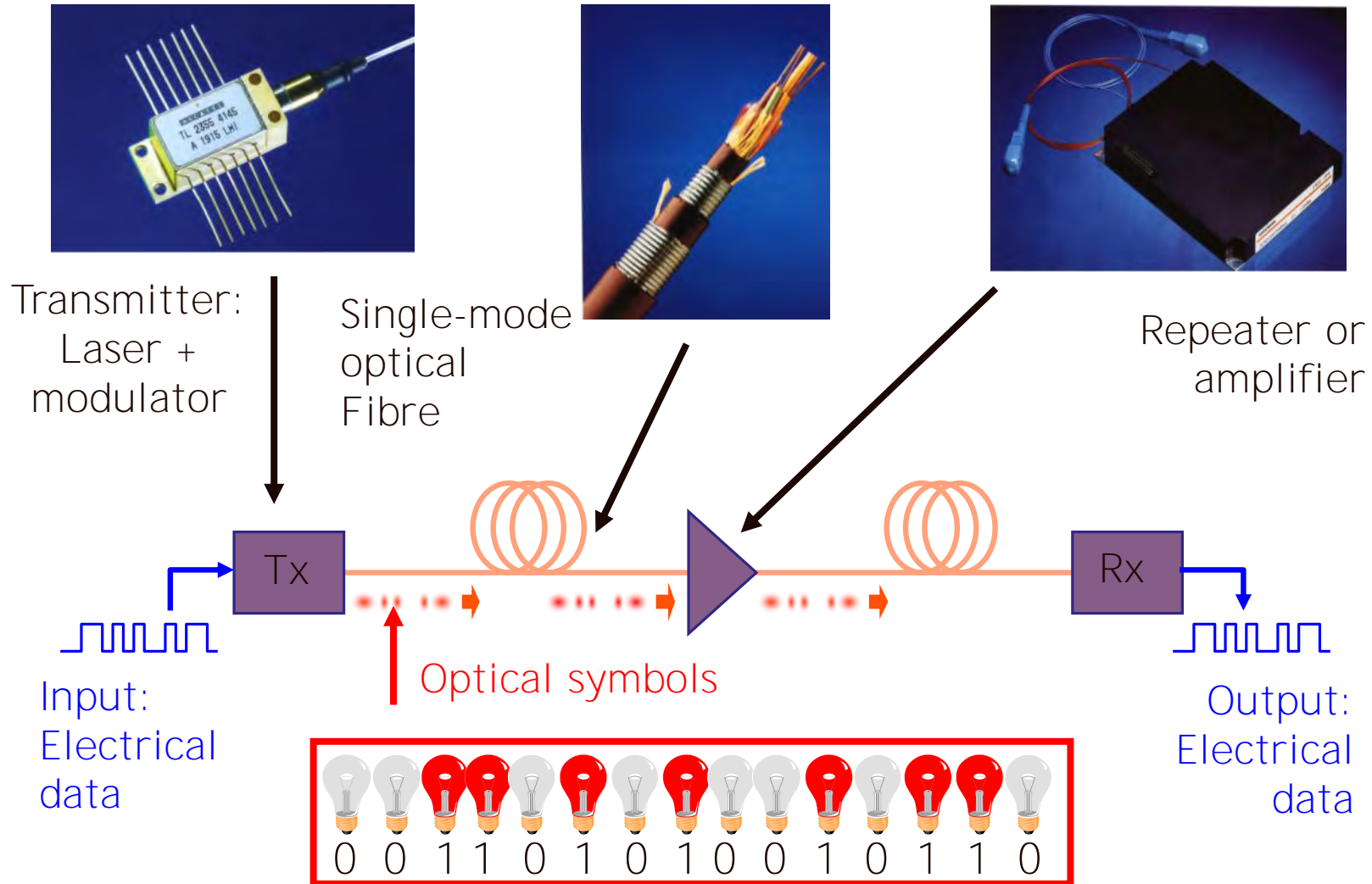


Minimum attenuation around 1550nm

Terrestrial 0.2dB/km -50% every 15km

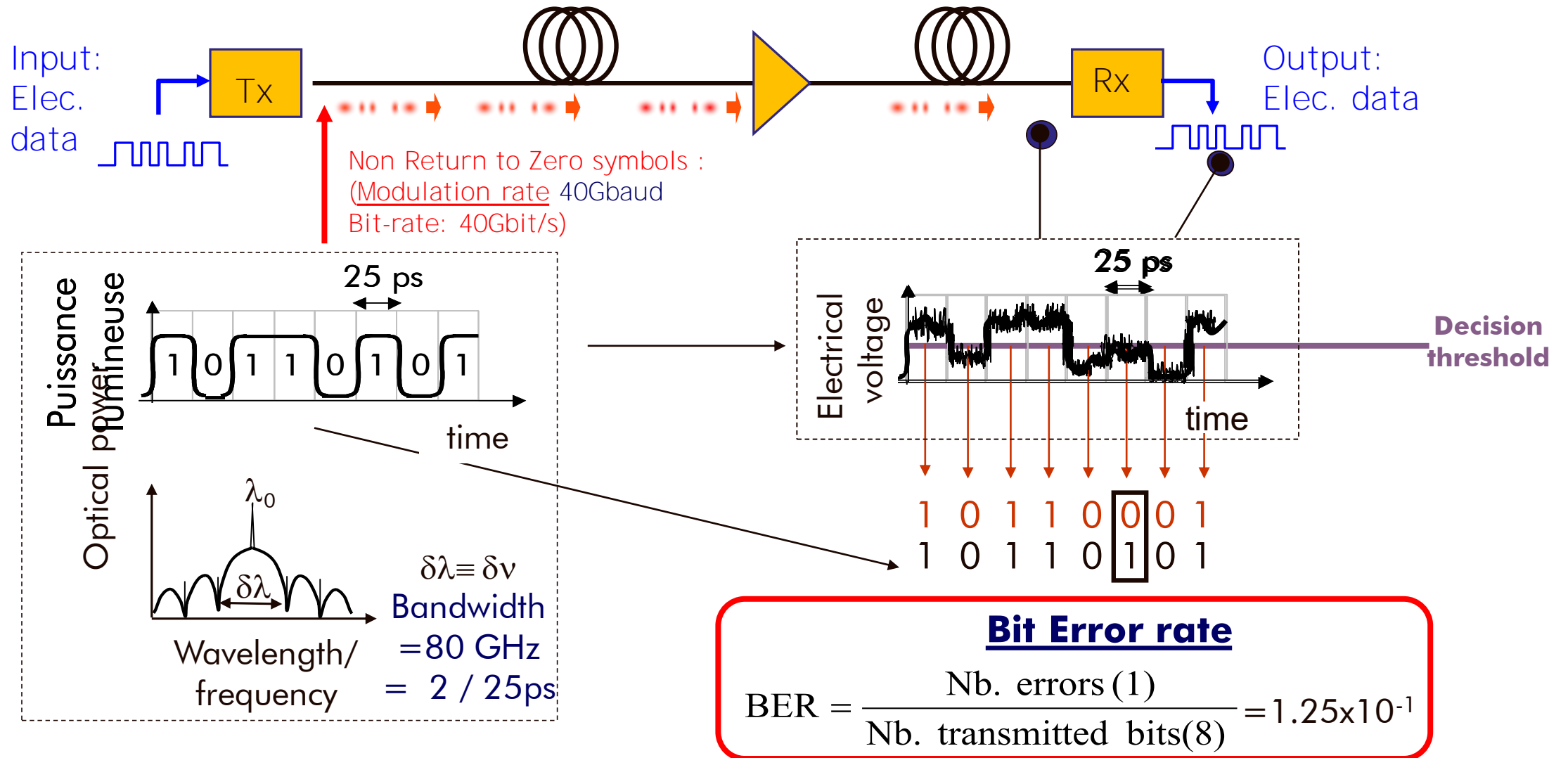
Subsea 0.15dB/km **-50% every 20km**

# Digital Optical Communications: principle





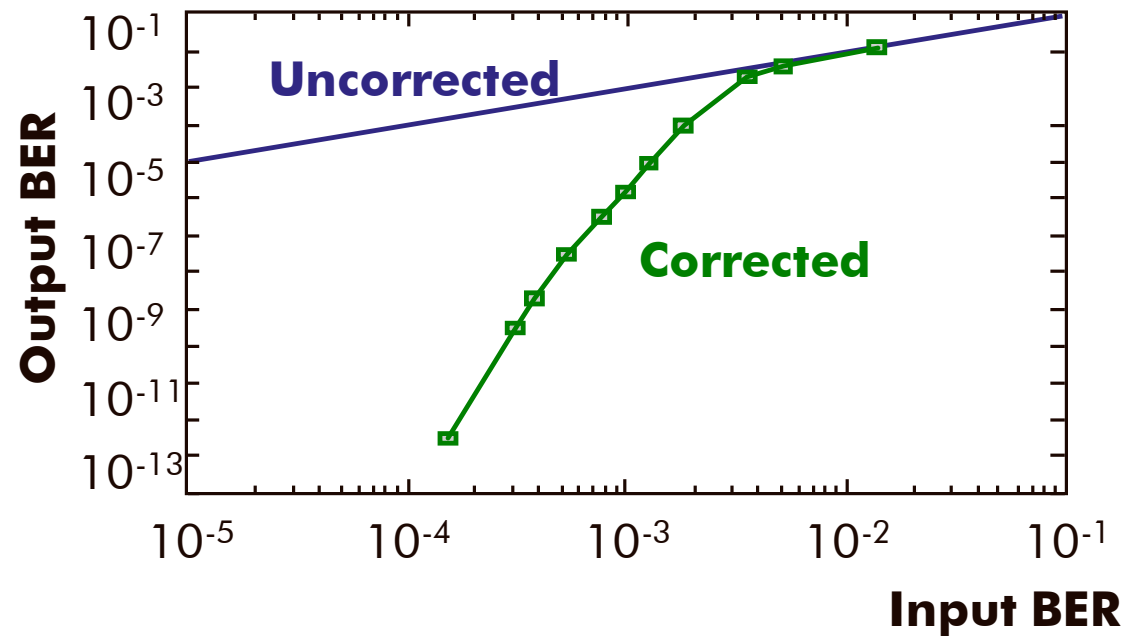
# Digital Optical Communications: usual criterion of quality



# Forward Error Correction (FEC)

## → Transport data free of errors

- Encoding at Transmitter with redundancy bits
- Decoding and error correction at Receiver



# Example of error correction scheme: block code

- Message to transmit: information symbols  $M_1, M_2, \dots, M_N \dots$

# Example of error correction scheme: block code

- Organization per block of  $k$  symbols:  $k = r$  rows \*  $c$  columns

$M_1$	$M_2$	...		$M_c$	
$M_{c+1}$	$M_{c+2}$	...		$M_{2c}$	
$M_{(r-1)c+1}$	$M_{(r-1)c+2}$			$M_{rc}$	

# Example of error correction scheme: block code

- Parity check for each row, and column

$M_1$	$M_2$	...		$M_k$	$C_{row,1}$
$M_{c+1}$	$M_{c+2}$	...		$M_{2c}$	
$M_{(r-1)c+1}$	$M_{(r-1)c+2}$			$M_{rc}$	$C_{row,r}$
$C_{col,1}$	$C_{col,2}$			$C_{col,k}$	$C_{row,col}$

# Example of error correction scheme: block code

- Transmitted message: block of  $k+1$  columns and  $r+1$  rows
  - Code length:  $n = (c+1) (r+1)$ , instead of  $k = c r$

$M_1$	$M_2$	...		$M_k$	$C_{row,1}$
$M_{k+1}$	$M_{k+2}$	...		$M_{2k}$	
$M_{(r-1)k+1}$	$M_{(r-1)k+2}$			$M_{rk}$	$C_{row,r}$
$C_{col,1}$	$C_{col,2}$			$C_{col,k}$	$C_{row,col}$

Code rate :  $k/n$

Overhead:  $n/k - 1$

# Example of error correction scheme: block code

- Received block of  $k+1$  columns and  $r+1$  rows
  - Recalculation of check sums and comparison with received checks

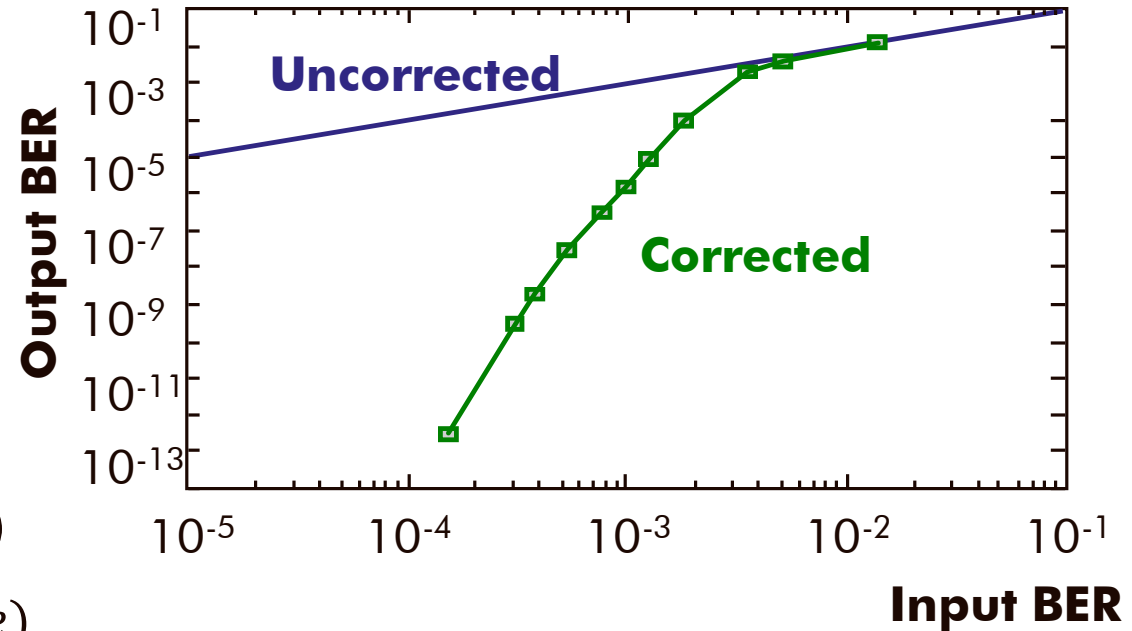
$R_1$	$R_2$	...		$R_k$	=
$R_{k+1}$	$R_{k+2}$	...		$R_{2k}$	=
		Error			≠
					=
$R_{(r-1)k+1}$	$R_{(r-1)k+2}$			$R_{rk}$	=
=	=	≠	=	=	=

Identification of 1 error per block,

# Forward Error Correction (FEC)

## → Transport data free of errors

- Encoding at Transmitter with redundancy bits
- Decoding and error correction at Receiver
- Metric: Net Coding Gain
  - Extra-noise tolerated to reach a given BER (dB)
  - $NCG_{dB} = 10 * \log_{10} \left( \frac{Q_{correct}^2}{Q_{uncorr}^2} \right) + 10 * \log_{10}(code\ rate)$



- Typical

Type	Overhead	Net Coding Gain	Application
Reed Solomon 239-255	7%	5.8dB	Early 10G systems
Product codes	7%	8.3dB	10-40G
Soft Decision FECs	Ex: 25%	11-12dB	100G+ coherent



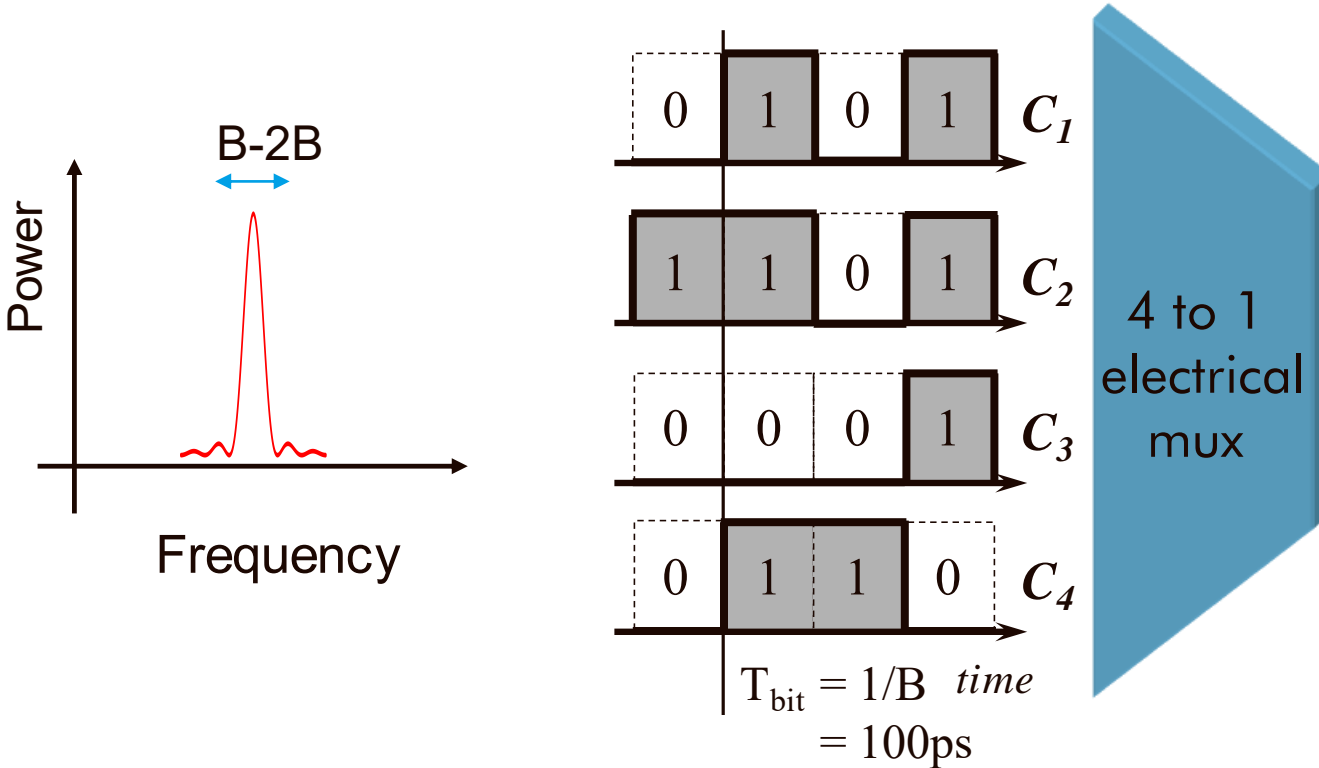
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# Paths to high data rates

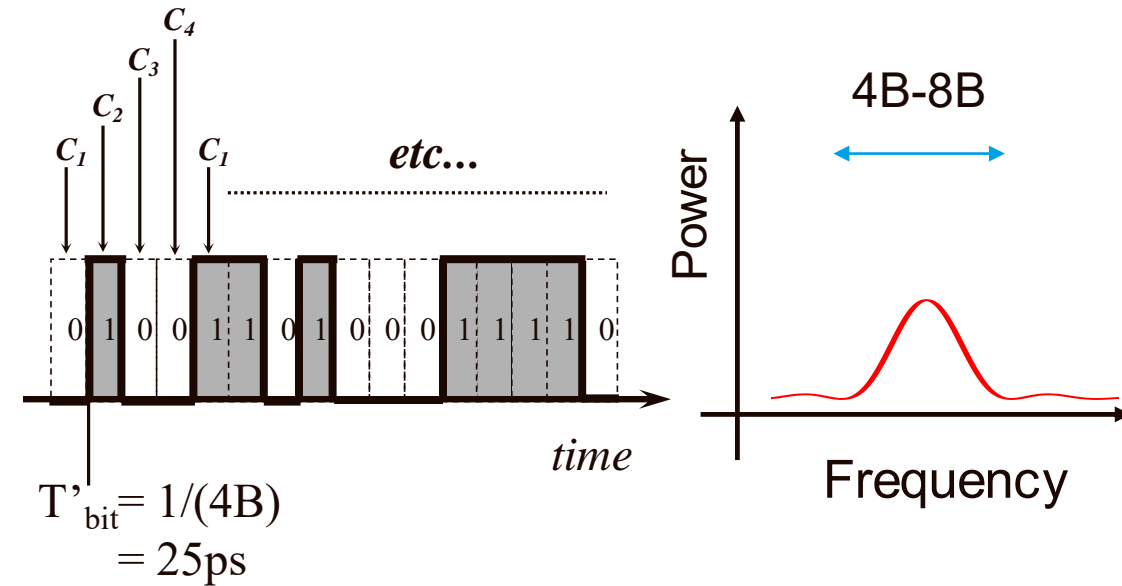
# Increasing capacity

## 1. Higher modulation rates: Time-Division Multiplexing (TDM)

**B=10Gbit/s electrical data streams**



**40Gbit/s electrical data streams**

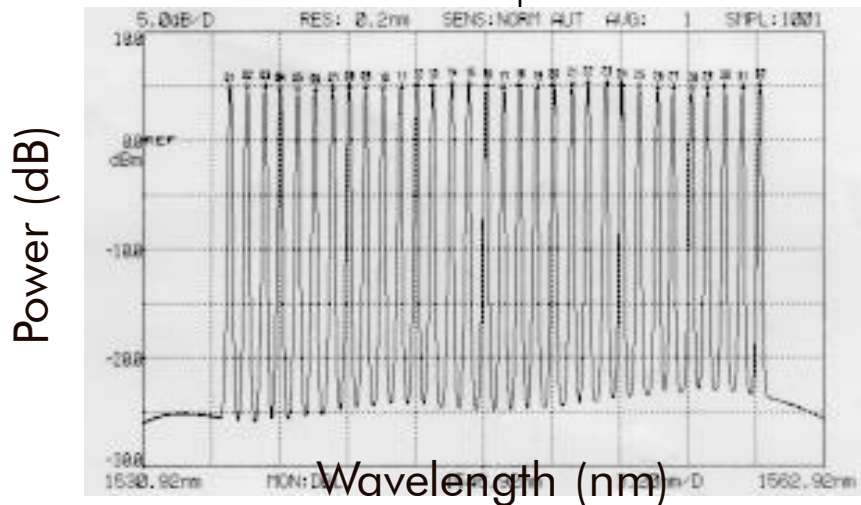
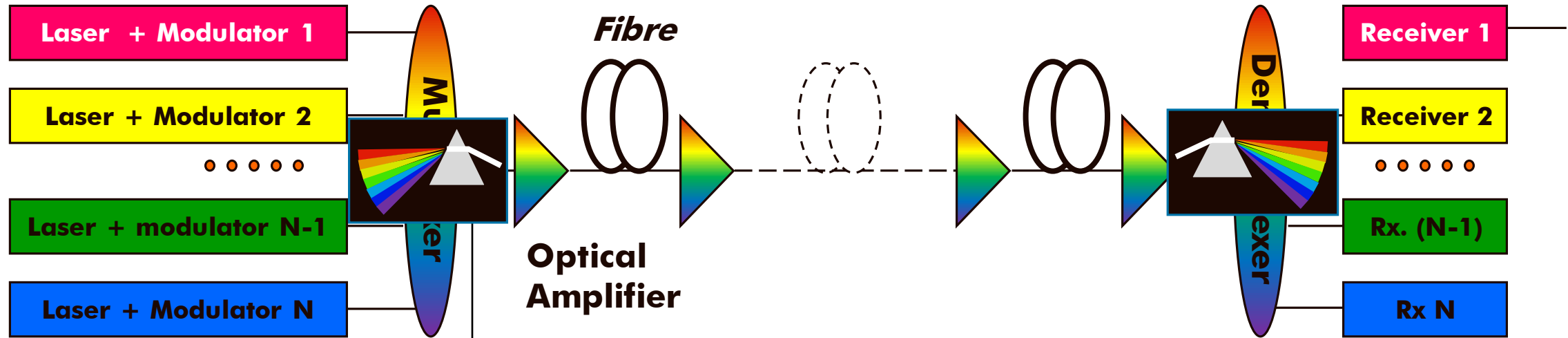


**Need 4 times more power**

Commercially available transceivers are modulated at up to 70Gbaud (Gsymbols/s)

# Increasing capacity :

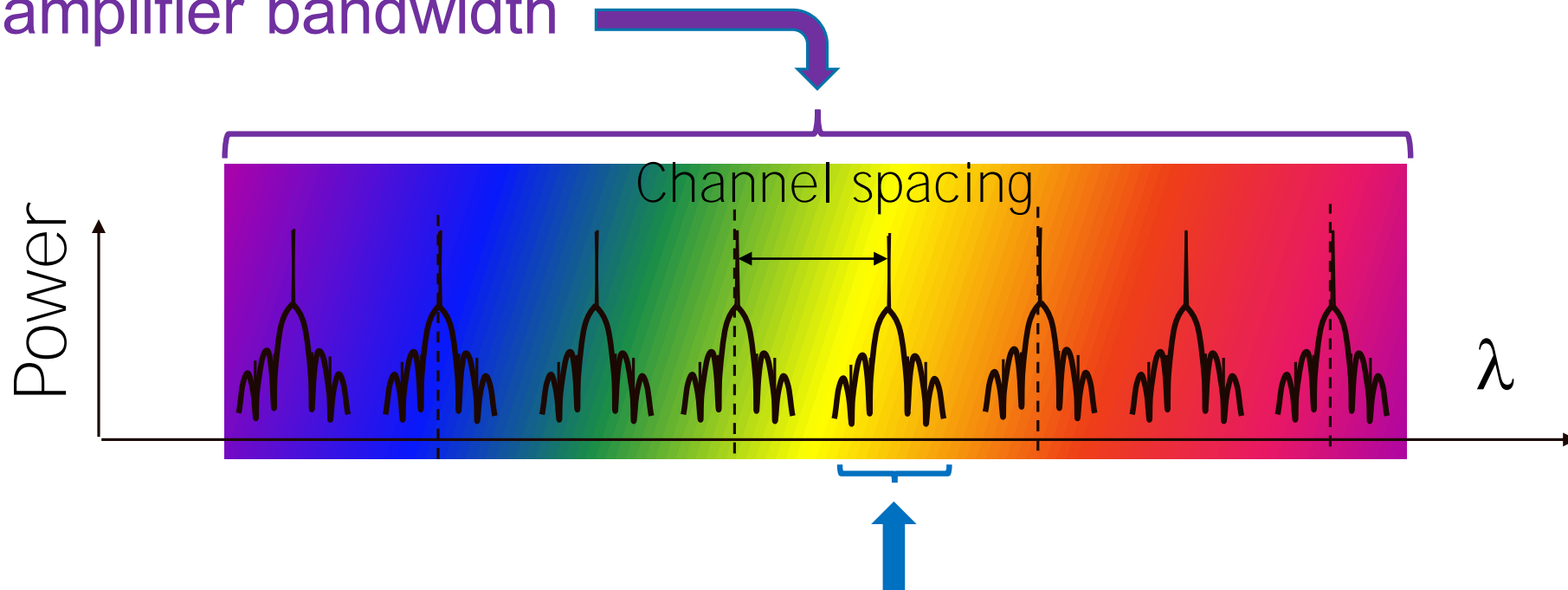
## 2. Wavelength-Division Multiplexing (WDM)



- Wavelength Division Multiplexing
  - Simultaneous transmission of several optical carriers (channels) at different wavelengths
- Capacity : **sum of channel bit-rates**
  - Ex:  $120 \times 25 \text{Gbit/s} = 3 \text{Tbit/s}$

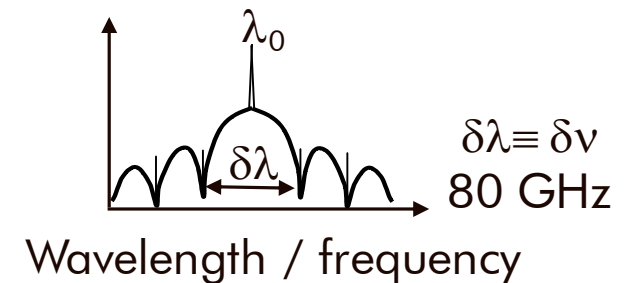
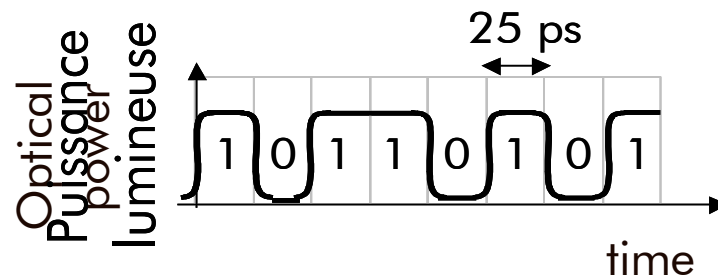
# Limitations of WDM

- 1. Optical amplifier bandwidth



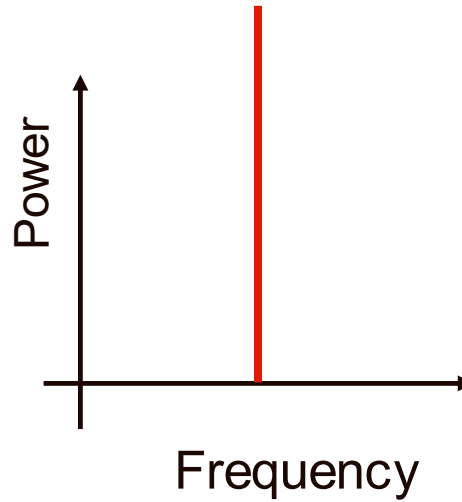
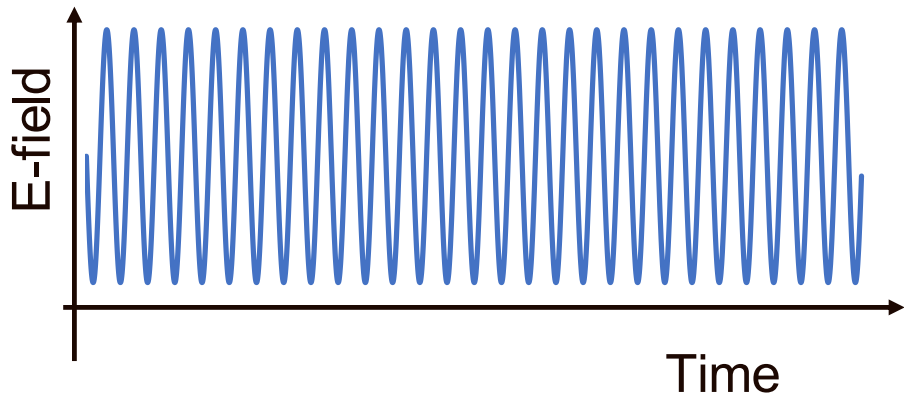
- 2. Channel spacing is limited by channel bandwidth

- Typ: 1-2 x Modulation rate



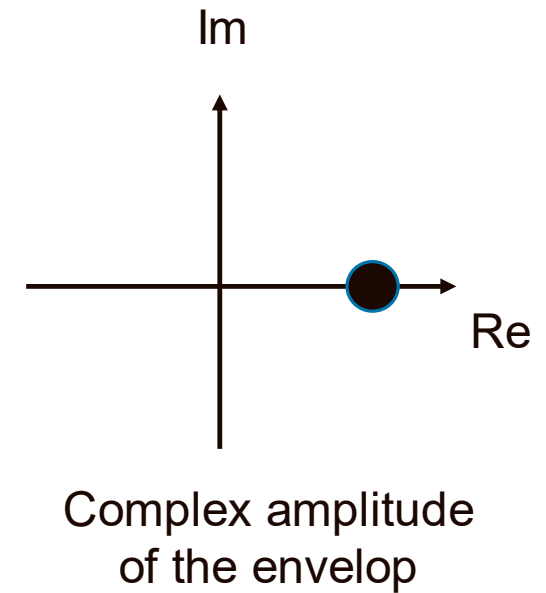
# Increasing capacity: 3. Optical modulations

- Unmodulated light



0

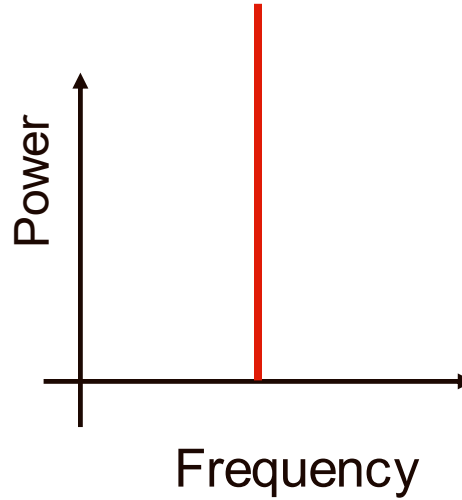
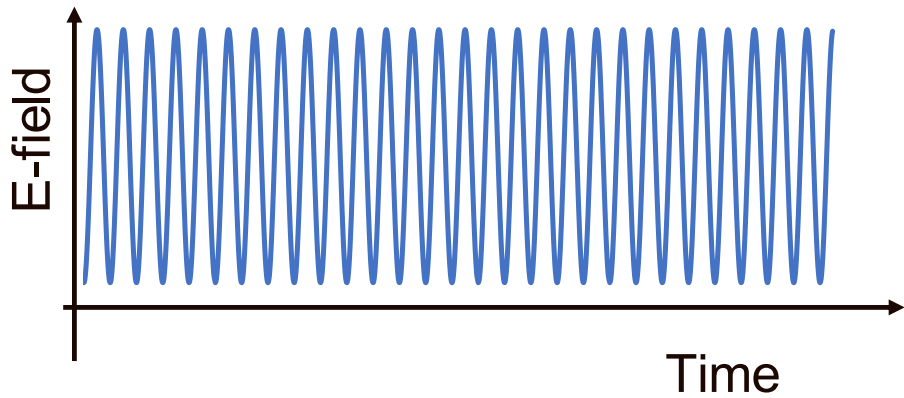
Phase



$$\text{Wavelength} = \frac{\text{Light speed}}{\text{Frequency}}$$

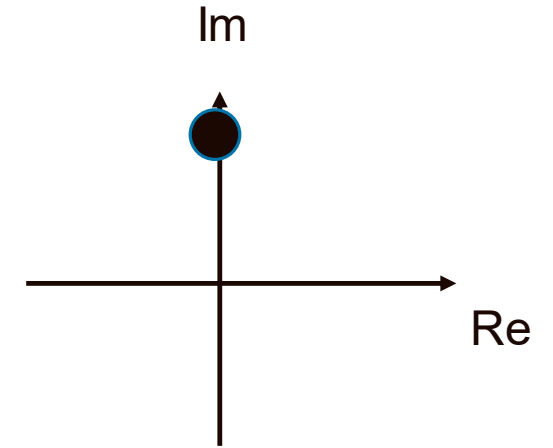
# Increasing capacity: 3. Optical modulations

- Unmodulated light



$\pi/2$

Phase

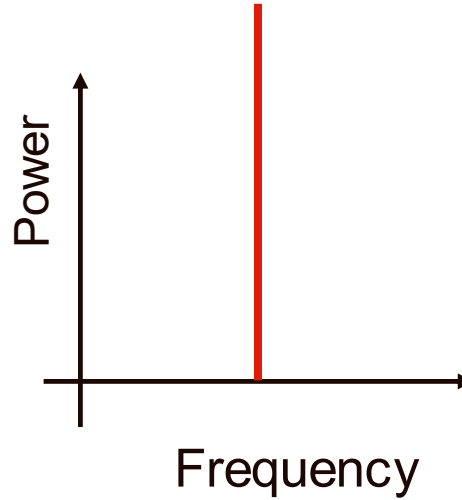
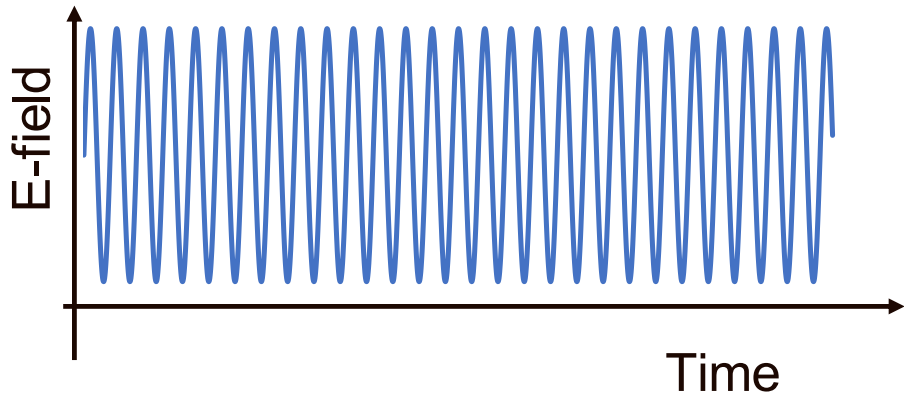


Complex amplitude  
of the envelop

$$\text{Wavelength} = \frac{\text{Light speed}}{\text{Frequency}}$$

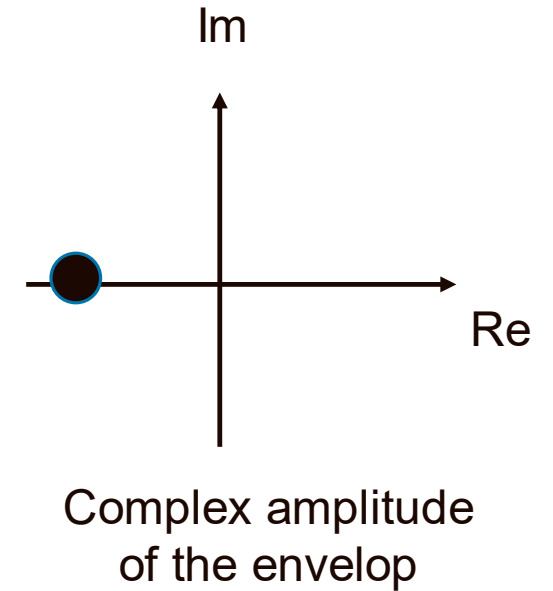
# Increasing capacity: 3. Optical modulations

- Unmodulated light



$\pi$

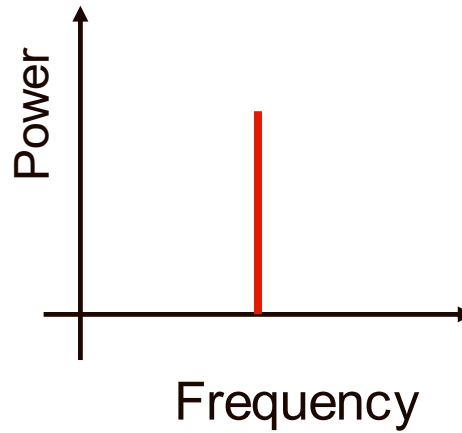
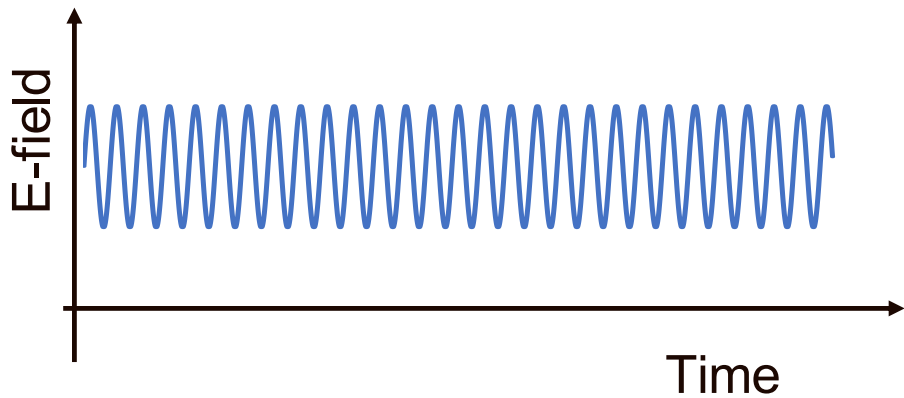
Phase



$$\text{Wavelength} = \frac{\text{Light speed}}{\text{Frequency}}$$

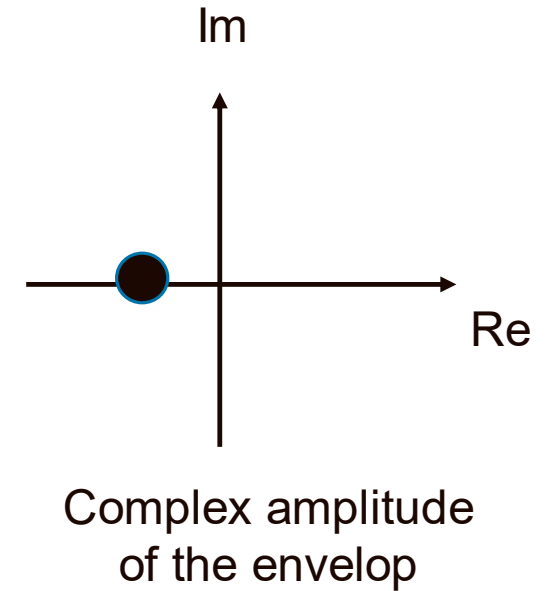
# Increasing capacity: 3. Optical modulations

- Unmodulated light



$\pi$

Phase

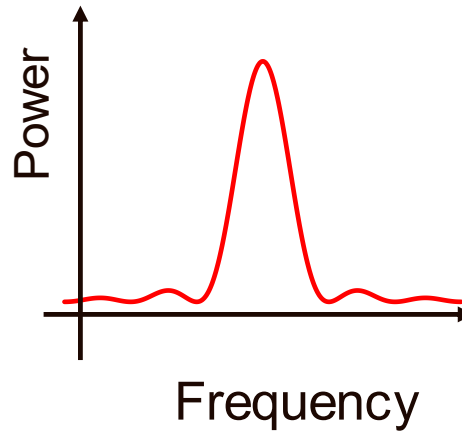
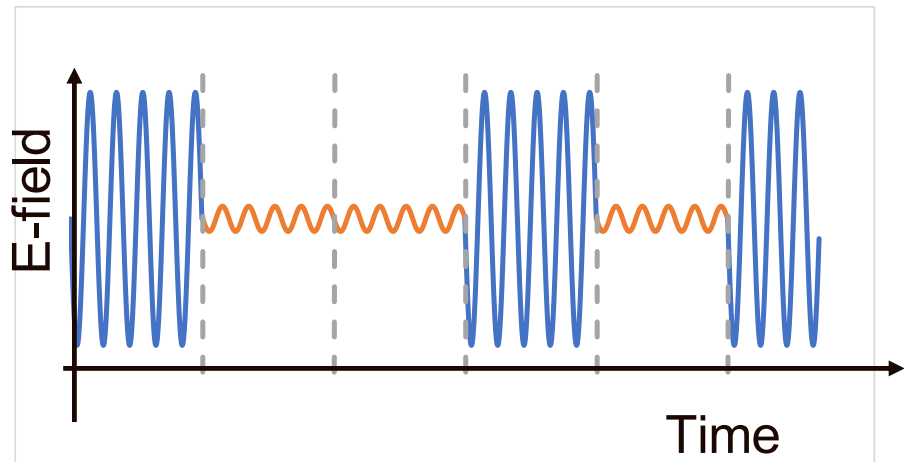


$$\text{Wavelength} = \frac{\text{Light speed}}{\text{Frequency}}$$



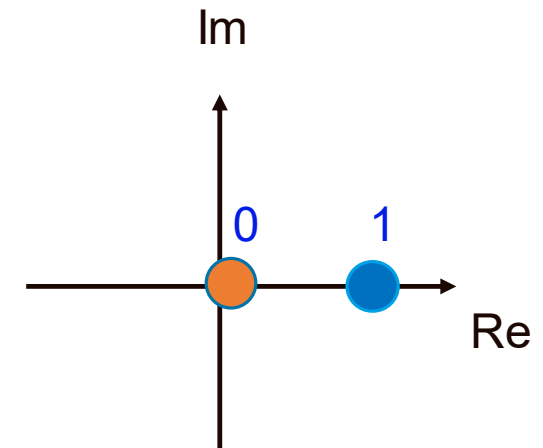
# Increasing capacity: 3. Optical modulations

- Amplitude modulation : on-off keying (OOK)



0

Phase



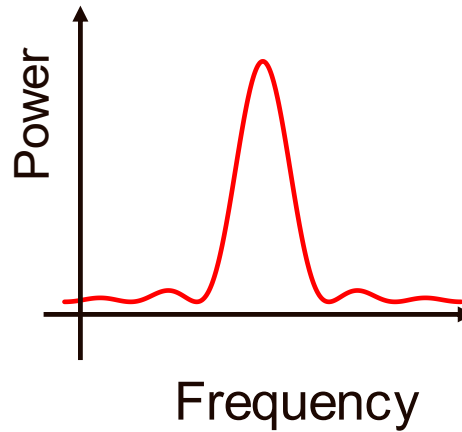
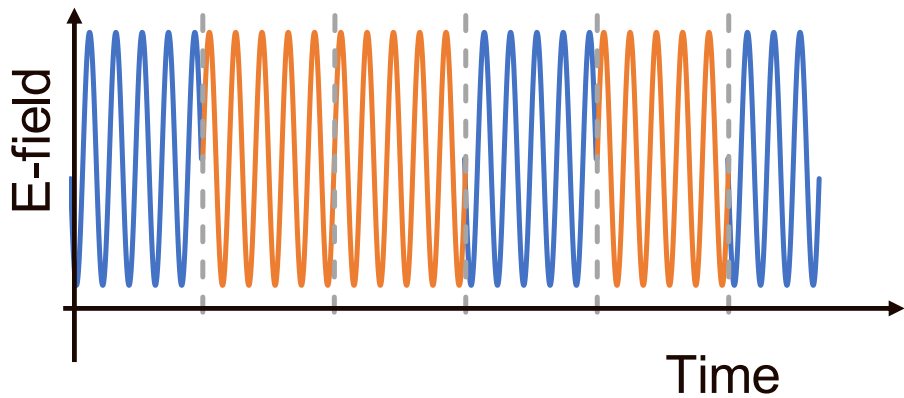
Complex amplitude  
of the envelop

$$\text{Wavelength} = \frac{\text{Light speed}}{\text{Frequency}}$$

**1 bit / symbol**

# Increasing capacity: 3. Optical modulations

- Phase modulation: Phase Shift Keying (PSK)

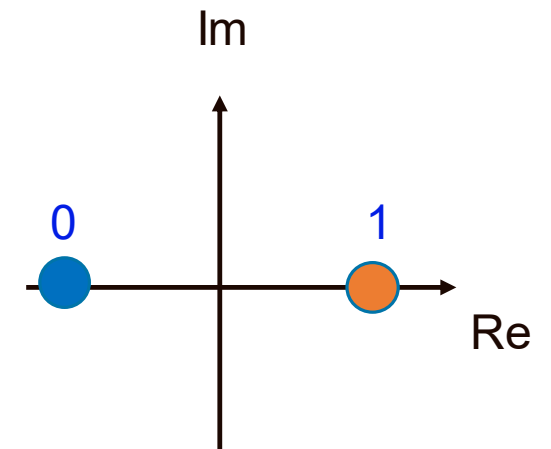


$$\text{Wavelength} = \frac{\text{Light speed}}{\text{Frequency}}$$

0, π

Phase

## Binary PSK (BPSK)

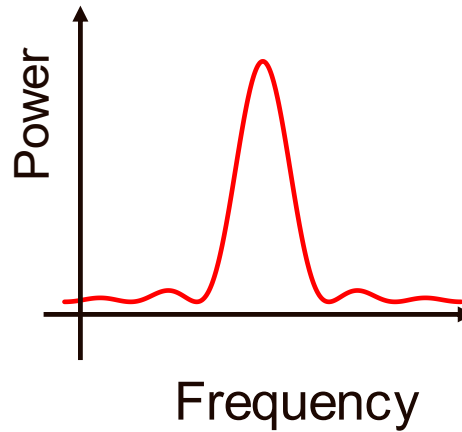
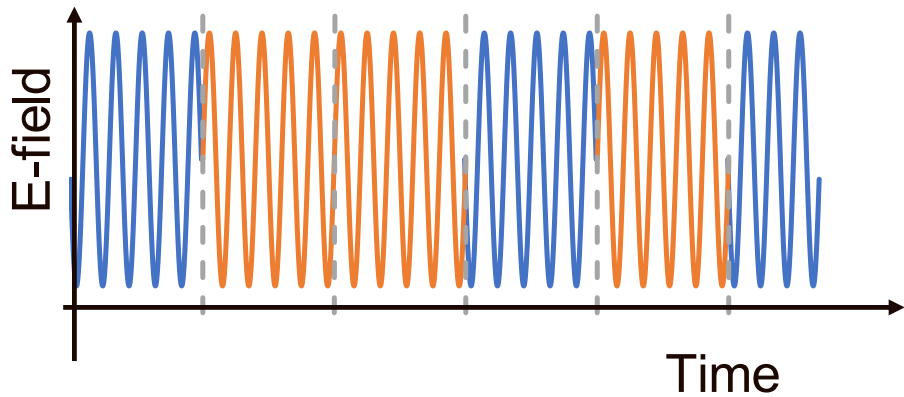


Complex amplitude  
of the envelop

**1 bit / symbol**

# Increasing capacity: 3. Optical modulations

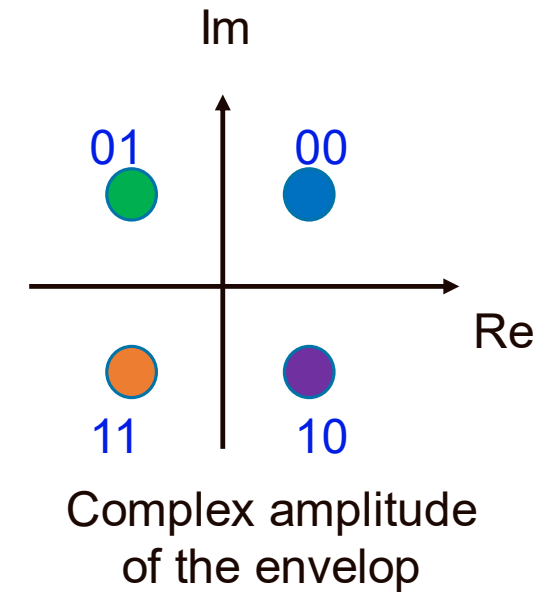
- Phase modulation: Phase Shift Keying (PSK)



$$\text{Wavelength} = \frac{\text{Light speed}}{\text{Frequency}}$$

0,  $\pi/2$ ,  
 $\pi$ ,  $-\pi/2$   
Phase

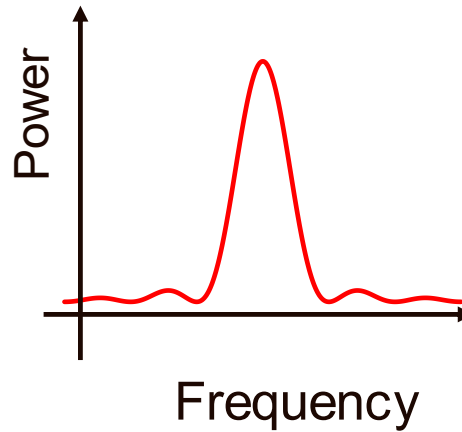
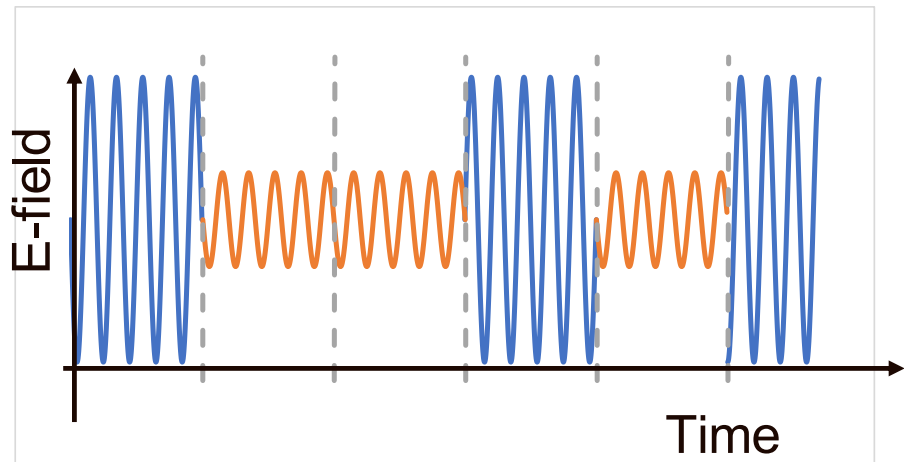
## QPSK (Quaternary PSK)



**2 bits / symbol**

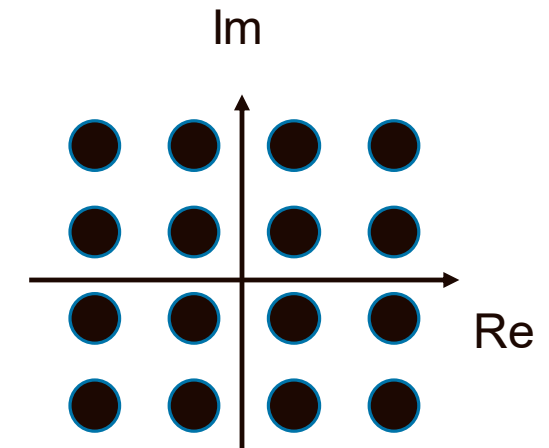
# Increasing capacity: 3. Optical modulations

- Phase and amplitude modulation



$$\text{Wavelength} = \frac{\text{Light speed}}{\text{Frequency}}$$

## 16 QAM (Quadrature Amplitude Modulation)

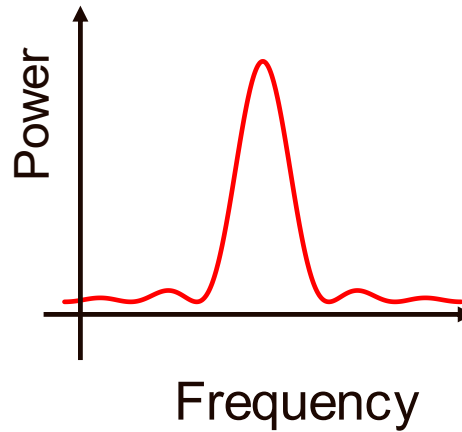
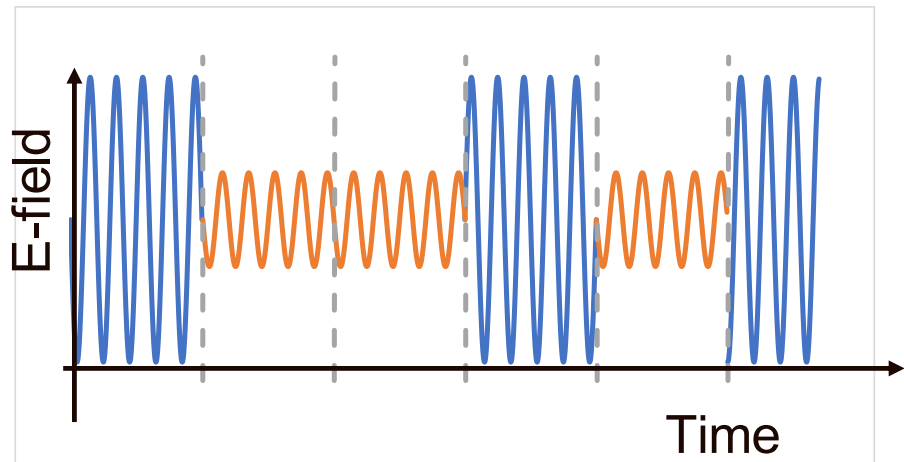


Complex amplitude  
of the envelop

**2<sup>4</sup> symbols**  
**→ 4 bits / symbol**

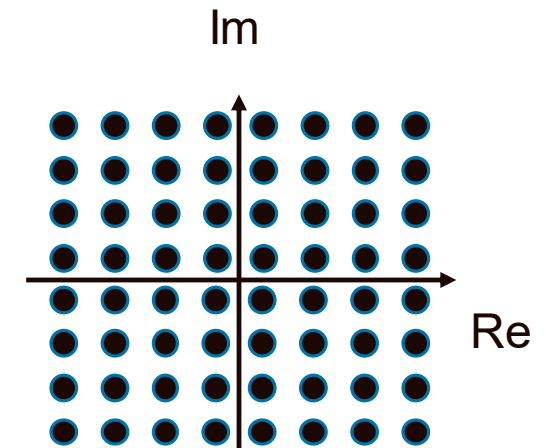
# Increasing capacity: 3. Optical modulations

- Phase and amplitude modulation



$$\text{Wavelength} = \frac{\text{Light speed}}{\text{Frequency}}$$

## 64 QAM (Quadrature Amplitude Modulation)

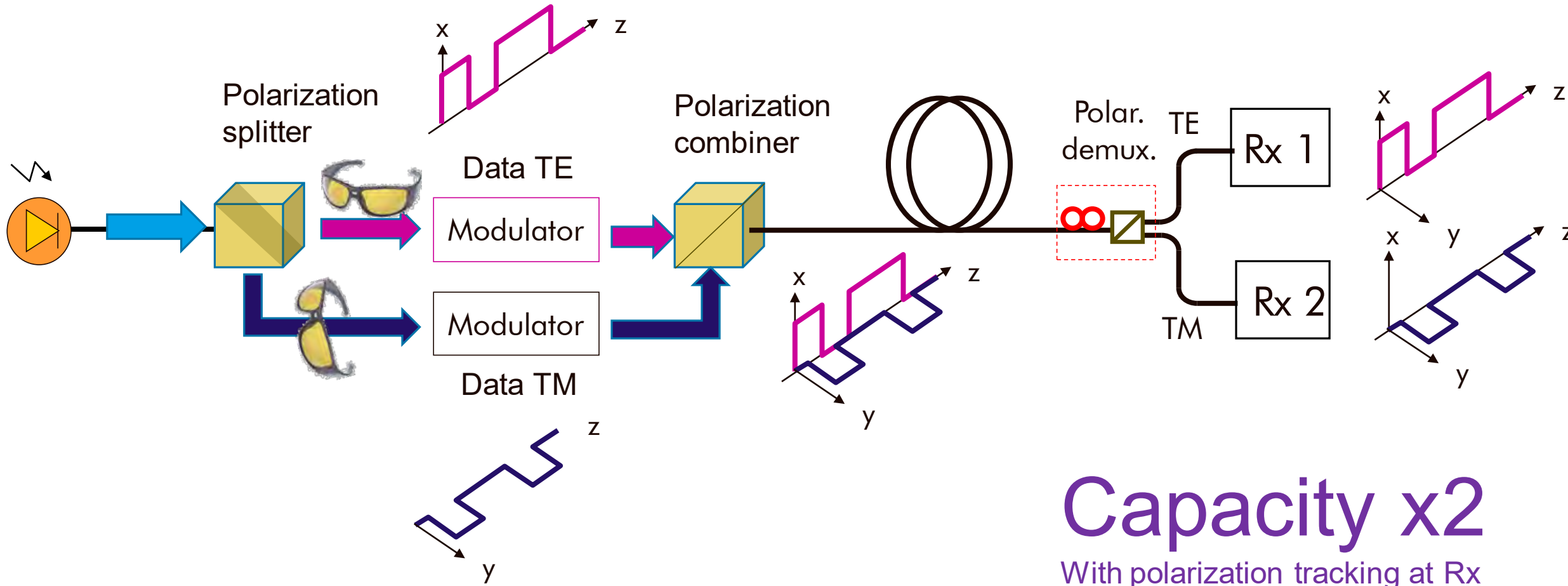


Complex amplitude  
of the envelop

➔ **6 bits / symbol**

The more the symbols, the less the system is resilient to noise

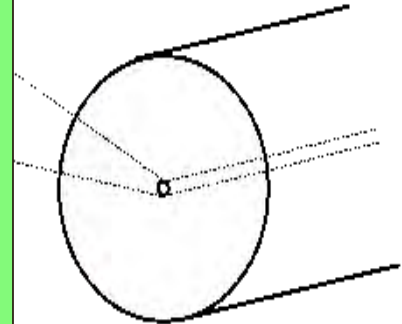
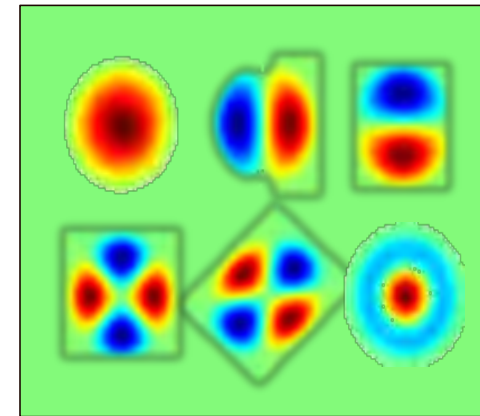
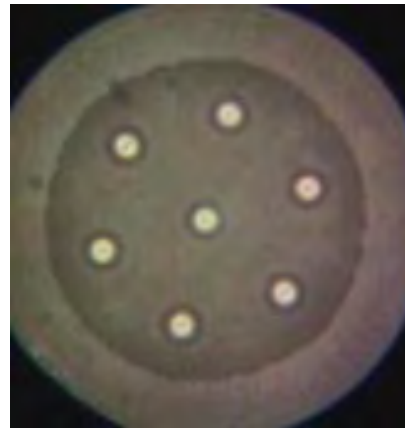
# 4/ Polarization Division Multiplexing (PDM)



**Capacity x2**  
With polarization tracking at Rx

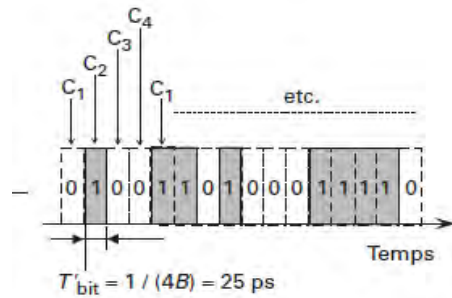
## 5/ Spatial division multiplexing (SDM)

- Spatial parallelism to increase transported capacities
- Options: Multi-fiber, multi-core, multi-mode

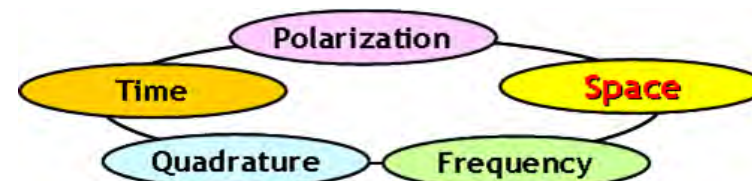
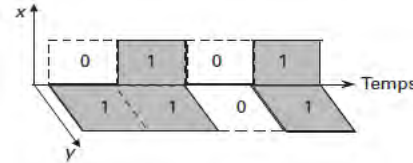


# Directions to increase transported capacity

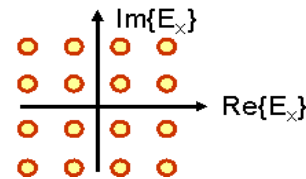
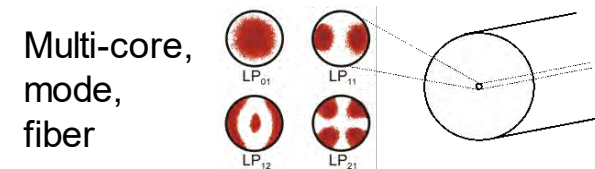
Increase of symbol rate  
(and spectrum width)



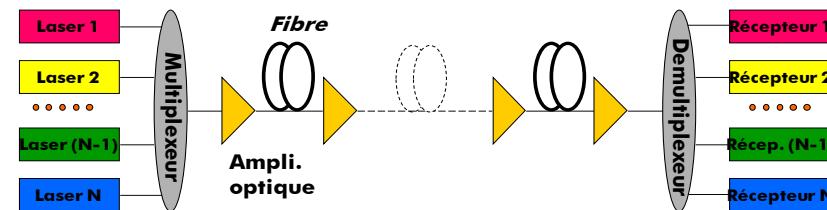
Bit rate x2  
at fixed symbol rate



Multiplication of bit-rate  
by number of « modes »



Increase number  
of bits per symbol

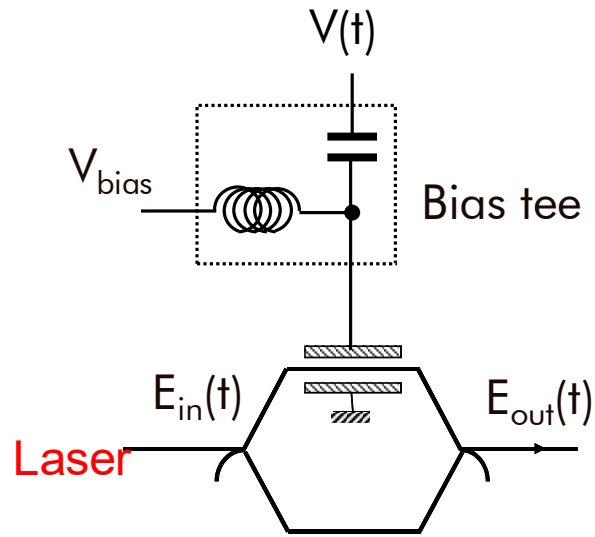


Multiplication of bit-rate  
by number of wavelengths

- Capacity (b/s) =  $Nb_{\text{spatial modes}} * Nb_{\text{polars}} * Nb_{\text{wavelengths}} * Nb_{\text{bits/symbol}} * \text{SymbolRate (baud)} / \text{Overhead}$
- $Nb_{\text{bits/symbol}} = \log_2 (Nb_{\text{symbols}})$

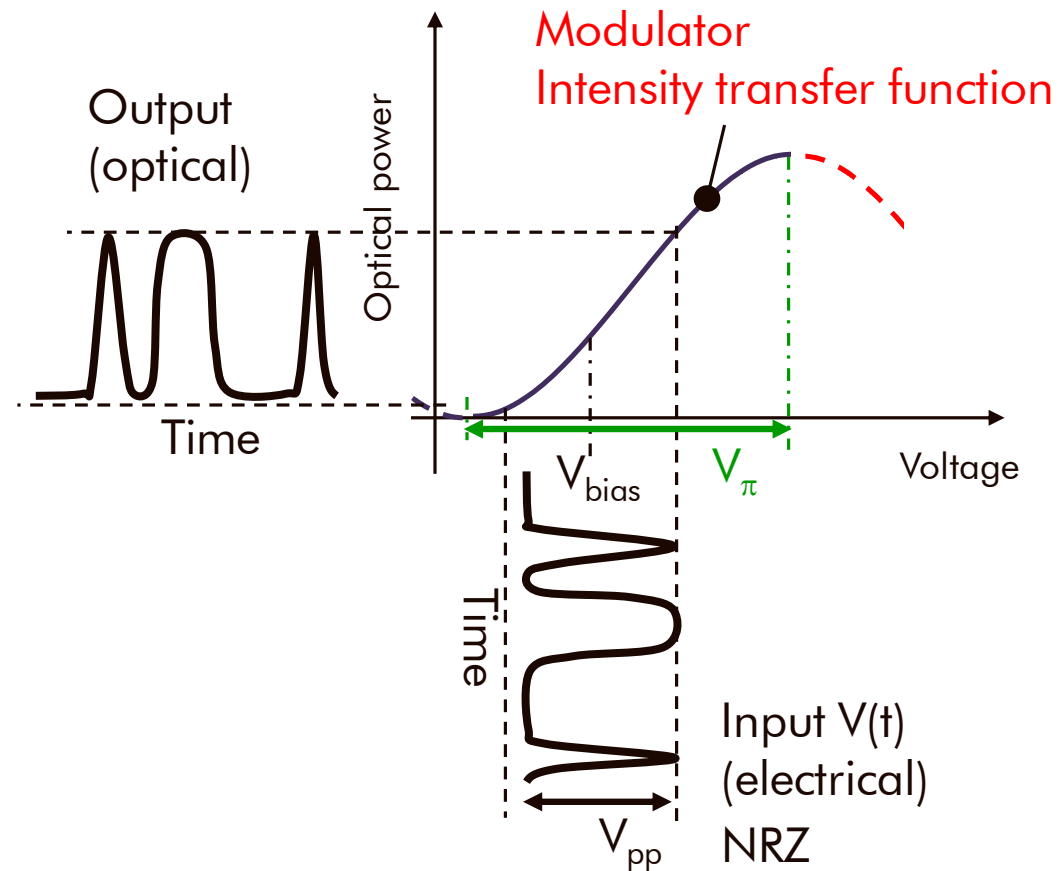


# Modulation of light: principle

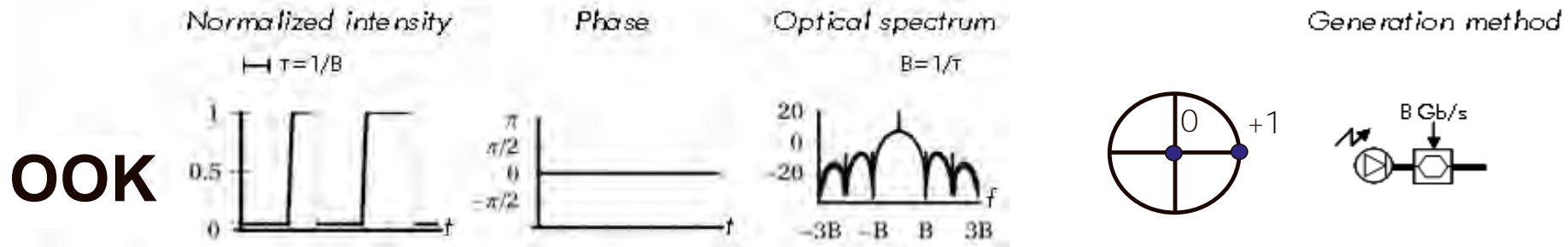


Electro-optic modulator

Independent control of swing voltage  $V_{pp}$  and bias.

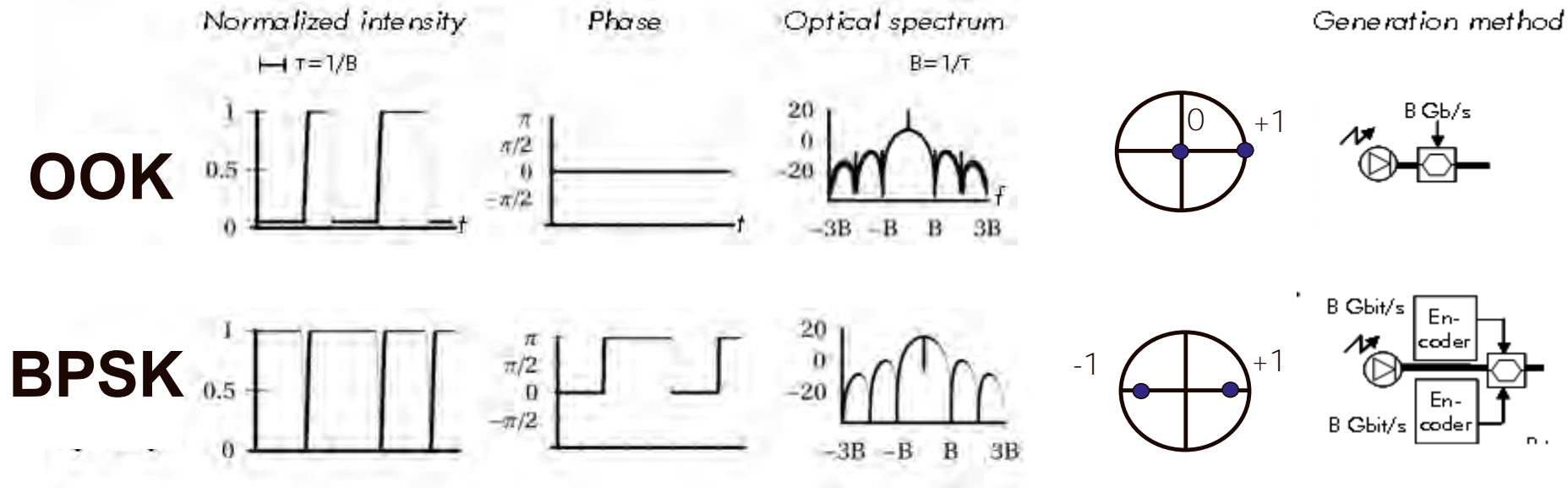


# Generation of main modulation formats (pre-coherent era)



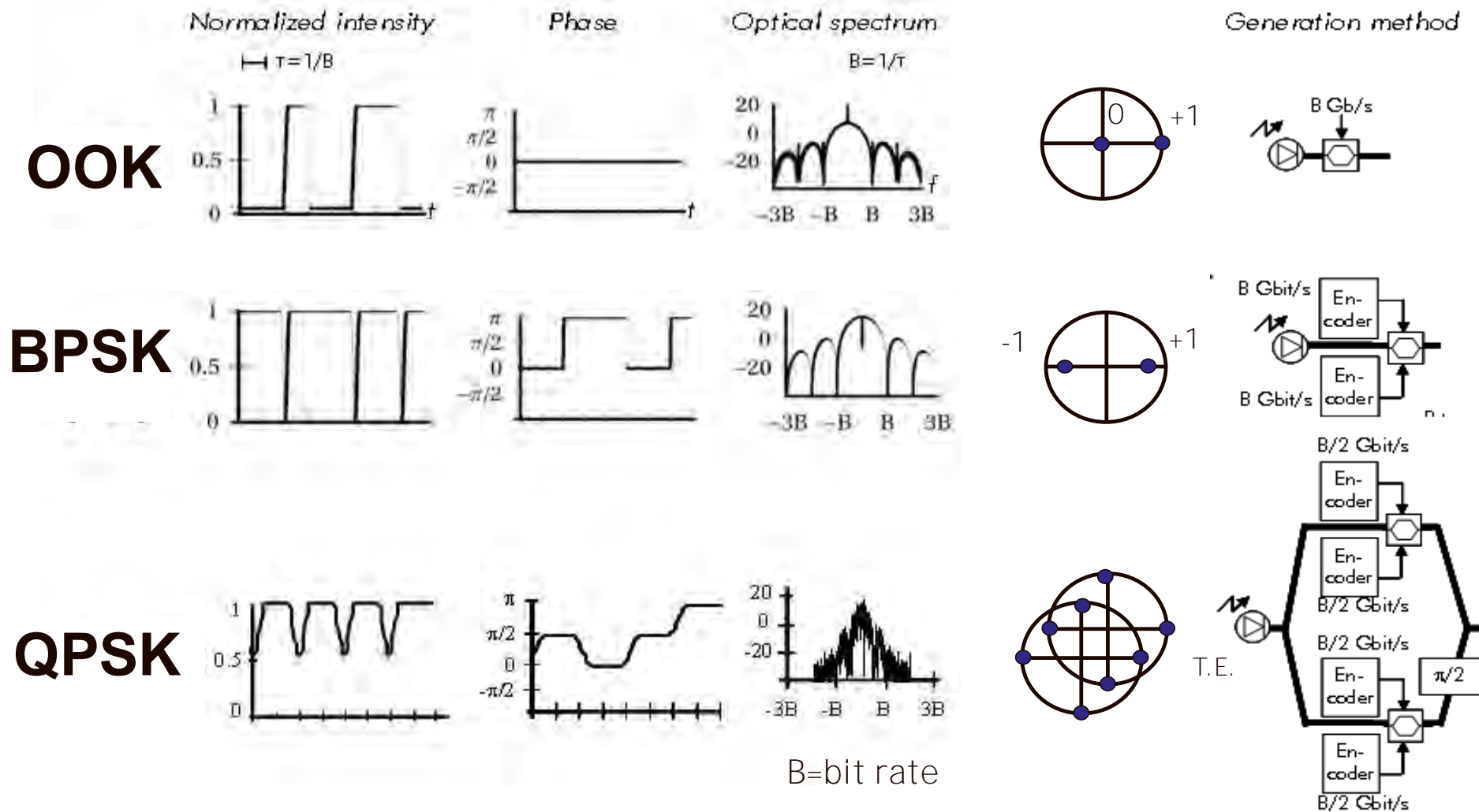
B=bit rate

# Generation of main modulation formats (pre-coherent era)

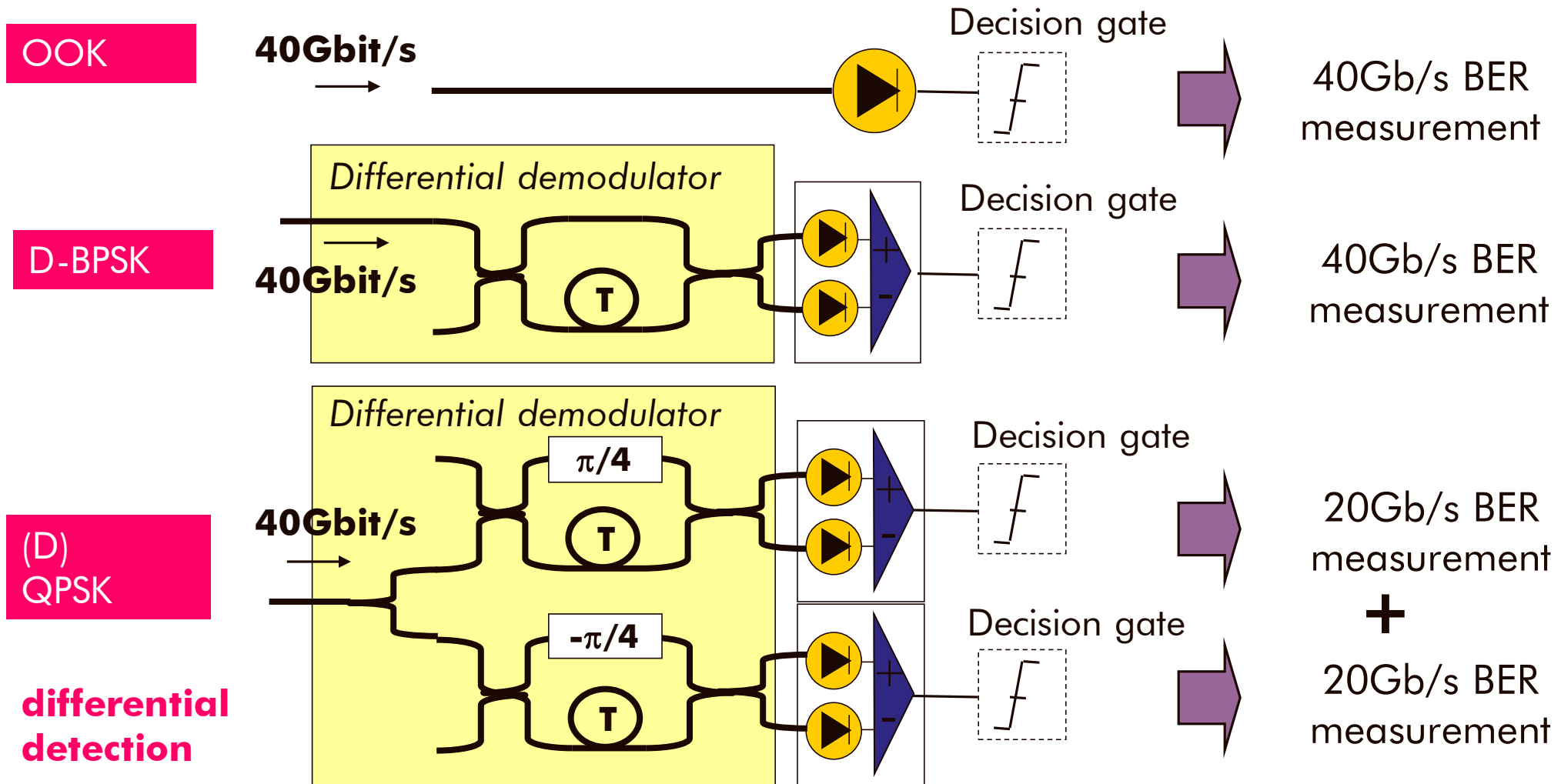


B=bit rate

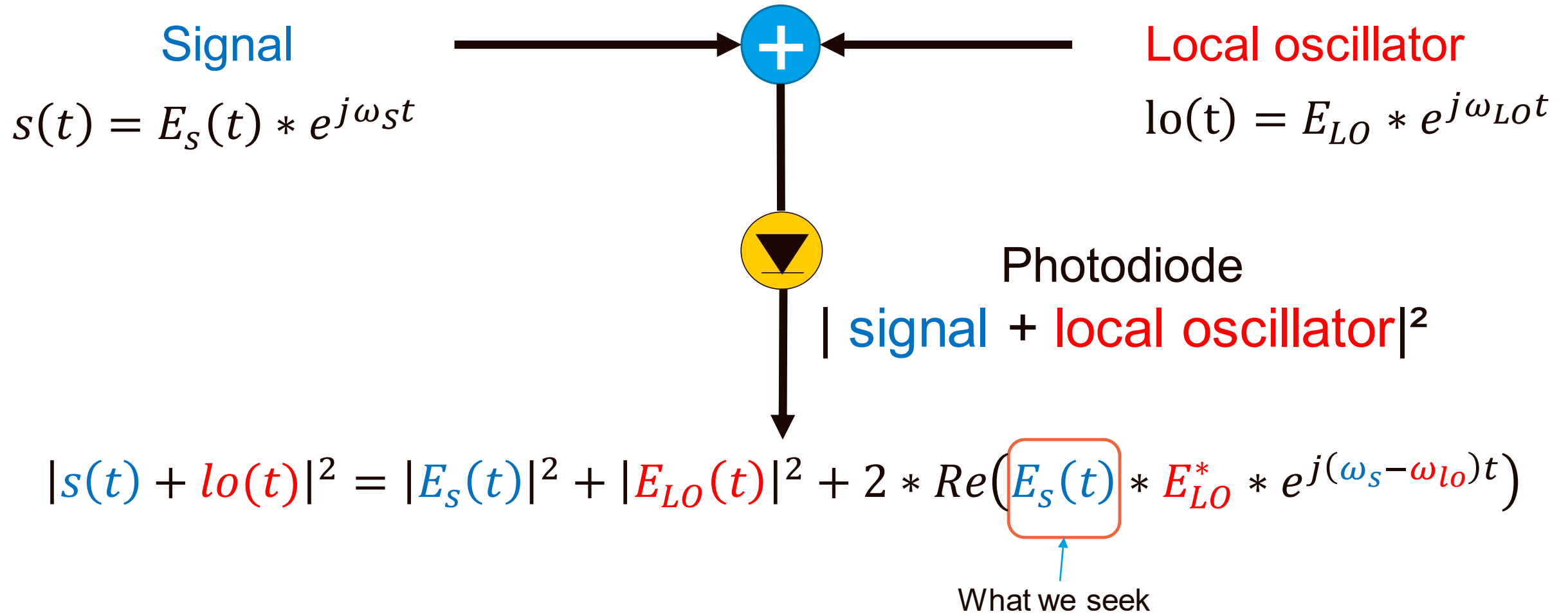
# Generation of main modulation formats (pre-coherent era)



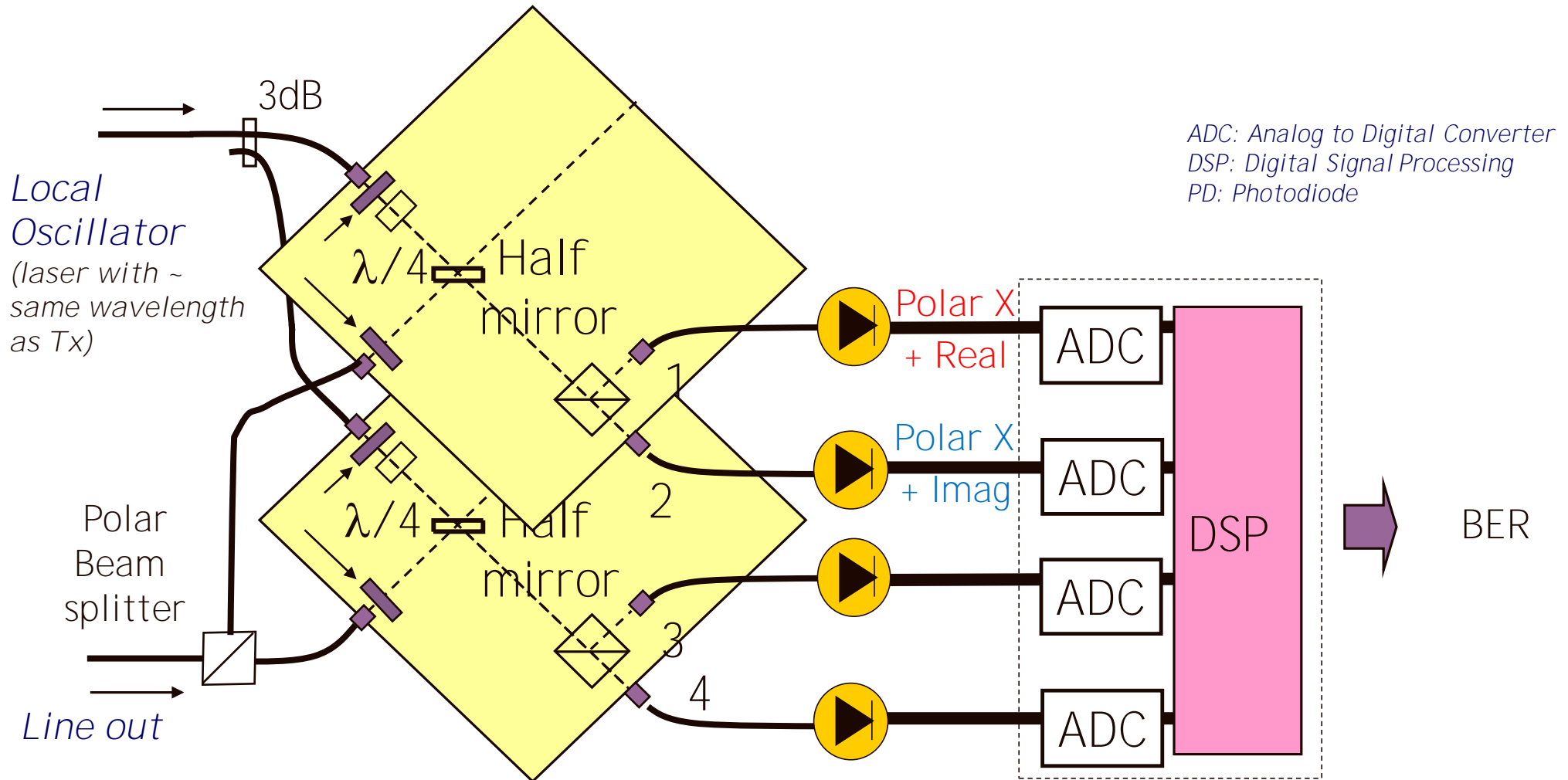
# Direct (single-ended or differential) detection schemes



# Coherent detection: principle

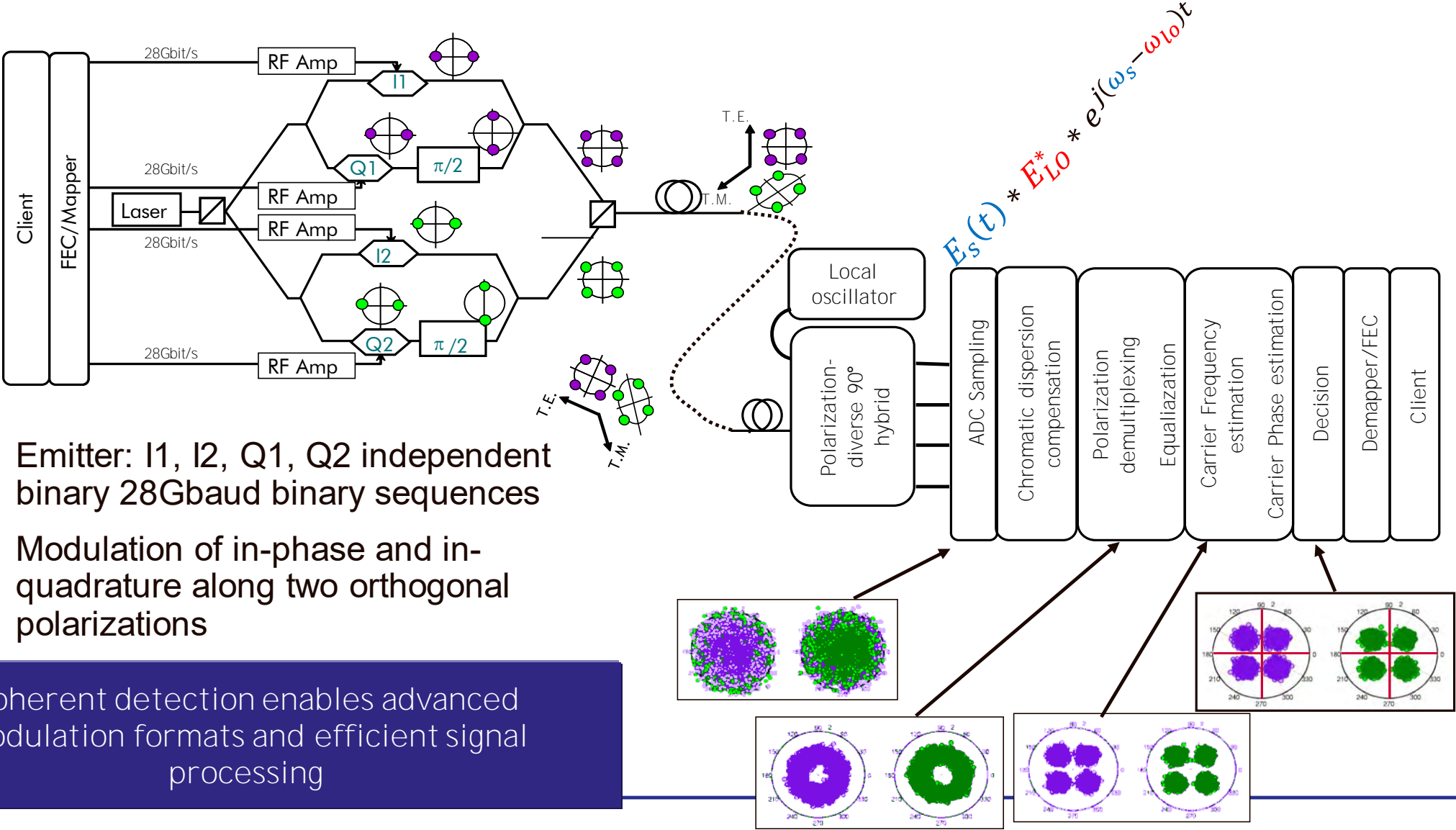


# Coherent receiver (polarization independent)



The photocurrents PD1, PD2, PD3 and PD4 provide full information on real and imaginary parts of signal along TE and TM polarization axes

# 100G Coherent systems architecture

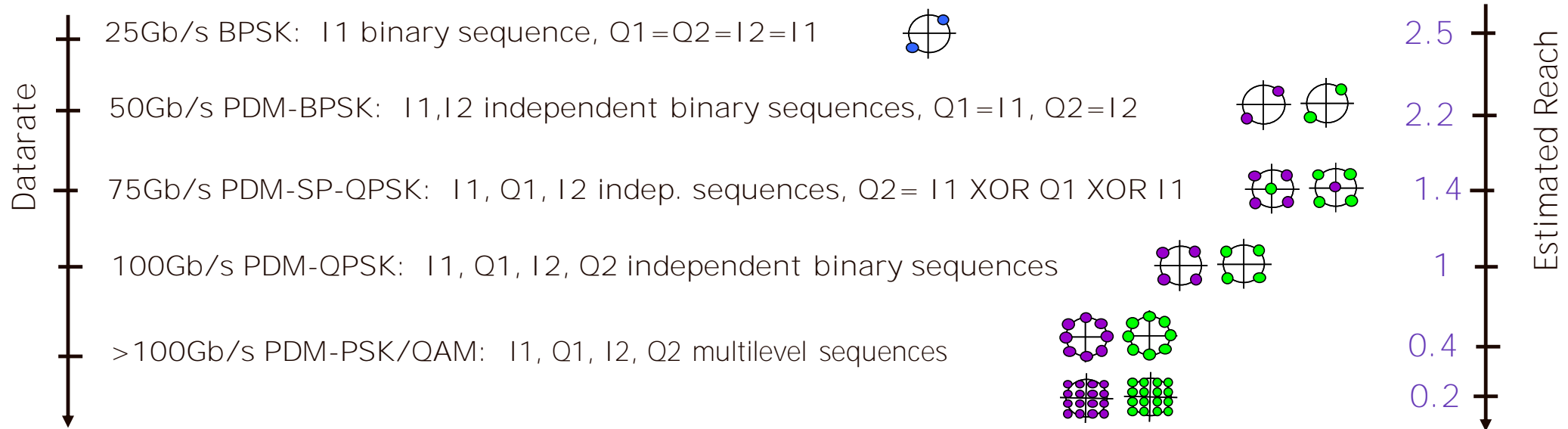
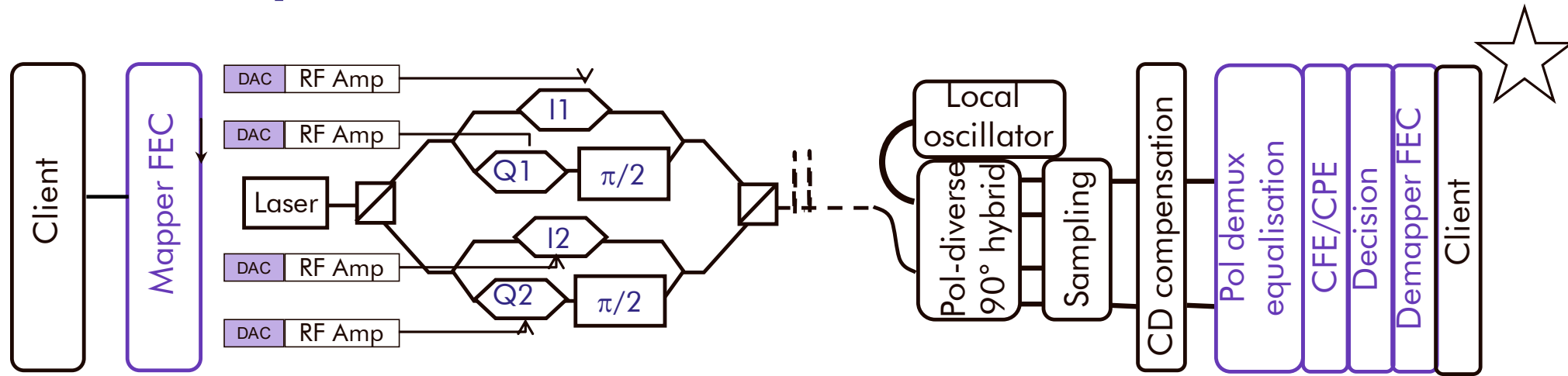


- Emitter: I1, I2, Q1, Q2 independent binary 28Gbaud binary sequences
- Modulation of in-phase and in-quadrature along two orthogonal polarizations

Coherent detection enables advanced modulation formats and efficient signal processing



# Next step: Multi-format transceiver



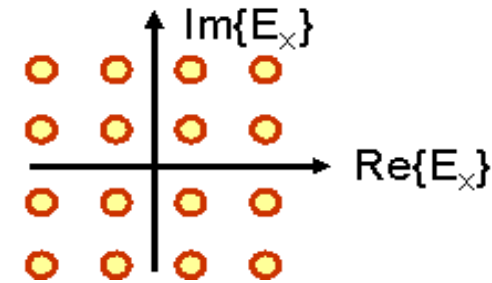
➔ Once committed to polarization-diverse I/Q modulation, coherent detection and electronic DSP for 100G technology, rate-adaptation come at a minimal cost

# Take-Away

$$Capacity = Nb_{spatial\ modes} * Nb_{wavelengths} * Nb_{polars} * \frac{Nb_{bit/symbol}}{FEC\ Overhead} * \frac{Symbol\ Rate}{Signaling\ OH}$$

- Common modulations: Quadrature Amplitude Modulation

- Uniform distribution of symbols,  $Nb_{bit/symbol} = \log_2(Nb_{symbols})$
- High symbol count → high rate, low resilience to noise



- Forward Error correction: encoding / decoding with extra bits

- Error free after decoding provided BER lower than threshold

- Software-defined “Coherent” transceivers

- High rate **Digital Signal Processing** enables mitigation of line impairments...
- and **adaptation of bit-rate** (modulation) to **Quality of Transmission** (distance, signal to noise ratio)

# At the heart of digital communications



2<sup>nd</sup> principle of thermodynamics



Statistical mechanics  
 $S = k_B \ln \Omega$



## Shannon's theory of entropy ... in few words

# Episode I: Entropy, but non troppo

- Entropy is a simple metric for information (or disorder)
- Properties
  - Rare event = more information

Entropy:  $H(X) = f(p_x)$

↑                                  ↑  
Event  $X$                                   probability  $p_x$

• Independent events = Sum of information

$$p_{X,Y} = p_X * p_Y \quad \rightarrow \quad H(X,Y) = H(X) + H(Y)$$
$$f(p_X * p_Y) = f(p_X) + f(p_Y)$$

→  $f$  is a logarithm:  $H(X) = -\log_k(p_x)$



# Episode I: Entropy, but non troppo

- Entropy of an event  $X$ :  $H(X) = -\log_k(p_X)$
- Entropy of a random process  $X$  of probability law  $p_X(x)$
- = Average amount of information

$$H(X) = - \int_x \log_K(p(x)) * p(x)$$

- Events (states) of equal probability  $\rightarrow H = \log_K(\# \text{ events})$

# Episode I: Entropy, but non troppo

- Entropy of a random process  $X$  of probability law  $p_X(x)$

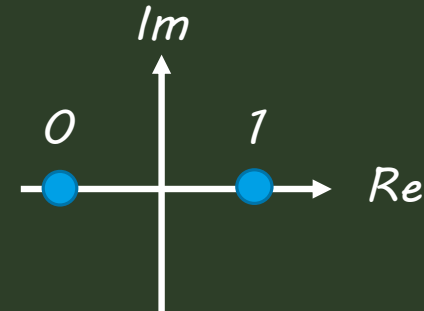
$$H(X) = - \sum_i \log_k (p(x_i)) * p(x_i)$$

- Binary information:  $K=2 \rightarrow$  bit/symbol

- Example:

- BPSK

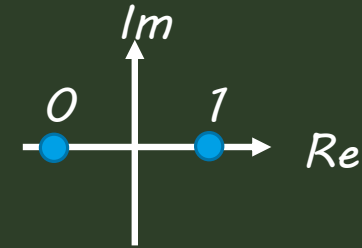
- 2 symbols, of probability  $\frac{1}{2}$
- $H = - \log_2 ( \frac{1}{2} ) \rightarrow 1$  bit/symbol



# Episode I: Entropy, but non troppo

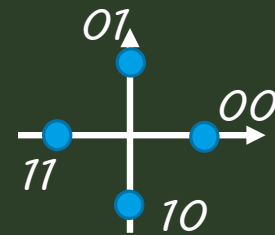
- *BPSK*

- 2 symbols, of equal probability  $\frac{1}{2}$
- $H = -\log_2\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \rightarrow 1$  bit/symbol



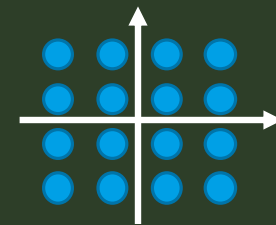
- *QPSK*

- 4 symbols, of equal probability  $\frac{1}{4}$
- $H = -\log_2\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \rightarrow 2$  bits/symbol



- *16QAM*

- 16 symbols, of equal probability  $\frac{1}{16}$
- $H = -\log_2\left(\frac{1}{16}\right) \rightarrow 4$  bits/symbol

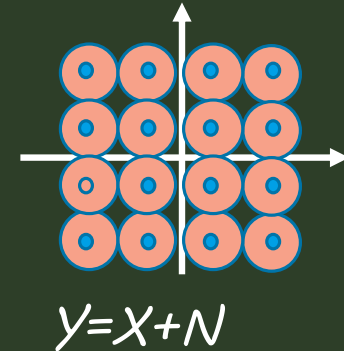
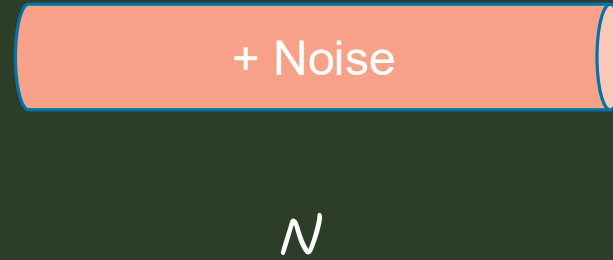
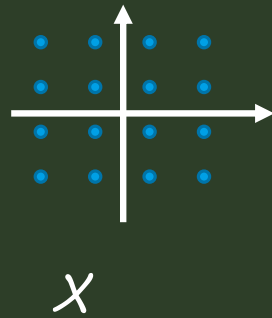


1001 1011 0011 0001  
1000 1010 0010 0000  
1100 1110 1010 1000  
1101 1111 1011 1001

- Symbols with equal probability:  $H = \log_2(\# \text{ symbols})$

# Episode II: Mutual information, Capacity

- Propagation medium: Additive White Gaussian Noise

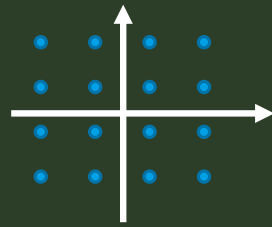


- How many useful bits could emerge from the noise?  $H(Y) - H(N)$
- Mutual information:  $I(X; Y) = H(X) - H(X|Y) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$   
 $\leq H(X) \rightarrow$  redundancy
- Medium capacity  $\leftrightarrow$  best modulation



# Episode II: Mutual information, Capacity

- *Propagation medium: Additive White Gaussian Noise*

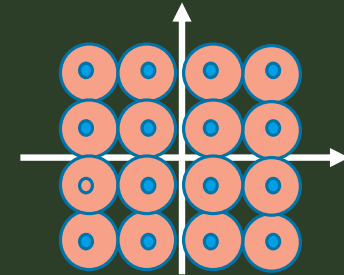


$X$



+ Noise

$N$



$Y = X + N$

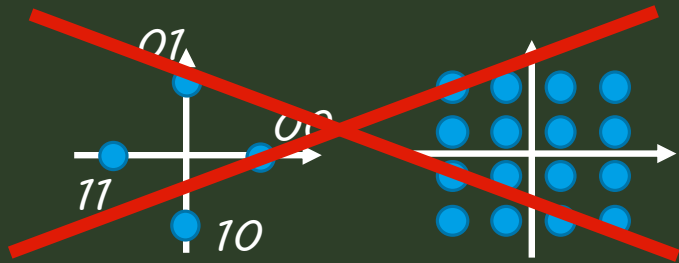
- Medium capacity =  $\text{Max}_X ( H(X+N) ) - H(N)$

- *What can maximize the disorder in addition to a Gaussian noise ?*
- *Another Gaussian process ...*

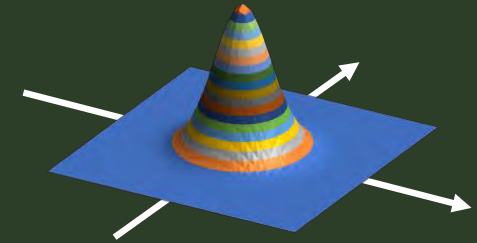
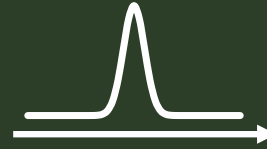
*under constraint of fixed variance*

# Episode III: Shannon Capacity

- Capacity achieving modulations
  - ~~Equally distributed symbols~~



Gaussian distribution of symbols



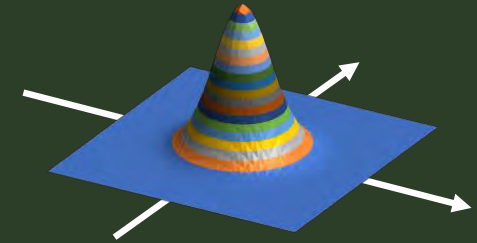
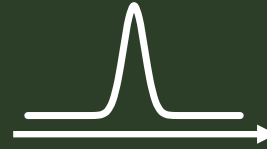
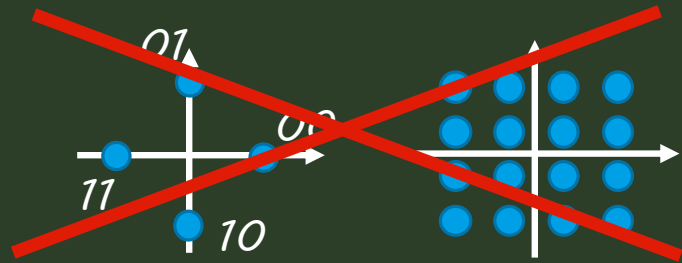
- Shannon theorem : in theory (ideal modulation / demodulation)

$$\text{Capacity} = \log_2 \left( 1 + \frac{\text{Signal power}}{\text{Noise power}} \right) \quad \text{bit/symbol}$$

# Episode III: Shannon Capacity

- Capacity achieving modulations
  - ~~Equally distributed symbols~~

Gaussian distribution of symbols



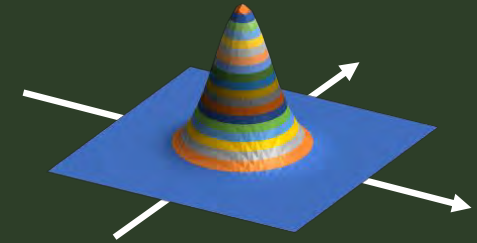
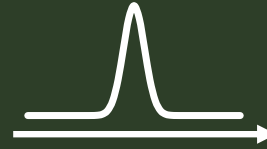
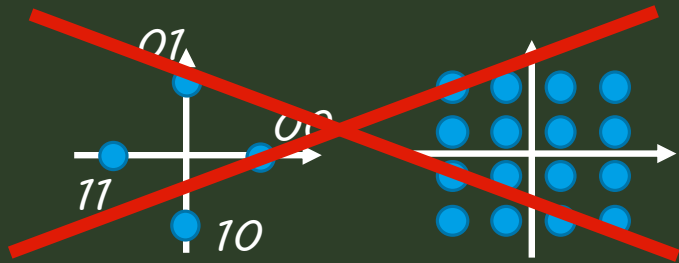
- Shannon theorem : in theory (ideal modulation / demodulation)

$$\text{Capacity} = \log_2 ( 1 + \text{SNR} ) \quad \text{bit/symbol}$$

# Episode III: Shannon Capacity

- Capacity achieving modulations
  - ~~Equally distributed symbols~~

Gaussian distribution of symbols



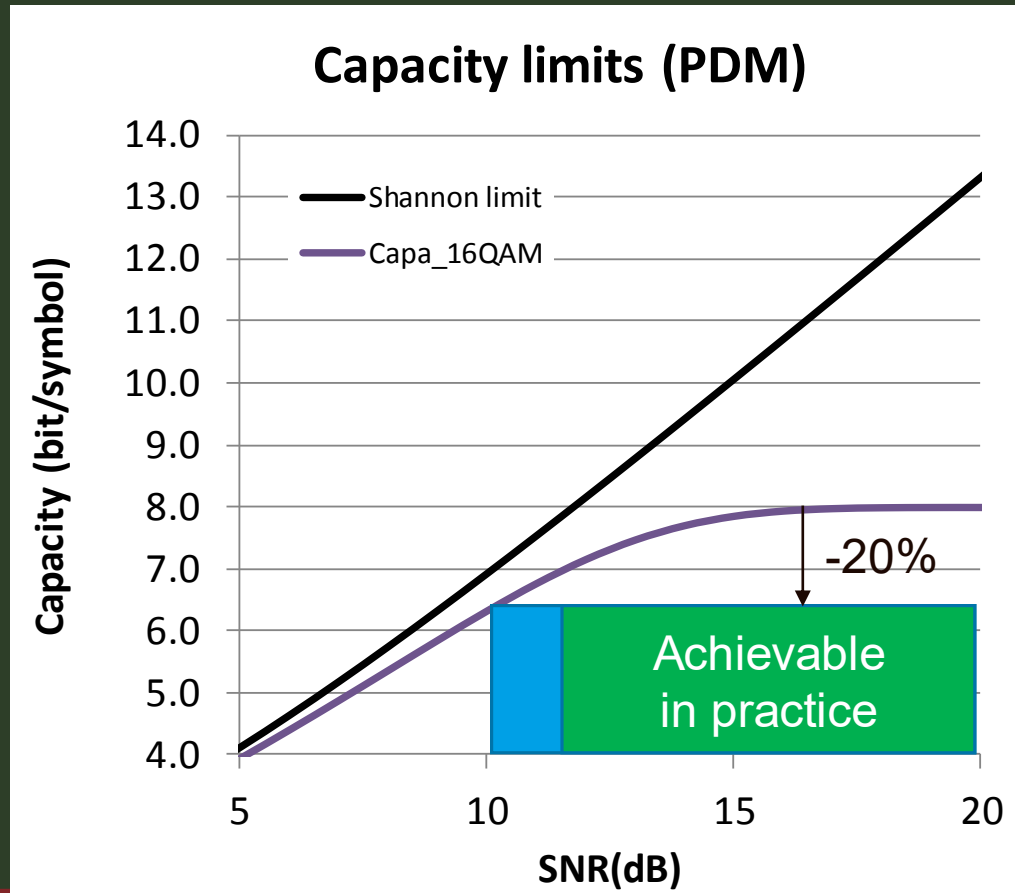
- Shannon theorem : in theory (ideal modulation / demodulation)

$$\text{Capacity} = 2_{\text{polars}} * \text{Bandwidth} * \log_2 ( 1 + \text{SNR} ) \text{ bit/s}$$

Assuming channel modulation rate = channel spacing

# Episode IV: Shannon capacity and modulation

- *X-QAM modulations and Shannon limit (Gaussian modulation)*

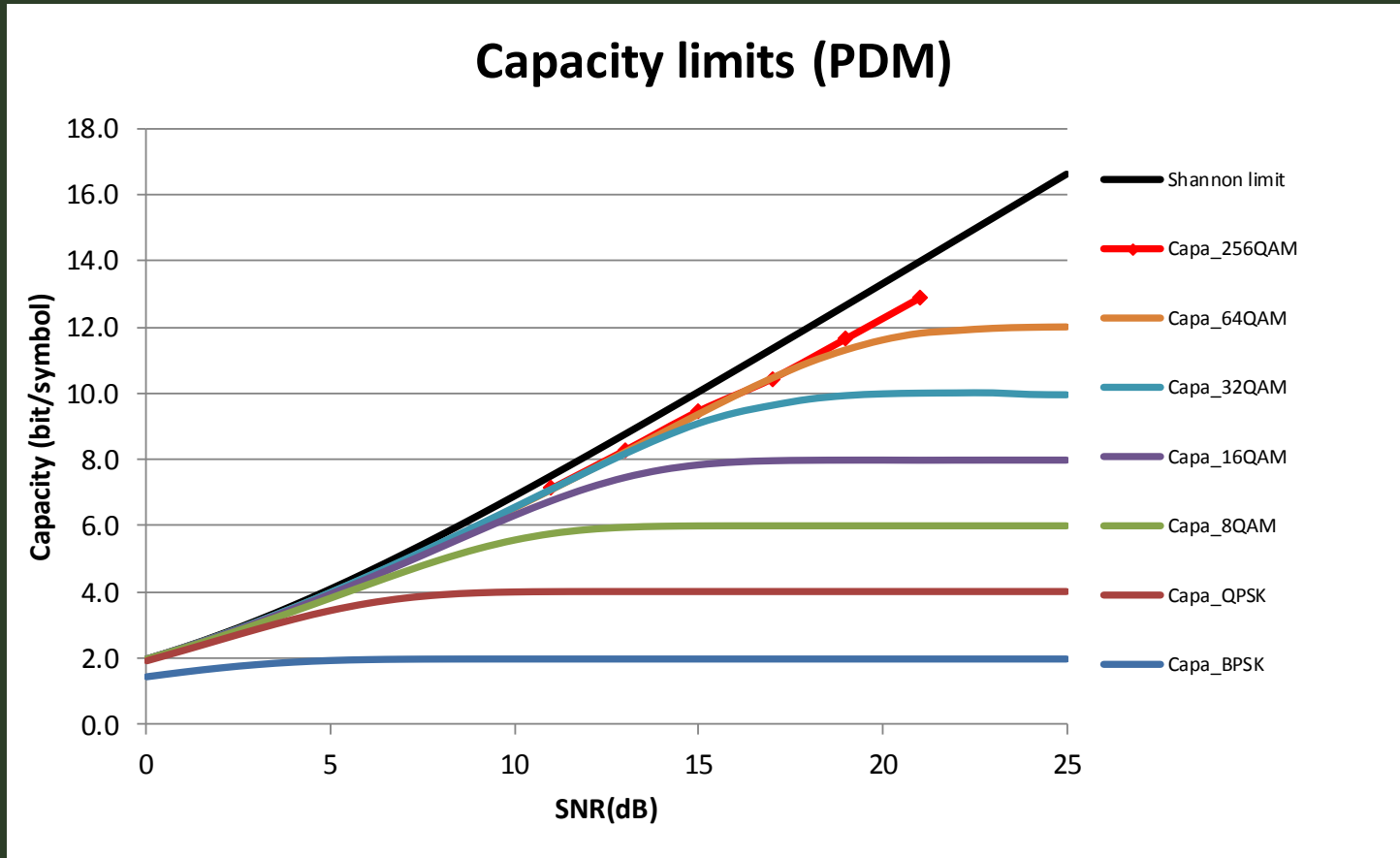


*PDM-16QAM:  $2 \times 4 = 8$  bit/symbol*

With perfect 25% overhead  
Forward Error Correction

# Episode IV: Shannon capacity and modulation

- X-QAM modulations and Shannon limit (Gaussian modulation)*



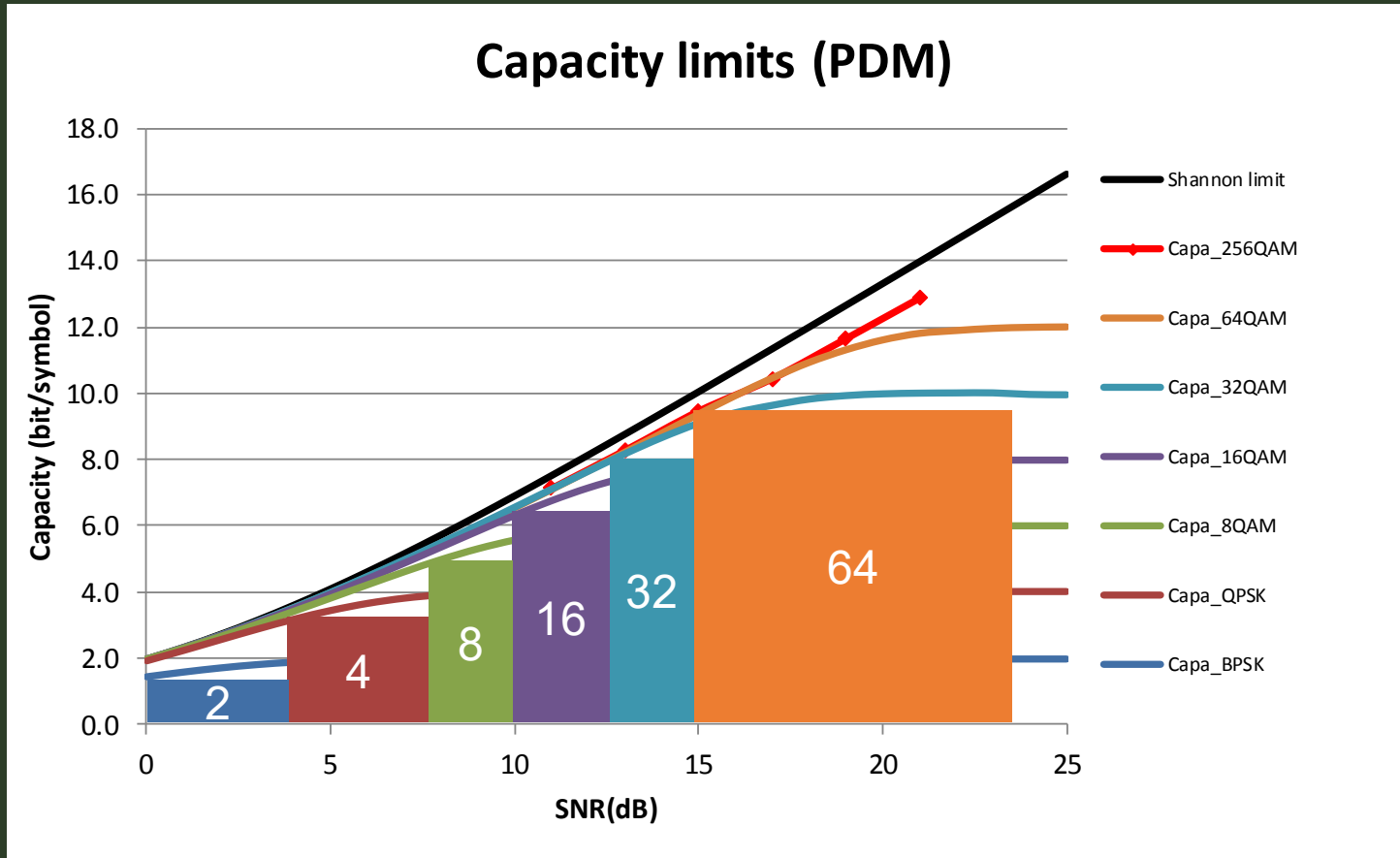
*At high SNR,  
whatever the size  
of the QAM modulation,  
there is a gap to Shannon limit.*

*Why ?  
X-QAM assumption =  
symbols on a grid,  
with same probability*

*Towards  
Geometric / Probabilistic  
Constellation Shaping*

# Episode IV: Shannon capacity and modulation

- X-QAM modulations and Shannon limit (Gaussian modulation)*

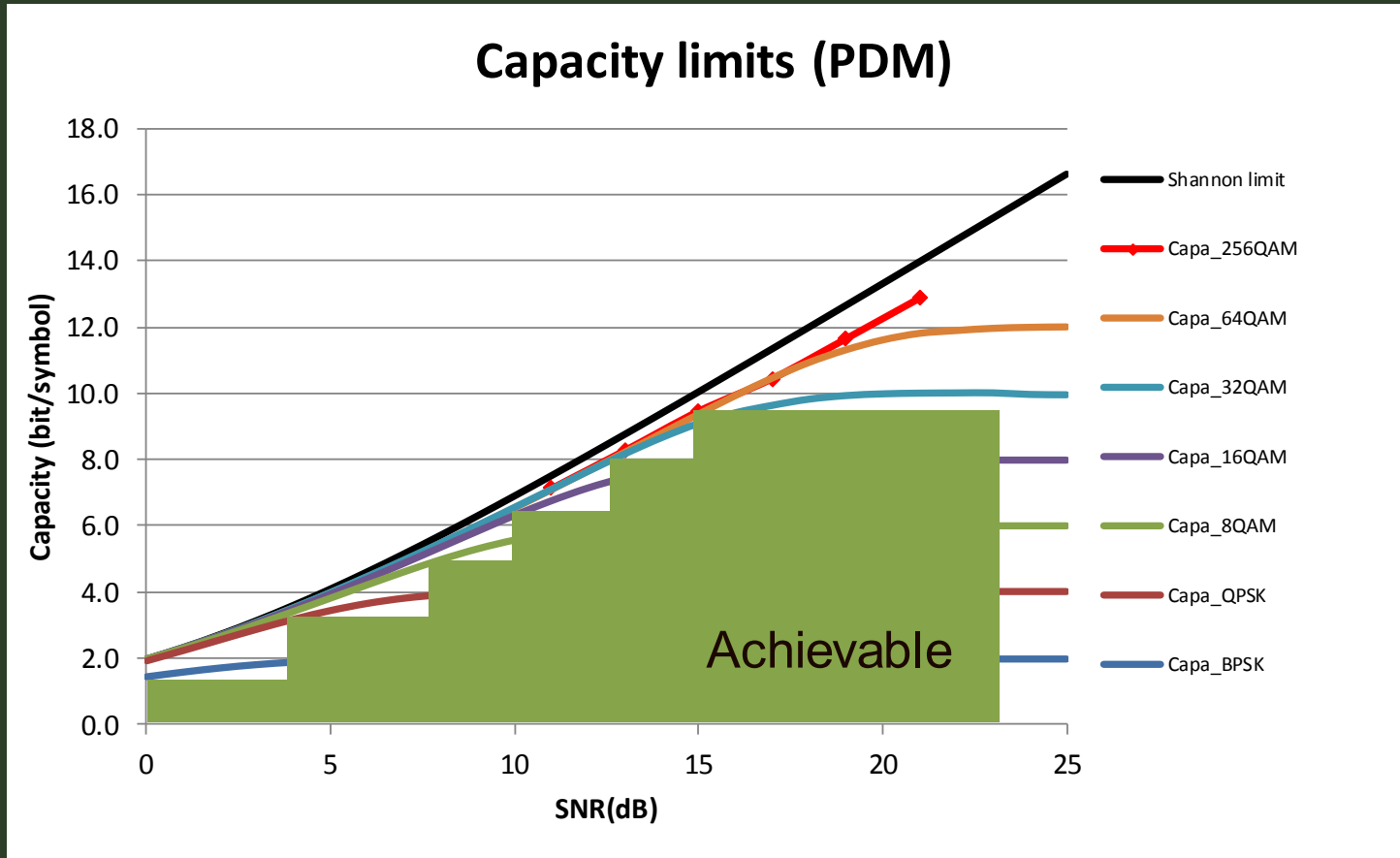


*With 25% overhead ideal FEC,  
Achievable capacity becomes*



# Episode IV: Shannon capacity and modulation

- X-QAM modulations and Shannon limit (Gaussian modulation)*



*With 25% overhead ideal FEC,  
Achievable capacity becomes*



*Constant FEC, multi-format  
enables to stay  
more or less  
close to Shannon limit*

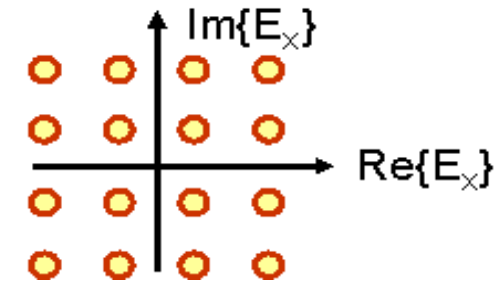


# Take-Away

$$Capacity = Nb_{spatial\ modes} * Nb_{wavelengths} * Nb_{polarizations} * \frac{Nb_{bit/symbol}}{FEC\ Overhead} * \frac{Symbol\ Rate}{Signaling\ OH}$$

- Common modulations: Quadrature Amplitude Modulation

- Uniform distribution of symbols,  $Nb_{bit/symbol} = \log_2(Nb_{symbols})$
- High symbol count → high rate, low resilience to noise



- Forward Error correction: encoding / decoding with extra bits

- Error free after decoding provided BER lower than threshold

- Generalization:

- Entropy (Av. nb bits/ symbol), mutual information (max spectral efficiency  $\frac{Nb_{bit/symbol}}{FEC\ Overhead}$  after propagation)

- Shannon capacity limit:  $\text{Max} \left( \frac{Nb_{bit/symbol}}{FEC\ Overhead} \right) = \log_2(1 + SNR)$ , with Gaussian distribution of symbols



# Life Cycle Of A Subsea Cable Project

Google Cloud

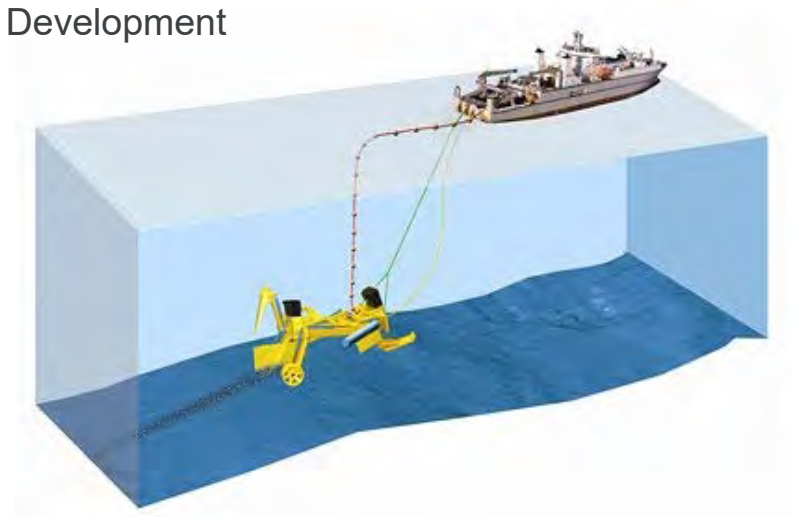
Lecture 10-1 - System Planning  
Subsea Optical Fiber Communication  
Finland, 2019

# Life Cycle of a Subsea Cable Project

## Lecture 10.1

Michael D Francois - Google Network Infrastructure Development

1. Background
2. Initial Concept
3. From Concept to Project
4. System Financing
5. Supplier Negotiations
6. Guarantees

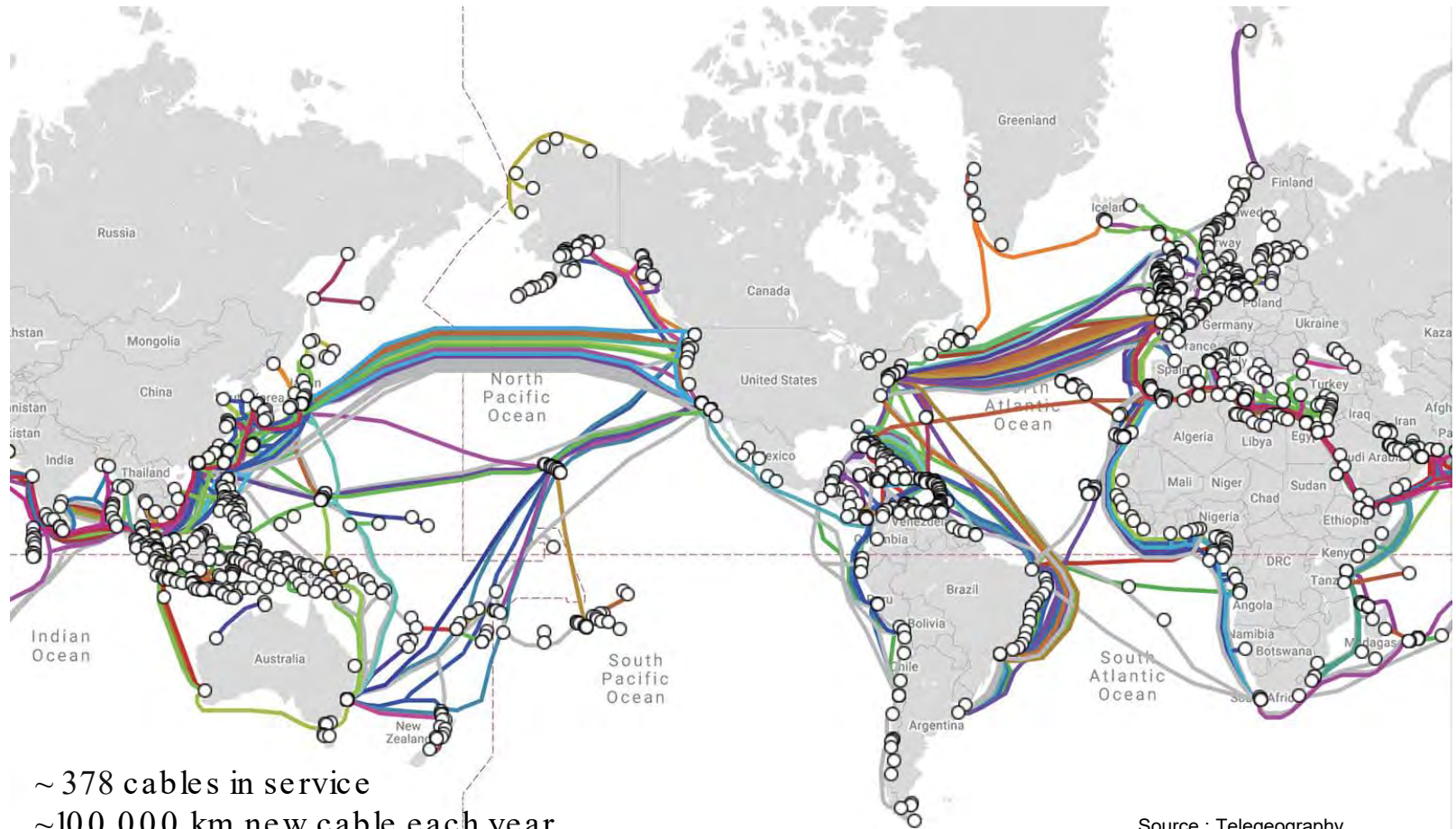


# Background

# A Brief History

- 1837 - Telegraph invented
- 1849 - England to France subsea cable
  - Fails after 8 days
- 1851 - England to France commercial success
  - Gutta-percha insulation
- 1858 - First transatlantic cable
  - Fails after 3 weeks as it is operated at voltages too high for the insulation
- 1861 - First US transcontinental telegraph cable completed
- 1868 - First commercially successful transatlantic cable
- 1876 - Bell patents telephone
- 1877 - Transatlantic phone call on Telegraph cable fails
- 1883 - Calls placed over 5 miles of underwater cable
- 1884 - San Francisco-Oakland phone service on Gutta-perche insulated cable
- 1920 - Chesapeake Bay cable uses loading coils underwater
- 1915 - Transcontinental US phone service begins
- 1950 - Repeated cable using polyethylene from Florida to Havana
- 1956 - TAT-1 goes into service
- 1967 - HAW-1 goes into service
- 1980s - WDM systems begin to appear
- 1986 - First international submarine cable, UK-Belgium
- 1988 - First fiber optic submarine cable, TAT-8

# Global Subsea Network



~ 378 cables in service

~100,000 km new cable each year

Source : Telegeography

Google

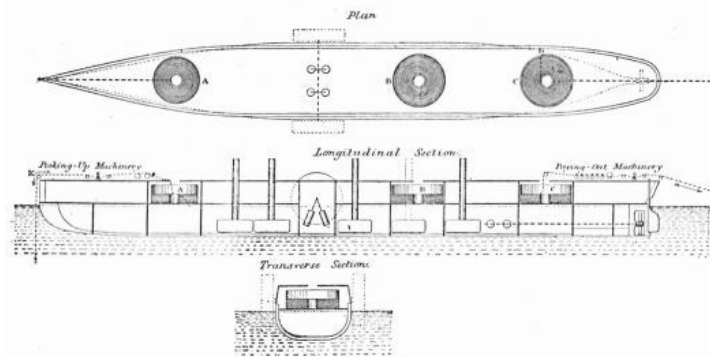


# Transatlantic Telegraph Cable

153 years ago - the *SS Great Eastern*



THE "GREAT EASTERN" COMPLETING THE LAYING OF THE SECOND ATLANTIC CABLE IN TRINITY BAY, NEWFOUNDLAND, JULY 1866.  
(By permission of Sir Charles Bright, F.R.S.E.)



Plan of cable and machinery aboard the s.s. *Great Eastern*.  
(By permission of Sir Charles Bright, F.R.S.E.)



The *SS Great Eastern* took 14 days to sail from Ireland to Newfoundland and lay the 2nd transatlantic cable; the first transatlantic cable was in service for 3 weeks.

# Transpacific Telephone Cable

55 years ago - TPC-1

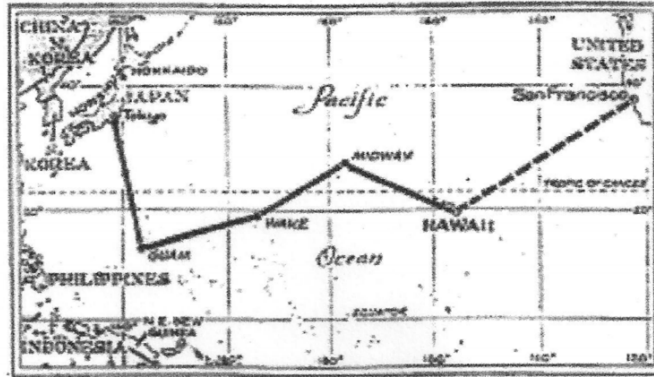
## ***New \$83 Million Cable Connects U.S. With Japan***

***President Johnson Talks to  
Premier Ikeda, Opening  
Trans-Pacific Line***

By EMERSON CHAPIN  
Special to The New York Times

TOKYO, Friday, June 19—  
President Johnson and Premier  
Hayato Ikeda inaugurated to-  
day a new trans-Pacific sub-  
marine cable that will vastly  
speed communications between  
Japan and North America.

In an exchange of congratulatory  
telephone calls with Mr.  
Ikeda, Mr. Johnson, speaking  
from the White House, said:  
"The new cable between our



The New York Times June 19, 1964  
New cable from Japan to Hawaii (solid line), joining  
the old line from Hawaii to San Francisco (dashes), will  
greatly expedite telephone service across the Pacific.

The first transatlantic Telephone cable was TAT-1, and was laid in 1956.

The first Transpacific submarine telephone cable was the aptly named [Trans Pacific Cable](#) (TPC-1), which went into service on June 19, 1964. It was a coaxial cable linking Hawaii, Midway Atoll, Wake Island, Guam, and Japan.

In Hawaii it connected to [Hawaii No. 1](#) (HAW-1), to complete a path to the US mainland in Point Arena, CA. HAW1 was built in 1957, and was the first telephone cable to connect Hawaii to the continental 48 states.

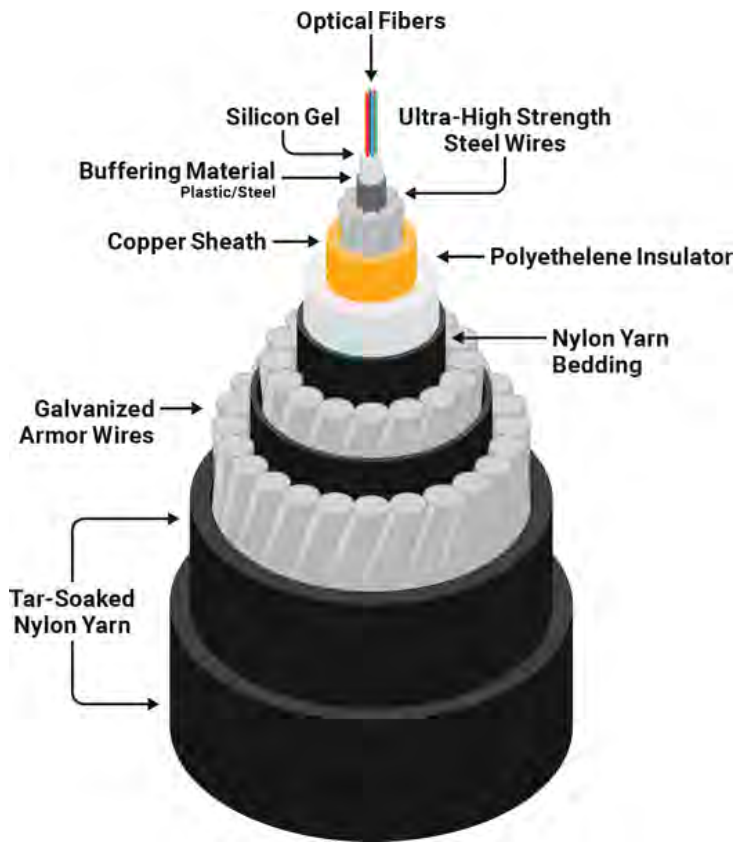


# Submarine Cable Ships

Today



# Submarine Cable



2019



1858

# Building And Deploying Wet Plant

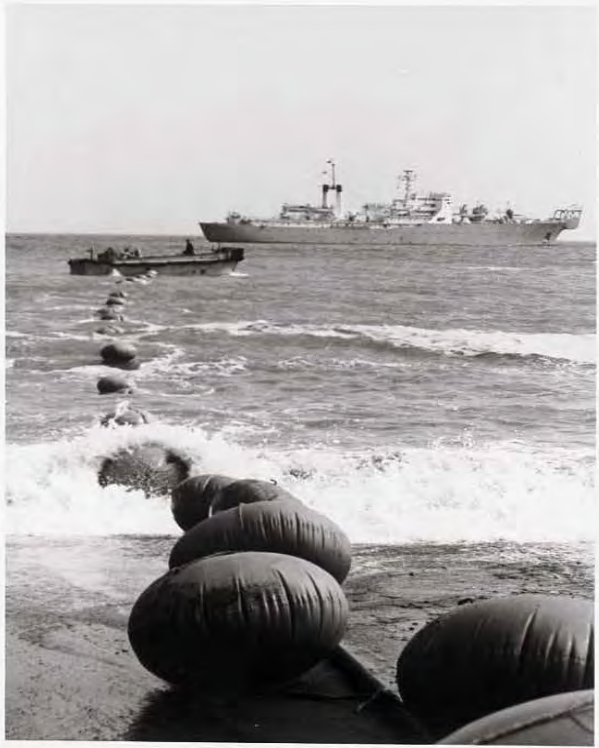


# Landing A Submarine Cable



# Landing A Submarine Cable

A direct beach landing is the easiest way to land, but it is not always possible



**TPC-1 (1964年開通)**



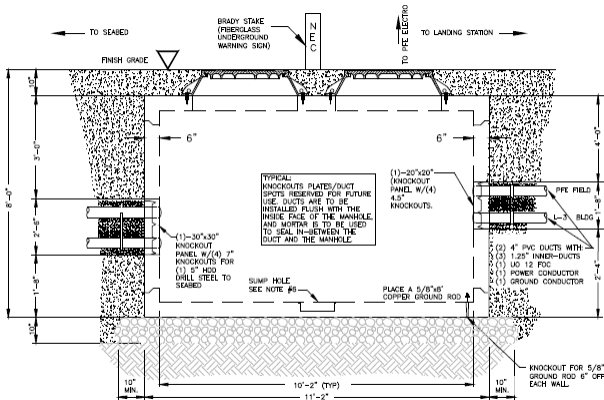
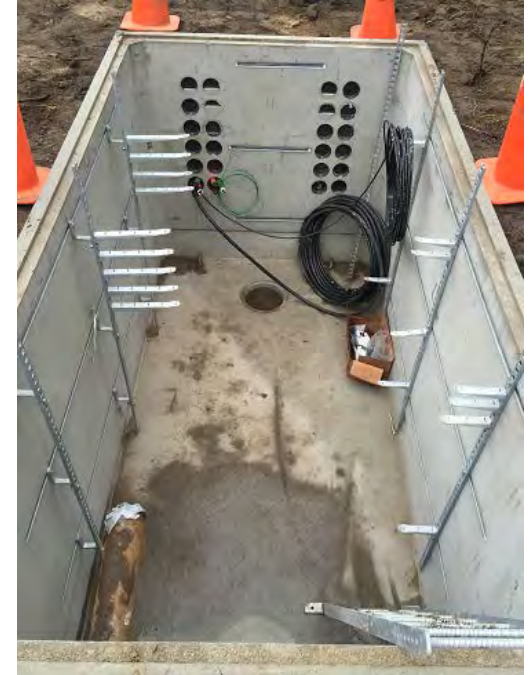
**SJC (2013年開通)**

# Transition from Sea to Land & Shore Plant





# Beach Manhole (BMH) Construction



# Background

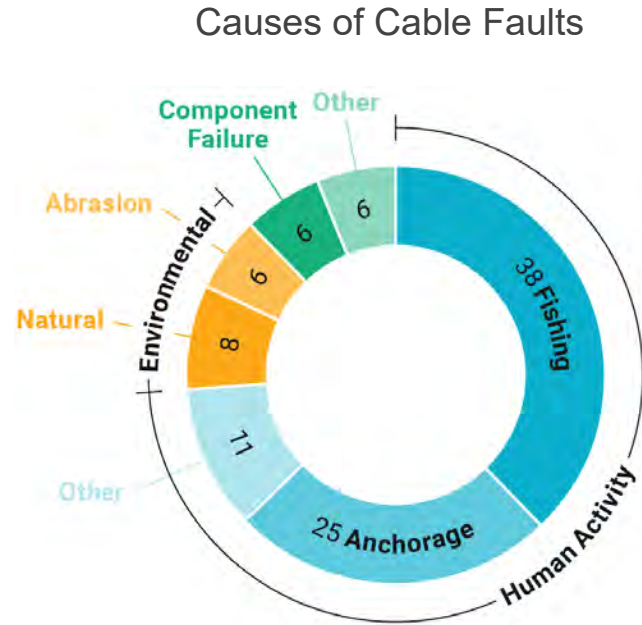
- Submarine Cables have a *Technical Complexity*
  - They are composed of various high tech components which require engineering knowledge to design, evaluate, operate and maintain
- There is also an *Administrative Complexity*
  - Multi-national constraints
  - Long term supplier relationships
  - Geopolitical considerations
- *Specific Skills* are required for various aspects of a successful project
  - Marine Operations, Legal, Optical Engineering, Finance, Permitting, Planning. Negotiating, etc
- And the *Timescale* is significant
  - From Concept to Contract-In-Force : 6 – 24 months
  - Construction : 12 – 24+ months
  - Operation : 25 years (technical), ~15 years (commercial)





# Background

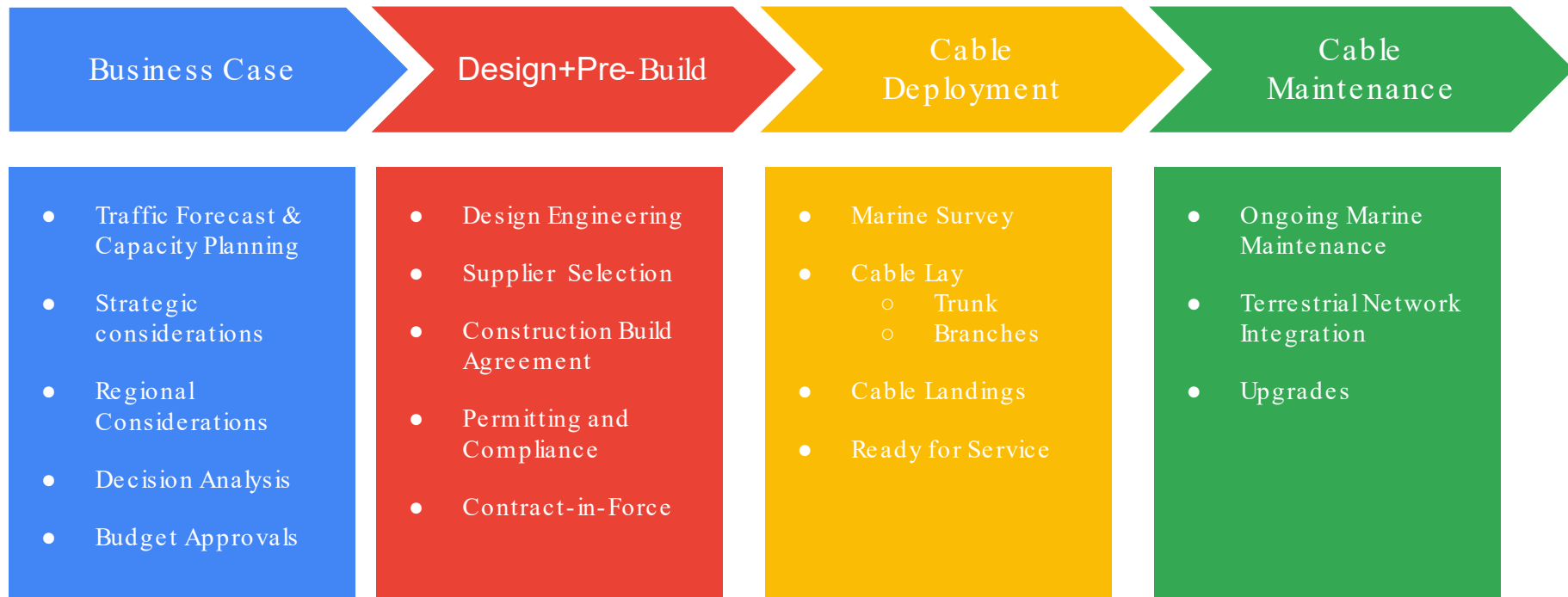
- Price range of a subsea cable
  - From \$10m
    - Point-to-point repeaterless system short distance, though can still be international
  - To \$1b
    - Intercontinental transoceanic multipoint system
- System Quality Has To Meet Requirements
  - Outages
  - Planned System Life
  - High reliability
  - Technical Must Haves (Latency, Redundancy, Reliability, Capacity, etc)



An underwater photograph showing sunbeams filtering through the water. A bright red light source is visible near the surface, casting a glow on the water. The text "Initial Concept" is overlaid in the upper left corner.

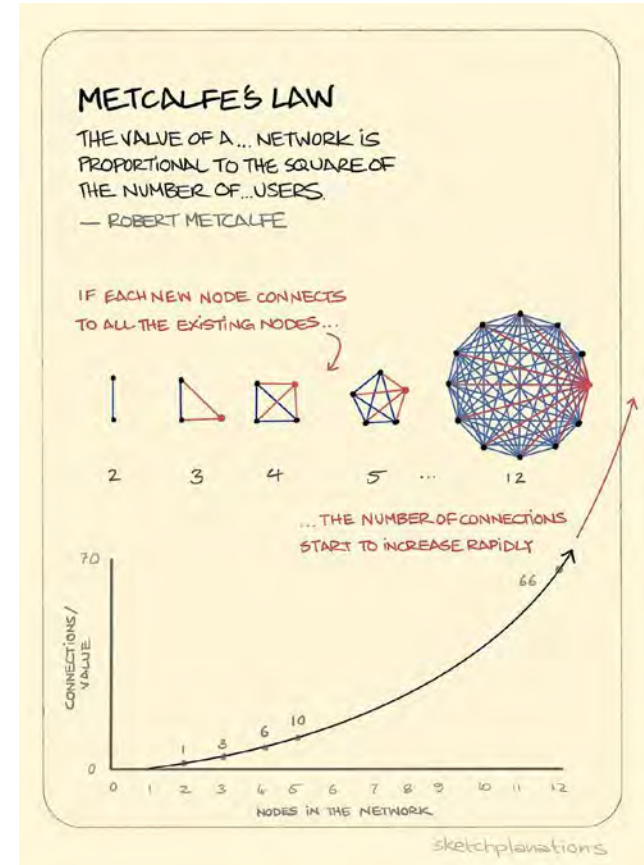
# Initial Concept

# How Do We Plan Cables?



# Business Case

- What are the drivers for a new submarine cable?
- Connectivity analysis
  - Connecting countries across oceans
    - Population
    - Internet penetration
    - Existing connectivity - Does it scale?
    - Interconnection within global network - Does it fit?
  - Financial Analysis
    - Is there a return on the investment?
    - In what timeframe?
- Metcalfe's Law
  - The value of a telecommunications network is proportional to the square of the number of users of the system.



# Markets & Traffic

## Market Types for Subsea Cable Systems Market Analysis

- Transoceanic:
  - Higher demand, potentially many capacity sellers
  - Capacity tends to become a commodity
- Regional:
  - Less demand, potentially fewer sellers
  - Less price pressure, long term purchase
  - Capacity remains a strategic resource
- Existing and planned resources with common connectivity and capacity analysis
  - Source and Destination
- SWOT Analysis
  - Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats
  - Local partnerships, average capacity cost, marginal capacity cost analysis, market size



# Technical Design Decisions

## Technology analysis

- Impact on capacity availability & costs
- Pace of technology evolution
  - Advantages & availability of next generation
  - Is a major breakthrough expected?
- Which technology is best adapted to market ?
  - Do you need a plane or a car to travel 60 km?
  - Tailored to needs
- What is the best value for the money?
  - Return on Investment
  - Upgrades



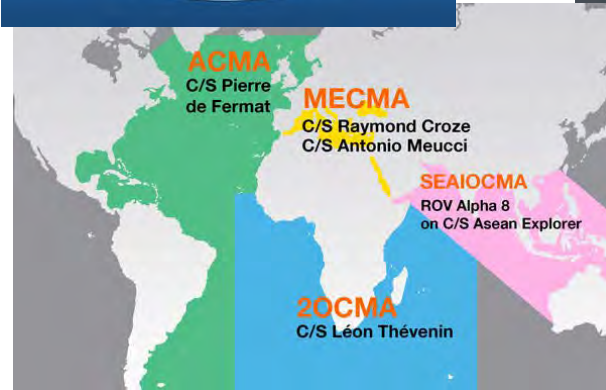
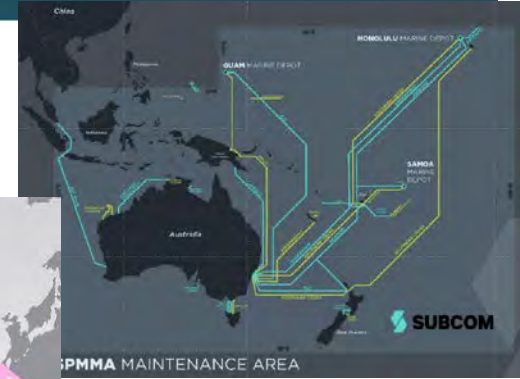
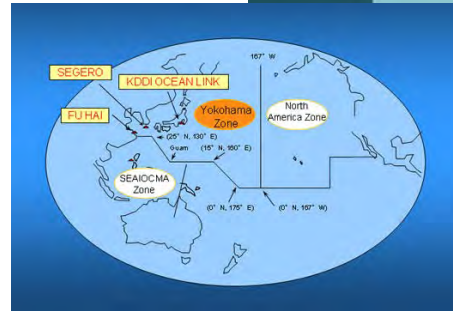
# Maintenance Decisions

## Maintenance Clubs

- SEAIOCMA - South East Asia and Indian Ocean Cable Maintenance Agreement
- ACMA - Atlantic Cable Maintenance Agreement
- PIOCMA - Pacific and Indian Ocean Cable Mutual Agreement
- NAZ - North American Zone
- MECMA - Mediterranean Cable Maintenance Agreement
- Yokohama Zone Agreement
- SPMMA - South Pacific Marine Maintenance Agreement
- 20CMA - Two Oceans Cable Maintenance Agreement

## Private Maintenance

- Arrangements between individual cable owners and ship owners



# From Concept To Project





# Business Case

## Why You Need One

Preparing the business case involves an assessment of:

- The opportunity
- potential benefits/revenues
- risks and mitigations
- technical solutions available
- costs (WACC/NPV)
- timeline
- impact on current operations, and
- capability to deliver the project

## Is The Project Worth Doing?

- Executive Summary
- Deal Summary
  - Financial Appraisal
  - Sensitivity Analysis
  - Revenue Opportunity
- Project Definition
  - Background Information
  - Business Objective
  - Benefits and Limitations
  - Legal/Policy Risks and Mitigation Plan
  - Market Assessment
  - Technical/Network Risk and Mitigation Plan
  - Capacity Planning/Marketing Plan
  - Project/Purchasing Strategy
- Project Organization
  - Project Governance
  - Progress Reporting



# Consortium Cables

## Legal Structure

- No or lightweight legal entity
- Relationship based on a Construction and Maintenance Agreement (C&MA) or a Joint Build Agreement (JBA)
- Negotiated capacity allocation and usage rules
- Landing Rights

## Relationship Management

- Various committees are formed to reach consensus on issues
- Can be UN-like

## Come In Many Flavors

- Large Consortiums of International Carriers
  - SMW-3, AAE-1
- Mid-sized Consortius of Various Partners
  - Indigo, Havfrue
- Small Consortiums of Specialty Partners
  - JGA
- Partnership Cables
  - Havfrue
- Shared Interests are Key to Success
- Decisions by consensus
- Voting right based on various factors
  - Mostly investment level



# Private Cables

- Built by Telecom Operators to address specific requirements and/or seize opportunities
  - Telstra's Endeavour
- Built by Non-Carriers to address specific traffic flows, scalability and resiliency requirements
  - Google's Curie
- Business case needs to be strong to cover the level of investment
  - Risk and revenues are weighted differently by debt and equity providers



## Legal Structure

- Entity structure based on tax/legal/regulatory policies
- Often involves partners for permits and landing rights
- Owned capacity allocation and negotiated usage rules
- Landing Rights/Permits

## Relationship Management

- Bilateral relationships with Customer and Supplier

## Maintenance

- Several options available to cover marine maintenance

# Forming A Consortium

## If Your Analysis Leads You To A Consortium

- Each partner will have to build their own business case
- The economics and costs of capital may be different for each party
- The upside and risks will be different for each party
- Hopefully everyone's plan is NOT built on the same customer base
- Forming the consortium itself, and getting other parties interested, takes negotiations and an outcome that allows each party to pass their own hurdles



# Market Assessment

- What is the addressable market for the cable?
  - Why is the cable needed?
  - Where does this cable go?
  - Who will make use of this cable?
  - When will this cable be Ready for Service?
  - How will this cable meet requirements now, and in the future?
- 
- Capacity need projections (3–10 years)
    - Most sales occur early in system life
  - Competition (existing, planned and future)
    - Who else is serving or looking at serving this route?
  - Capacity pricing (now & after)
    - How much capacity exists now, and how much later?
    - What is the effect of bringing the new capacity to market?



# Market Data Points

## Data Points

- GDP/Distribution of Wealth
- Population
- Internet Penetration Rate
- IP Usage
- Age of Population
- Education/Literacy
- New Applications
- Mobile vs Broadband vs Leased Line
- Number of Businesses

## Example Sources

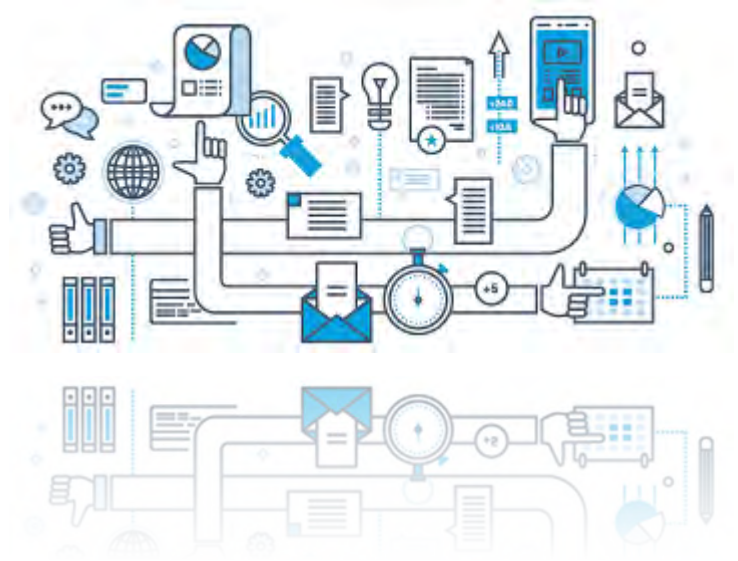
- UN-ITU
- Telegeography
- Market Analytic Firms
- Consultants



# System Features

## Design Considerations

- Ultimate Capacity
- Topology of System
- Fiber Count
- Traditional or SDM systems
- Wavelengths per Fiber Pair
- Type of Fiber
- Type of Armoring
- Repeated or Unrepeated
- Branches and Type
- Number, type and spacing of repeaters
- Power Budget & Design
- Environmental Considerations
- Types of Landings
- SLTE
- Open Systems



# Topologies

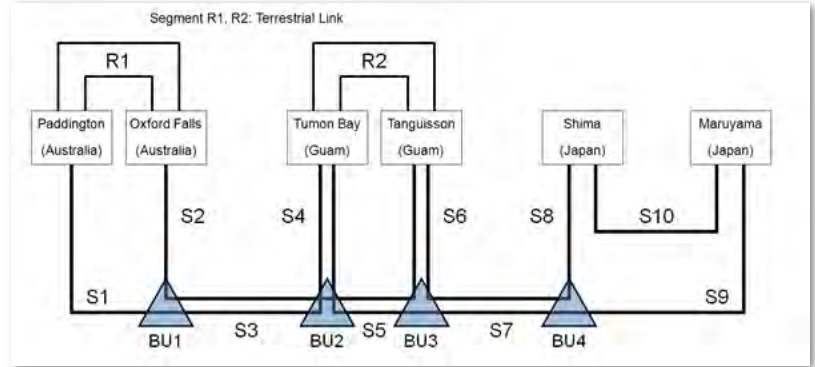
## Ring - *Southern Cross Cable System*

- Provides high reliability at a higher cost



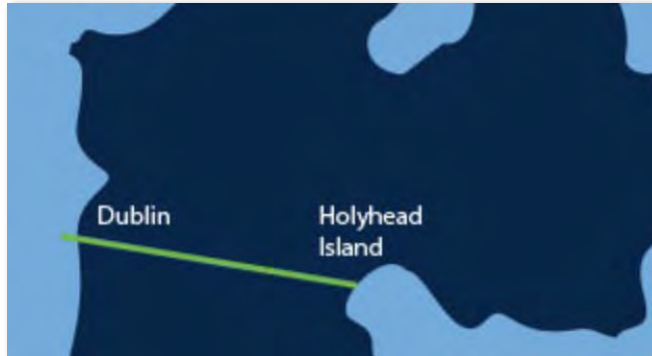
## Semi Collapsed Ring - *Australia Japan Cable*

- Protects close to shore, where most damage occurs



## Point to Point - *CeltixConnect-1*

- Least Expensive, No Protection





# System Features

## Cable configuration :

Fault history should be taken into account

- Channel system type
  - $\geq$  fault per winter (6 months) per 400 km
  - Ring and double landing (2 x 200 km in shallow water)
  - **Unavailability:** 0.3 day/year (single landing  $\sim 7.5$  d/y)
- Mediterranean system type
  - 1 fault every two years 1000 km (shallow water)
  - Single landing (200 km but  $< 50$  km in shallow)
  - **Unavailability** : 0.4 day/year (double landing  $\sim 0.01$  d/y)

## Initial Cable Route

It's a question of today's money vs future hedwins

Marine & Landing risk assessment: it's a business of experience

- In 150 years, you'll probably not be the first to go there
- Don't hesitate to call on the people who know
- Learn from past catastrophes (and success)

Beware: Regulatory Authorities, Ecologists and Fishermen love subsea systems (time & money consuming)

Some routes are better than others

# System Features

## Initial Cable Route

### Landing selection

- Marine suitability (onshore, offshore activities)
- Backhaul connection (Is there someone out there?)
- Station size (DWDM upgrade !!!)

Route selection : Don't be pound wise and penny foolish: it is often better to protect once now, than repair ten times later

- Cable type and armor
- Burial (plough preferred)
- Shore ends
- Cable and Pipe crossings

## Price estimates

- In-house
  - Determine equipment BoQ
  - Use previous unit prices
  - Estimate other costs
  - Always prepare data before engaging supplier
  - Try to understand their current position
- Rough Orders of Magnitude (ROM)
  - Most suppliers are happy to provide it
  - Not always very accurate
  - Should be a not to exceed cost
- First firm offers

# Commercial Aspects To Consider

## Product Design

- 10 g/100 g, Spectrum, Fiber Pairs, Protected, Unprotected, Upgrade rights,
- Upgrade rights
- Ownership or IRU
- Use Restrictions, Rights Transfer, Portability

## Review of Market Prices

- vs existing: pricing higher would require no supply, is very hard to do
- vs planned: keep same level or lower if supply exists

## Special offers

- Pre-sales
- Bulk purchase
- Can be driven by system configuration

## Consortia - Carrier Perspective

- Notional capacity = capacity required to be sold to finance the initial system investment
- During the pre-sales process, pricing can be often be negotiated to cost place basis
- Upgrade capacity
  - There are variety of solutions
  - Forward pricing on wavelengths
  - Spectral pricing on fractional IRUs
    - Alien SLTE
  - Access to uplifts to system capacity can be negotiated for at a cost+ basis
  - Be aware that consortium sometimes need to work together to complete upgrades and establish timelines

## Consortia - Non-Carrier Perspective

- Want to ensure swap/resale rights
- Want to control upgrade timing

# Commercial Aspects To Consider

## Private cables

- Pre-sales (before CIF)
  - Demonstrate there is a market & reduces financial risk
  - Generally only covers part of the investment in the system cost
- Post-CIF capacity pricing
  - The Market Is Always Right
  - Also, Sometimes The Market Is Wrong
    - Be prepared to adapt your pricing
    - Someone buys, someone sells, each wants to feel they got a good deal
  - Price Elasticity of Demand ( $E_d$ )
    - How much demand is there if nothing changes but the price?



# Permitting

## Landing & Operating

- Working permits: usually supplier's responsibility
- Authorizations in principle: right to land/own a system on national territory, RoW, etc. Usually cable owner's responsibility
- Telecom licenses : Cable owner/operator's responsibility (possibly through local partnership)

## Exclusive Economic Zone / International Waters

- The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)
  - Also Called Montego Bay Convention
- 167 nations have ratified as of 2016
  - The US Situation: Part XI: Minerals
- Waters are still disputed
  - South China Sea

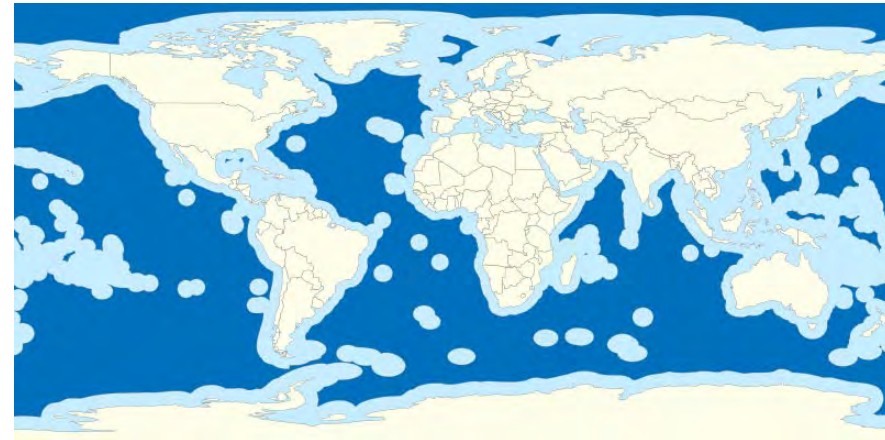
## Agreements with other seabed users

- Cable & pipe owners
- Oil exploration & platforms
- Sand dredgers
- Fishermen

EEZs Around The World



International Waters (Dark Blue) beyond EEZ (Light Blue)



# System Financing



# Financial Structures

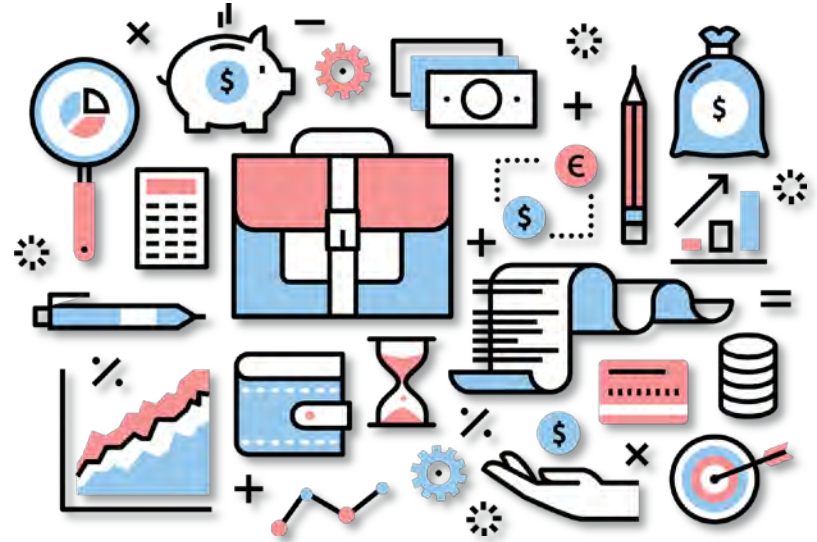
Consortia are “full-equity/no-debt” schemes

- There is no debt to be repaid
- Cash flow must be budgeted
- The restrictions that can come with debt are avoided
- Step in rights may be part of the agreement

Private Cable can have different types of fund sources

- Some companies self fund
- Some may involve a mix of debt and equity
- This mix of funding can carry risk, that needs to have a mitigation plan

Different tranches may be needed over time, based on project success and market conditions



# Financing

- Consortiums
  - Government Financing
  - Supplier Financing
  - Banks/Private Equity/Debt
  - Carrier Financing
  - Non-Carrier Financing
- Private Cables
  - Government Financing
  - Supplier Financing
  - Banks/Private Equity/Debt
  - Carrier Financing
  - Non-Carrier Financing

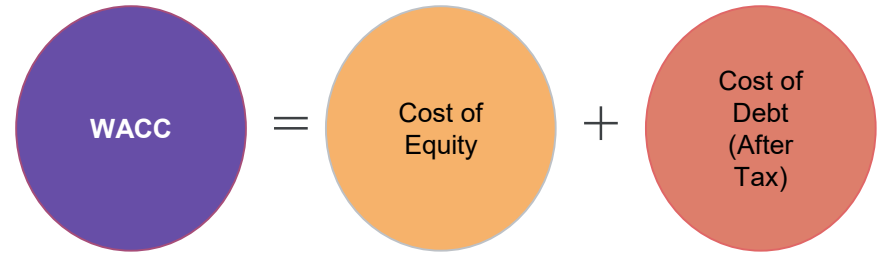
## Expectations of Financing Entities

- Government Financing
  - Sometimes a grant to open access to an underserved market
  - Sometimes research driven
- Supplier Financing
  - Sometimes to cover a gap
- Banks/Private Equity/Debt
  - Looking for a return on investment
- Carrier Financing
  - Looking for a return on investment
- Non-Carrier Financing
  - Looking for ROI, but not necessarily on telecom products



# WACC

- The weighted average cost of capital(WACC) is the rate that an entity (Consortium or Company) is expected to pay on average to all its security holders to finance the asset of the submarine cable.
- The WACC is the minimum return that a Company or Consortium must earn on the submarine cable to satisfy its creditors, owners, and other providers of capital.
- WACC helps in understanding the overall return of the investment. It is commonly used by Finance teams to evaluate the best opportunities for future endeavors.



## The Formula for WACC

$$WACC = \left( \frac{E}{V} \times Re \right) + \left( \frac{D}{V} \times Rd \times (1 - Tc) \right)$$

### where:

$E$  = Market value of the firm's equity

$D$  = Market value of the firm's debt

$V = E + D$

$Re$  = Cost of equity

$Rd$  = Cost of debt

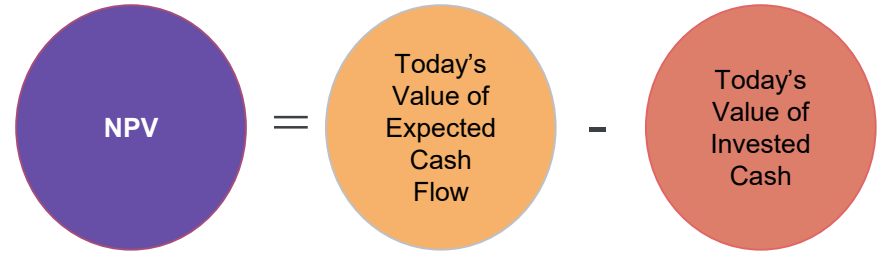
$Tc$  = Corporate tax rate

Source : Investopedia

Generally used as the discount rate in an NPV calculation, and shown as percentage. Based on public filings, Walmart had a WACC of ~ 6.1% in 2016, was paying that amount for capital raised via debt and equity

# NPV

- Net present value (NPV) is the difference between the present value of cash inflows and the present value of cash outflows over a period of time. NPV is used in capital budgeting and investment planning to analyze the profitability of a projected investment or project.
- The NPV rule says that only investments with a positive NPV should be invested in.
- A NPV that is positive indicates the projected earning/return exceed the costs that are anticipated to be incurred.



$$NPV = \sum_{t=1}^n \frac{R_t}{(1+i)^t}$$

**where:**

$R_t$  = Net cash inflow-outflows during a single period  $t$

$i$  = Discount rate or return that could be earned in alternative investments

$t$  = Number of timer periods

Source : Investopedia

# Supplier Negotiations



# Negotiations

- Be dispassionate: Emotions tend to blow up negotiations
- Prepare, and do your research, and prepare some more
- Make sure you are negotiating with the person able to actually make the decision
- Focus on your goal, and not on who is right
- Make human contact
- Acknowledge the supplier's position and the ability
- Embrace difference; different can be good, can be profitable, and leaves room for creativity
- When people become irrational (it happens), use empathy to reduce the emotion. Otherwise no one will hear anything
- Try to understand the supplier's position; you need to know their motivation and goal if you are to persuade them
- Incremental steps are best; trying to solve everything at once usually leads to failure
- Know the standards! A powerful tool, and you can hold all sides to them
- Be transparent, and not manipulative. This will be a long term relationship.



# Supply Contract

- The end result of the business plan, engineering, project plan, financing and vendor negotiations is the Supply Contract
- The Supply Contract represents the common understanding between the cable owner(s) and builder
- When signed, this is generally when you are Contract-in-Force, and pre-sales end
- The contract's outcome is the submarine cable system
- The supply contract specifies the CAPEX that will be spent on the system
- A good Supply Contract is the key to a smooth implementation & a system that performs as designed
- Gives parameters so that the project has a timeline and budget
- It is key to maintain a good relationship with the supplier during implementation and beyond
- A fine contract should make lawyers unnecessary down the road



# Suppliers

- Suppliers love Contract Variances
- Suppliers don't love commitments as much as CVs
- Make sure to speak to all suppliers, because more data points and knowledge helps when developing your business plan
- In the end, you will be in partnership with your supplier for decades, most likely
- Different suppliers are, of course, good at different things
- You can have multiple suppliers, but this can create complexities, and all relationships and responsibilities, handoffs and acceptance criteria need to be well document and understood



# Steps to the Supply Contract

- Rough order of Magnitude (ROM)
- RFQ/ITT (Request for Quote/Invitation To Tender)
  - Needs to be prepared to allow a good comparison of offers
- Clarification and Follow Up
  - Have them sharpen pencils, be more specific
- Trim number of bidders
- Request Best and Final Offer (BAFO)
- Select your supplier based on best fit to all requirements



# Supply Contract Contents

- General Terms & Conditions
  - Supplier responsibilities : Scope of Work, permits, custom clearance
  - Purchaser protection: warranties & guarantee, liquidated damages
  - Payment procedures
  - Contract variations process
  - Termination clause
  - Force Majeure
  - Transfer of Title upon meeting Acceptance Criteria
- Technical Specifications
    - Detailed technical description
    - Functionalities of equipment/system
    - Availability & reliability requirements
    - Safety/environmental requirements
    - Quality Assurance
    - Commissioning (tests & procedures)
      - Provisional Acceptance
    - Long-term assistance over system life
      - Including software



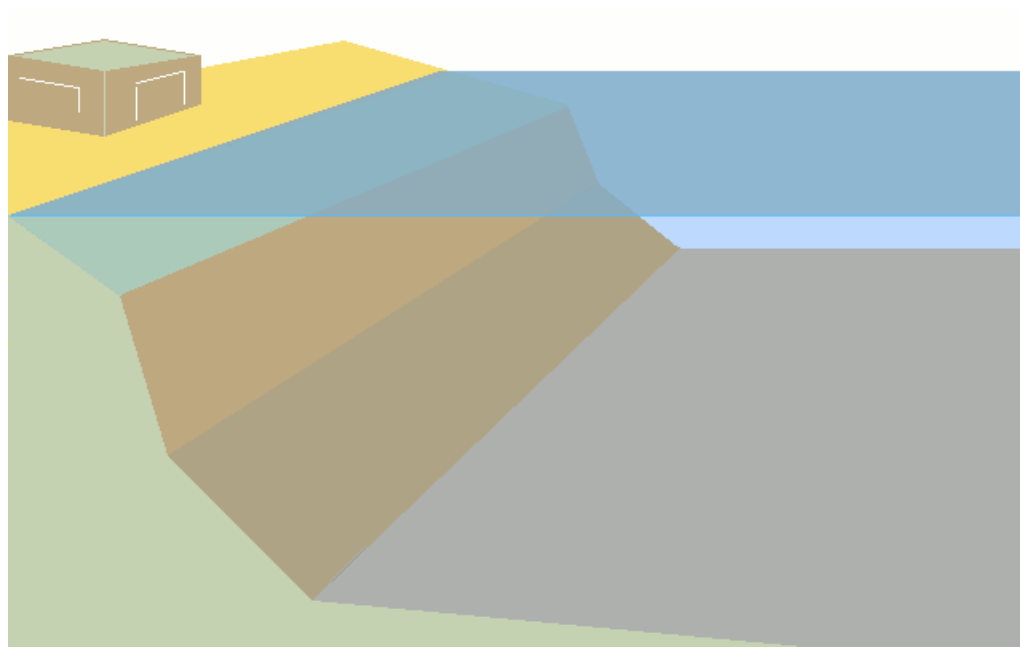
# Guarantees



# Guarantees & Warranties

- Parental Guarantee
  - Protects against insolvency of contractor
- Performance Guarantee
  - Protects buyer if system doesn't perform as promised
- Advance Payment Guarantee
  - Protect buyer who make payments at milestones of project doesn't complete
- Warranty
  - A financial guarantee to ensure satisfactory quality during a specific period
- Expressed Warranties
  - Written in the contract
- Implied Warranties
  - Not written, but still binding





**For more info on submarine cables**

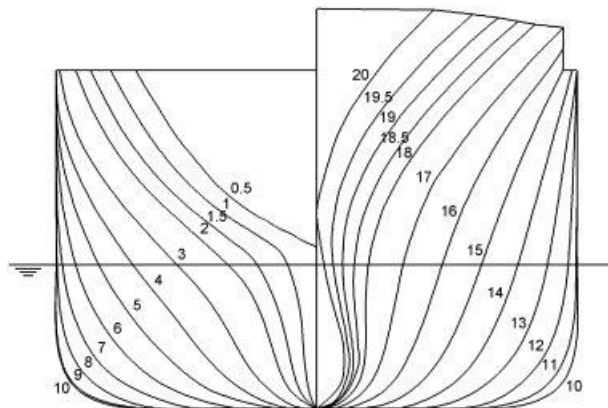
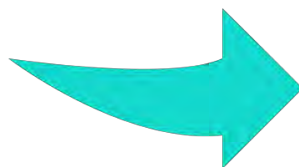
- Watch on YouTube: [A Journey To The Bottom Of The Internet](#)

# Marine Construction Overview

**Chris Carobene**

**Vice President  
Marine & Network Construction**

# Chris Carobene – 26 years at SubCom....!



# Agenda

**Process Overview**

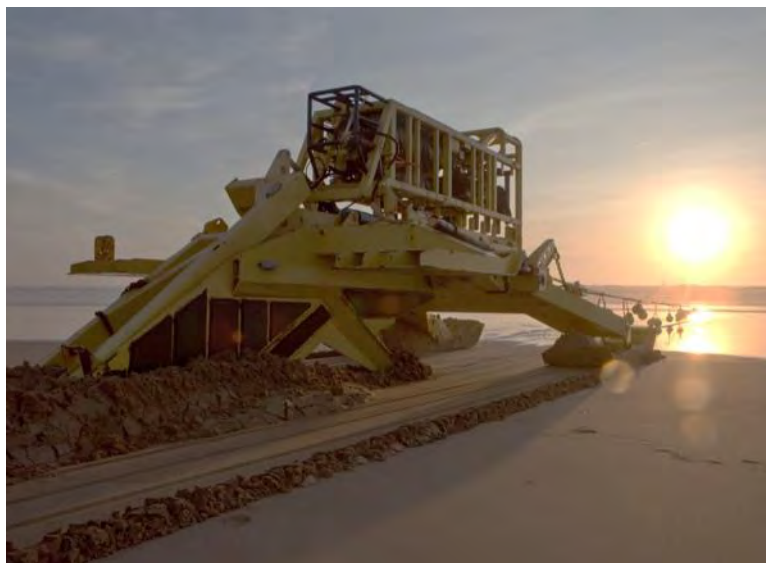
**Construction Activities**

**Vessels and Tools**

**CURIE Examples**

# Process Overview

## Marine Construction - Objective



### Building the Network

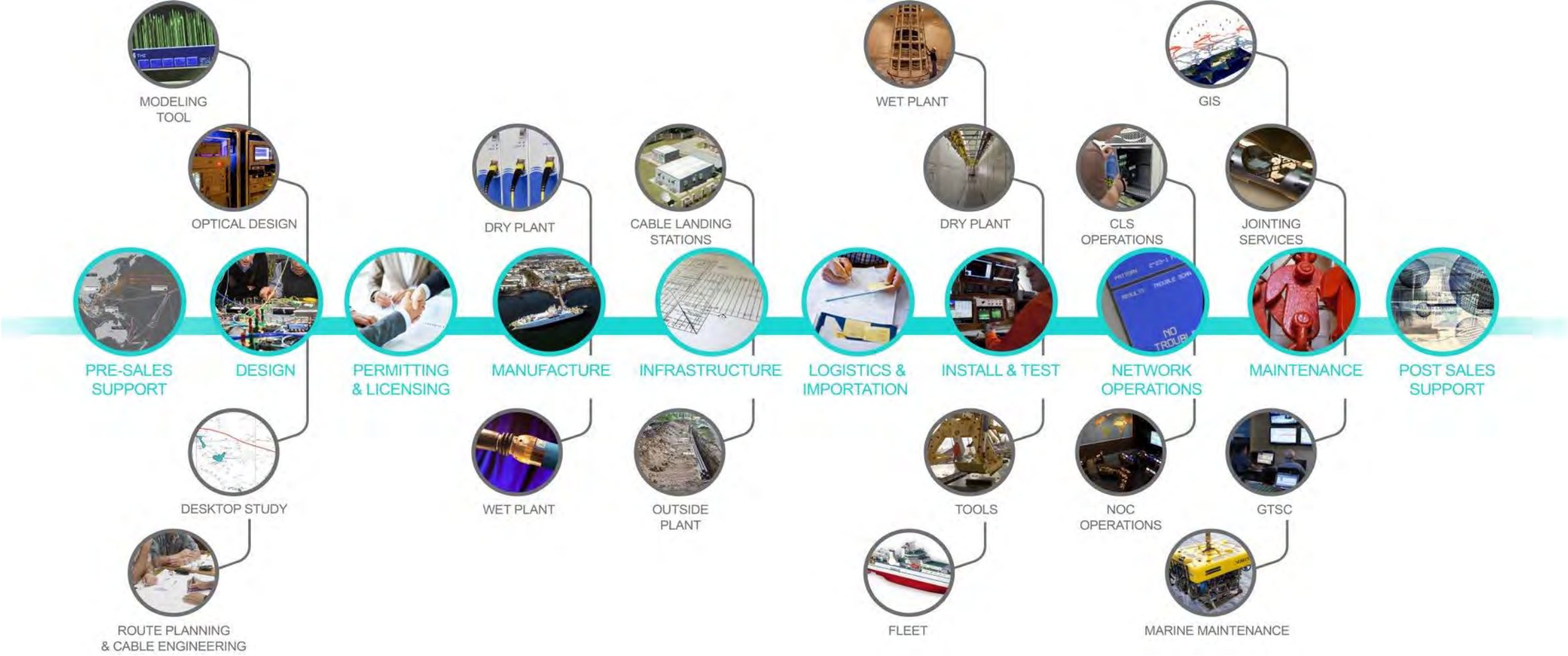
*Install the equipment and infrastructure necessary for the undersea network*

*Maximize network performance by protecting submarine cables using a robust construction process*

*Managing and mitigating risk throughout the construction process*



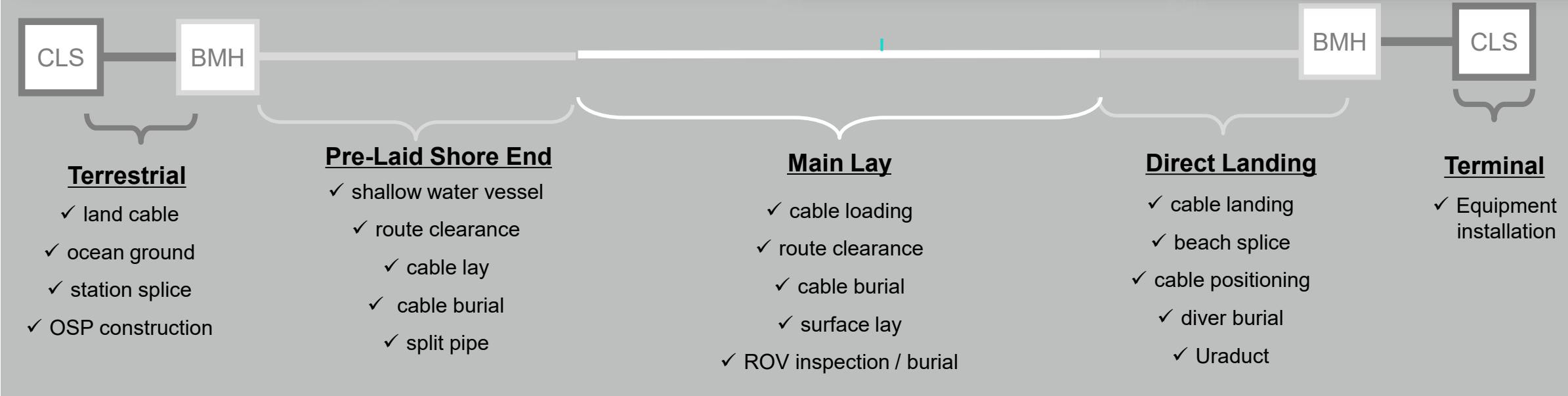
# Project Process & Key Components



Ethics  
Safety  
Quality

# Construction Activities

# Scope of Marine Construction

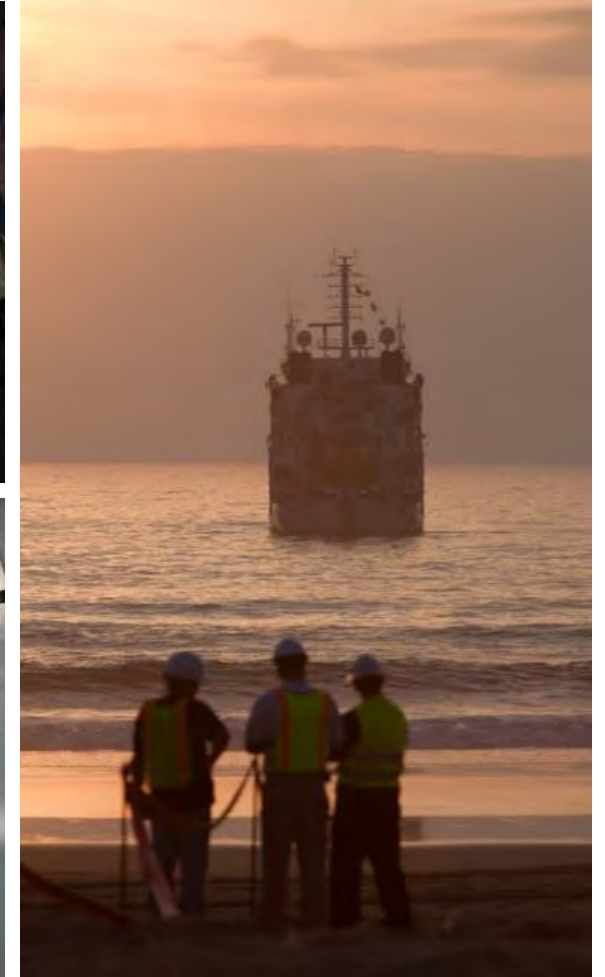


# Construction Process

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Four main phases of construction process:

- Planning
- Data Collection & Validation
- Execution
- Support & Maintenance



# Planning - Risk Identification

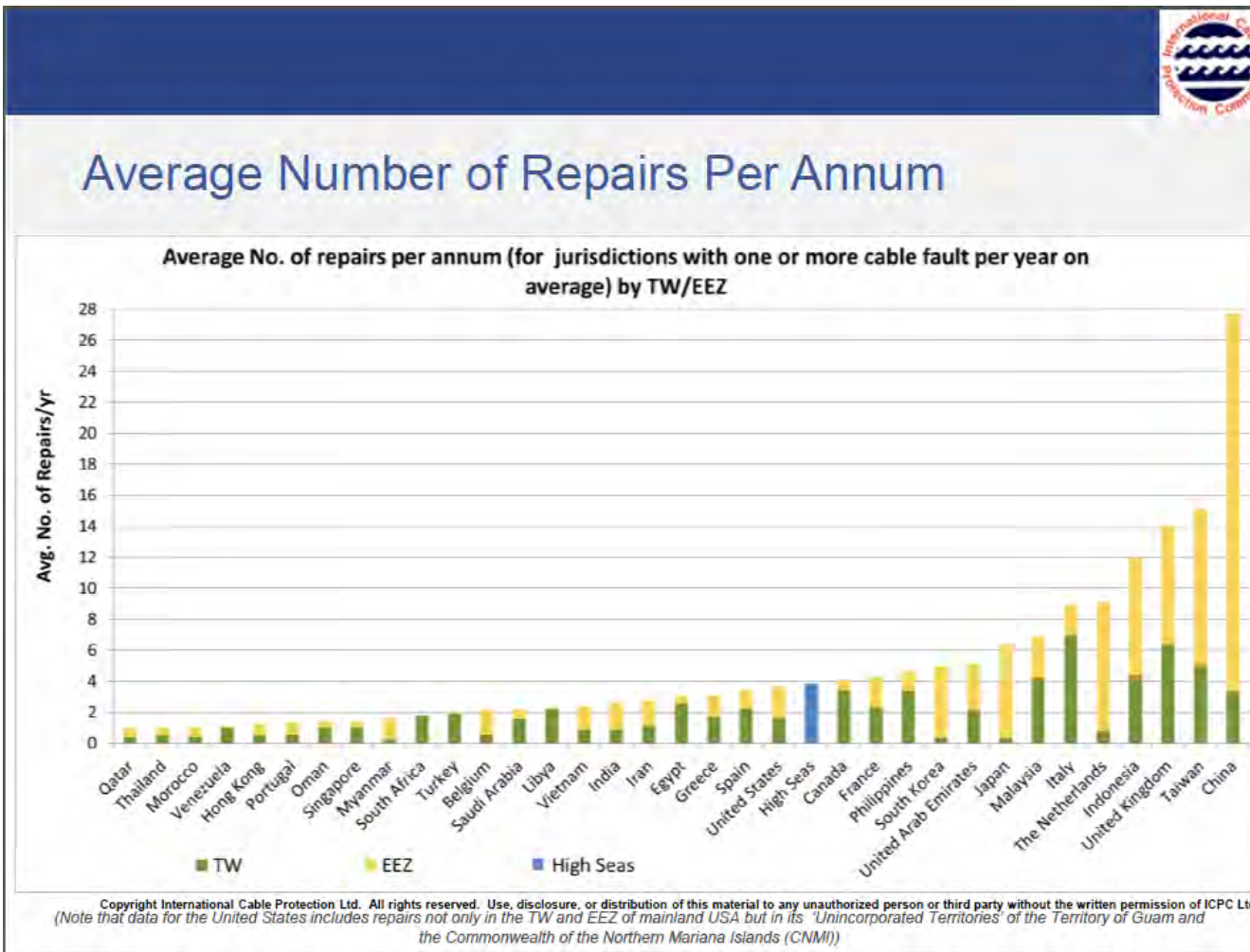
## Key Risk Areas:

- **Personnel** – Dangerous environment with high tensions and heavy machinery
- **Vessel, Tools & Equipment** – Break-down causes delay and budget overrun
- **Cable System** – Systems need to survive in a harsh environment for 25yrs

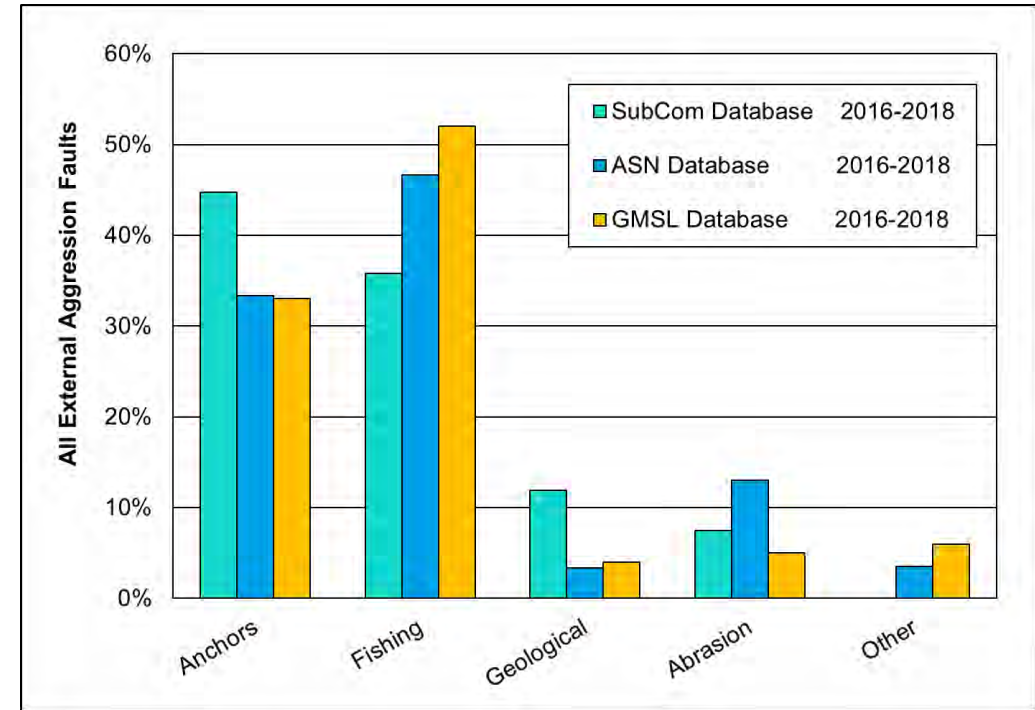
The majority of cable failures are the result of interaction with other human activity.



# Historical Cable Fault Causes Guide Risk Assessment and Mitigation



80% of all cable faults are the result of external aggression (e.g. fishing & anchoring).



Suboptic 2019. M. Kordahi et al. New Orleans, LA, April 2019

ICPC Plenary 2019, A. Palmer-Felgate et al, Cape Town, April 2018. Averages over between 5 to 10 years of data depending on maintenance zone.

# Submarine Cable Protection

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Given the economic and national-security importance of submarine cables, it's critical to protect them from physical damage.

---



**Ship anchors and commercial fishing gear pose—by far—the most significant risks of damage to undersea cables.**

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- An undersea cable repair can cost in excess of US **\$1 million** and typically takes 2+ weeks to return the cable to service—or more, depending on permitting requirements, weather, and other factors.

- Fishing practices and patterns continue to be a **primary consideration** in undersea cable projects.
- **>90% of cable faults (2010-2015) are caused by external aggression; of this percentage, ~75% are attributed to fishing or anchoring.**
- **Regional variation in fishing risks are analyzed to tailor marine liaison analyses and outreach strategies.**

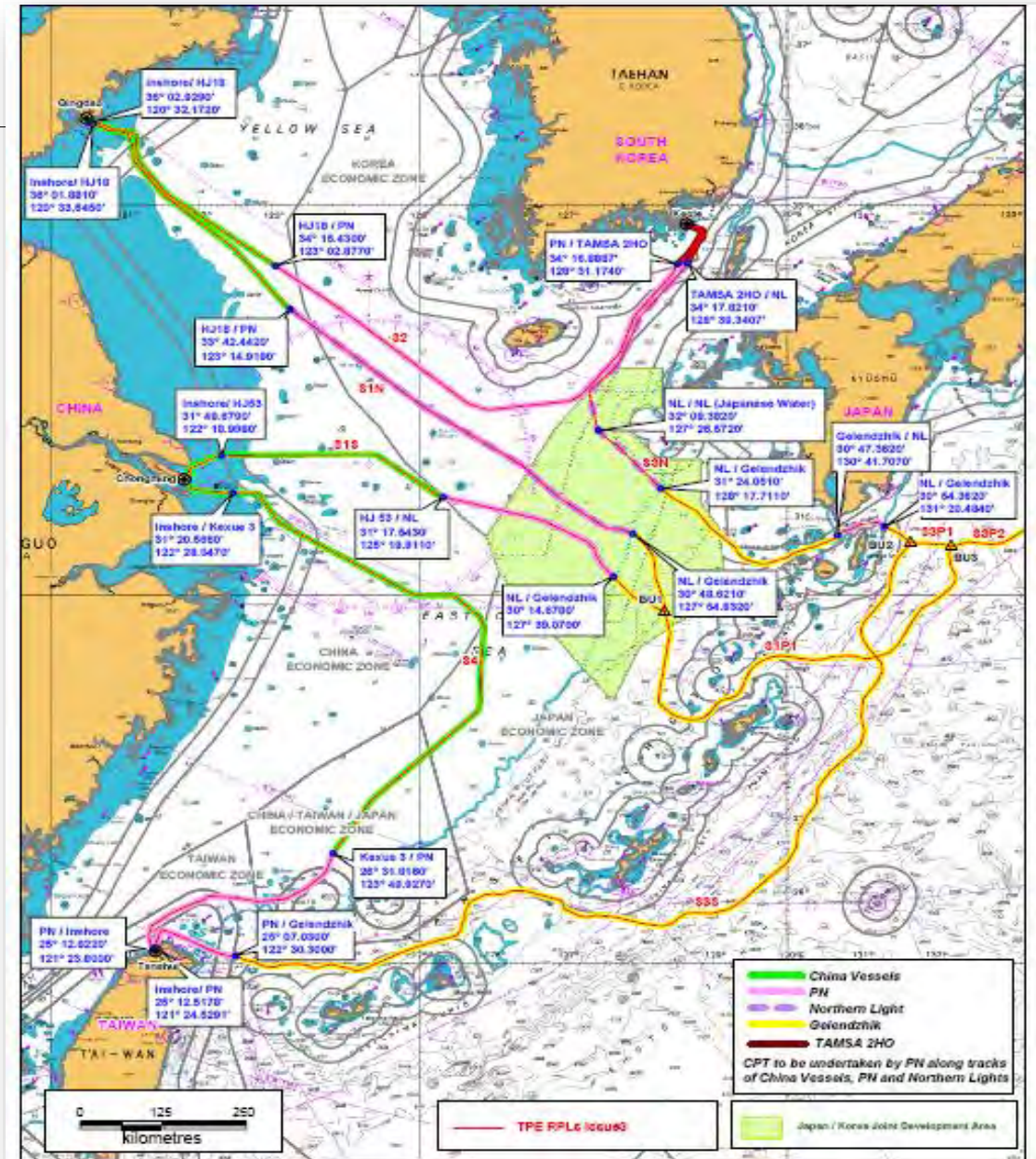
# Initial Design - Desktop Study

Identify a safe and economical cable route

## Design Considerations:

- Landing Points
- Maritime Boundaries
- Geopolitics - Contested Areas
- Cable Fault Data Base
- Deep Burial
- Pre-Laid Shore Ends & Direct Landings
- Horizontal Directional Drilling
- Permitting & Fisherman Negotiations
- Natural and manmade obstacles
- Mineral/Oil & Gas exploration
- Cable selection
- Branching Unit deployments
- Other submarine cables
- Pipelines
- Unexploded Ordnance
- Cable / Pipeline Database

**Agreement with other seabed users is critical to the survivability of the system**





# Risk Management

---

## Risk Identification & Assessment

- Identify each risk
- Determine the threat level

## Avoidance – Primary mitigation is to simply avoid

- Routing directly to deep water
- Avoiding areas of intense fishing and anchorages

## Mitigation – When the risk can't be avoided

- Burial
- Cable Armoring



**Risk Management balances cost of mitigation against the risk of future system downtime.**

# Planning Activities - Permitting

---

- **Landing Permits License – Permission to operate a telecom network**
- **Proprietary Permits**
  - Rights of way, easements, wayleaves and seabed lease agreements
  - Cable Crossing Agreements
  - Pipeline Crossing Agreements
  - Hydrocarbon and Mineral Lease Blocks/Concession agreements
  - Environmental Impact Assessments
  - EEZ notifications
- **Operational Permits**
  - Notices to mariners
  - Navy/coastguard permits/notifications
  - Local authorities and municipalities
  - Work Visas
- **Other Permissions may be Prerequisites**
  - Fisheries
  - Native communities



**Early due diligence with all stakeholders is critical to minimizing the permitting interval.**

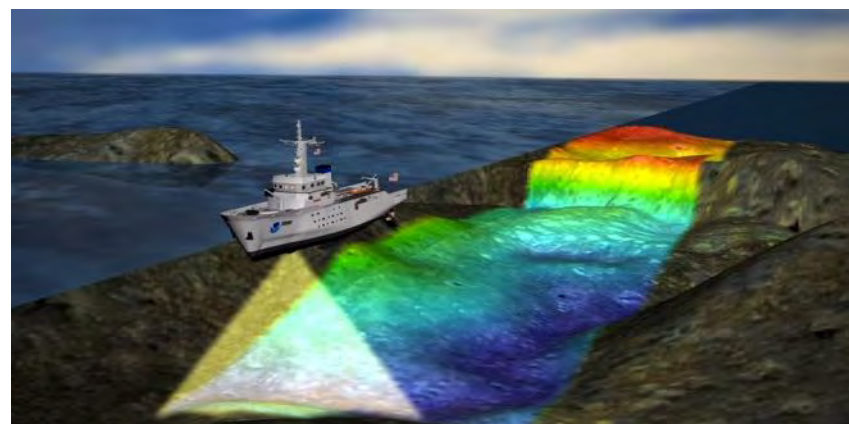
# Data Collection - Cable Route Survey

## Data Collection – Survey & Inspections

- ✓ Bathymetry, geotechnical, sub-bottom, and side scan data to support route engineering, cable selection, installation and burial

## Analysis of Results – Results

- ✓ Revised RPL & SLD
- ✓ Cable Armoring & Protection
- ✓ Burial Conditions
- ✓ Recommendations for Installation Procedures



Landing Site Survey

Diver Swim

Small Boat

Shallow Water

Deep Sea

# Design Validation - Cable Route Engineering

## *Installation Planning – Methods of Procedure*

### Modelling

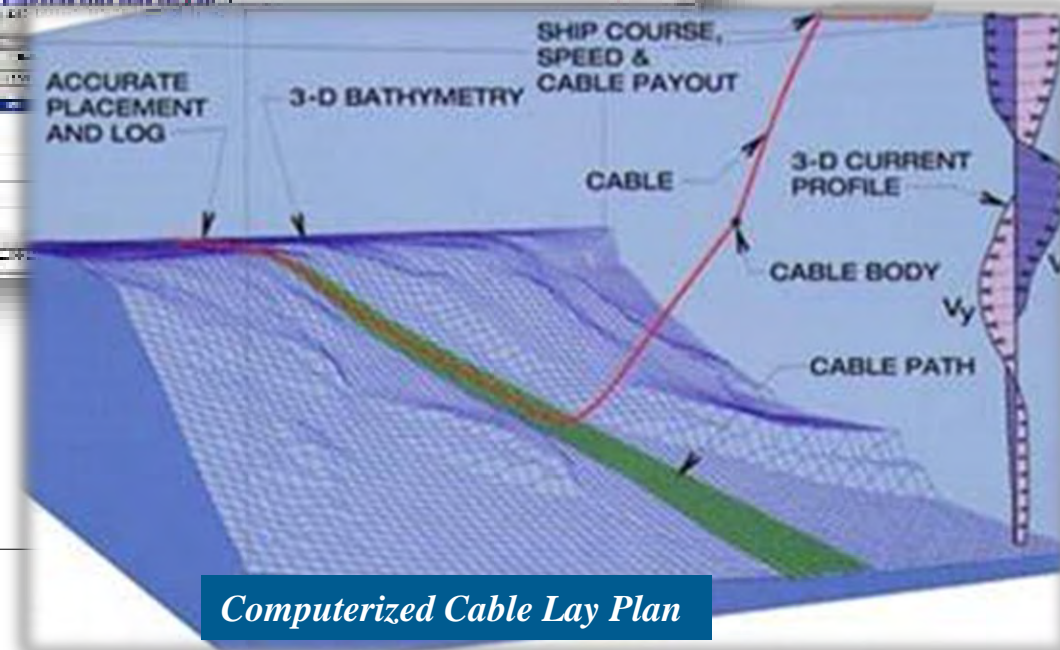
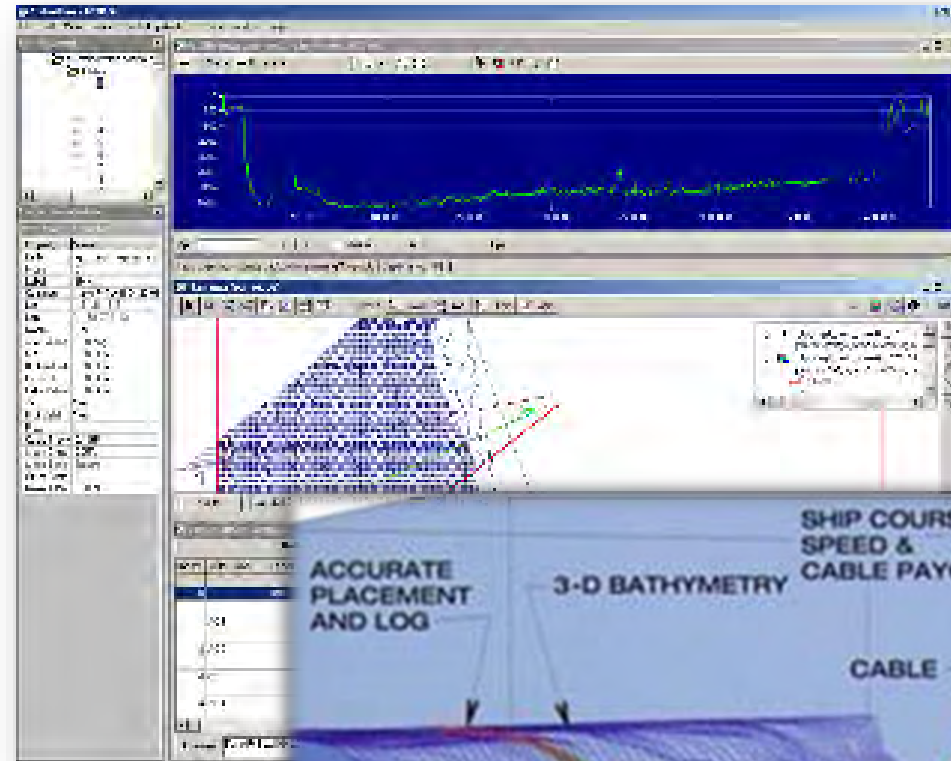
*GIS environment to display bathymetry, geophysical information, nautical charts, global maritime boundaries, oil and gas lease blocks.*

### Cable Route Engineering

*Slack, cable type transition, repeater and joint body locations. Any changes to the route are calculated automatically and results are updated*

*Software modeling of the cable as it is deployed allows validation of the plan before heading to sea.*

## *Electronic - Bottom Profile, Bathy and RPL*



# Installation Activities - Terrestrial

## Shore End & Terrestrial

- Shallow water installation
- Cable landing operations
- Land cable installation
- Ocean ground bed installation
- Station cable terminations



## Terminal Installation

- Station layout
- PFE installation
- SLTE installation
- ODF installation
- Fiber Guide installation
- Power and data cabling



# Installation Activities – Marine

---

## Route Clearance

- Clears out-of-service cables / discarded fishing nets
- Reduces risk to burial equipment
- Accommodates future maintenance

## Main Lay & Burial

- Cable loading
- Cable installation
- Slack to cover seabed contours
- Burial to mitigate fishing & anchors
- Splicing and Testing

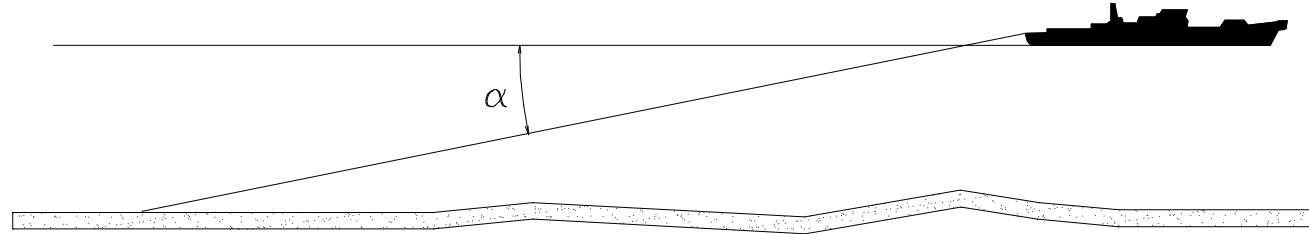
## Post Lay Inspection & Burial

- Supplements the sea plow burial
- Verifies the installation



# Surface Laying – Critical Angle

Critical Angle “alpha” is the entry angle that the cable makes with the surface of the water.



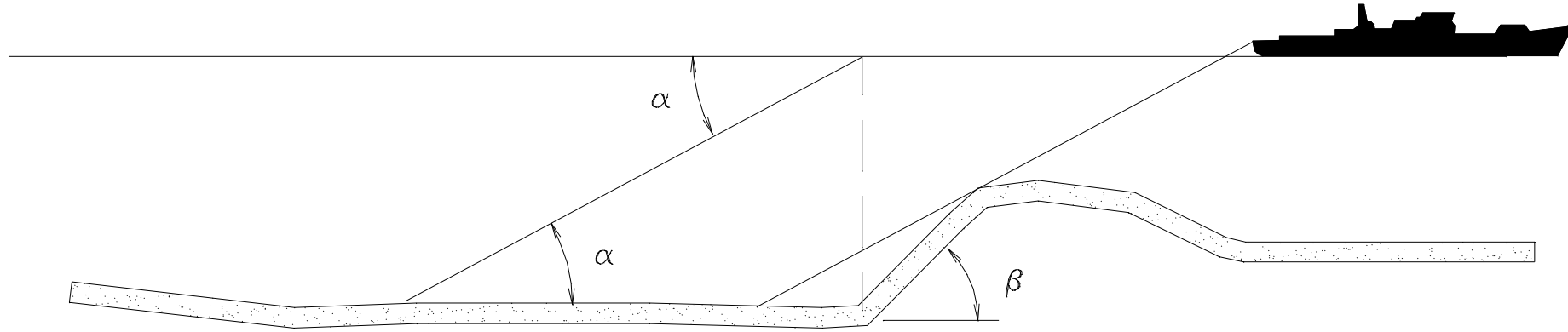
Alpha is a function of the cable's hydrodynamic constant and the vessel's speed:

$$\alpha = \arccos \left( \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{H\pi}{V_s 180} \right)^4} - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{H\pi}{V_s 180} \right)^2} \right)$$

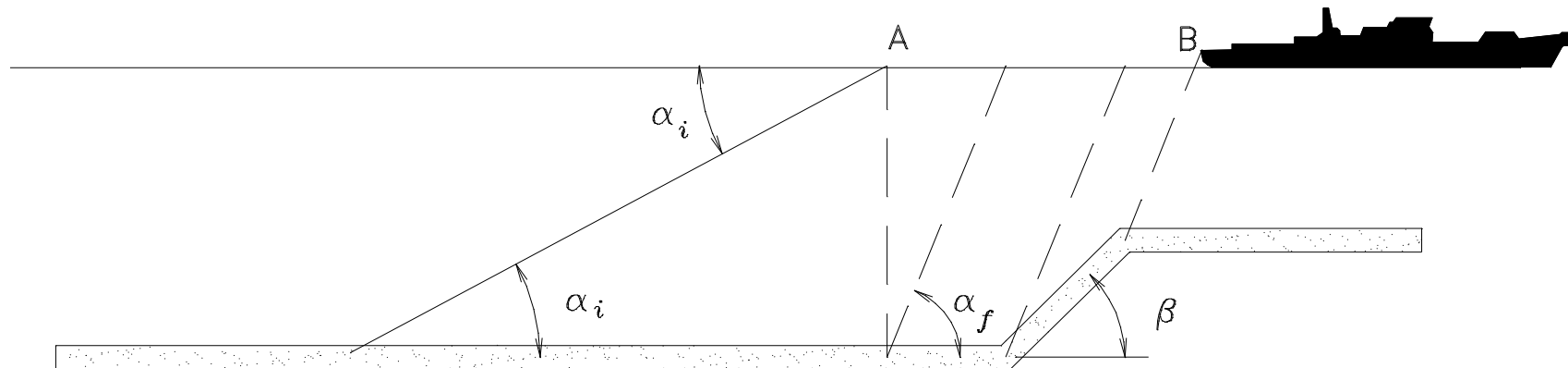
For critical angles less than 30°, alpha can be closely approximated:

$$\alpha = \frac{H}{V_s}$$

# Surface Laying – Slack Management

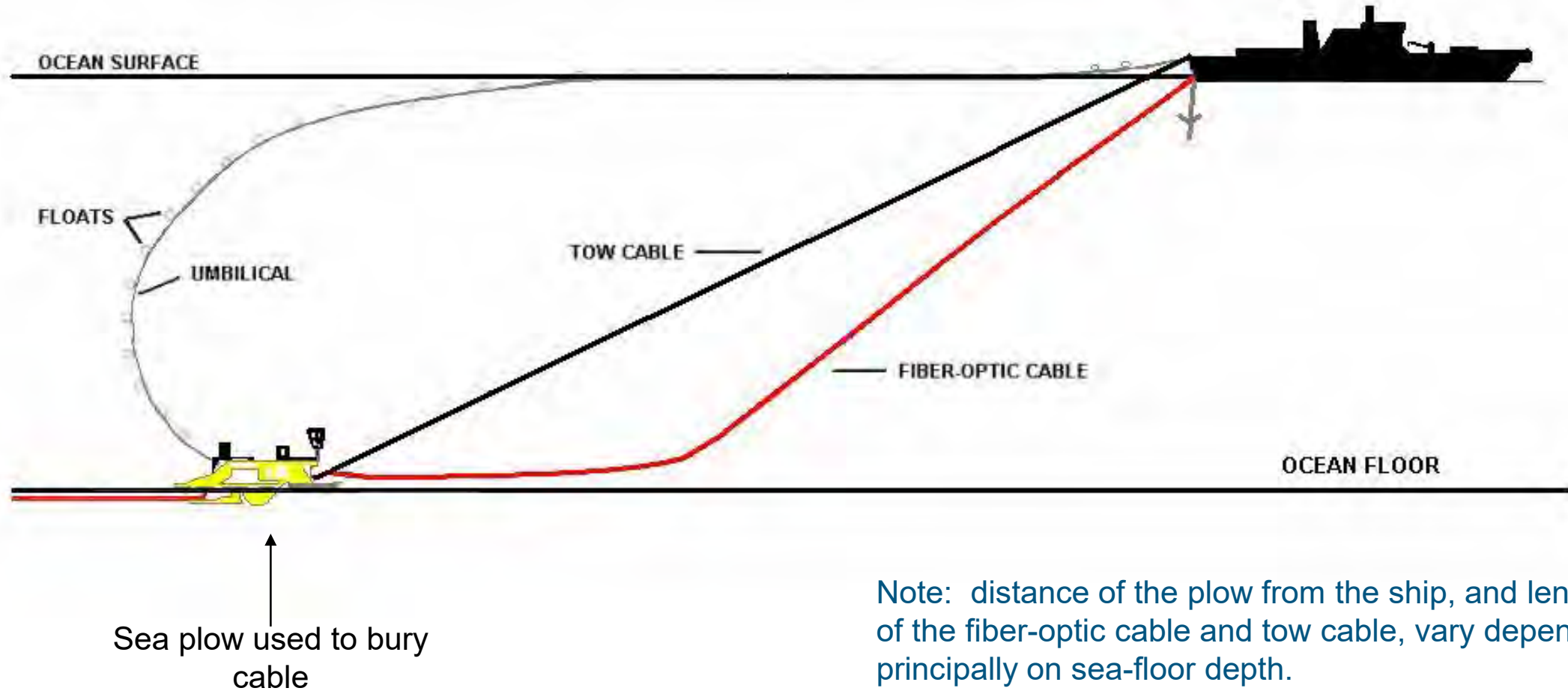


Matching Alfa to the angle of the seabed ensures that the cable properly follows the seabed contours.





# Cable Burial - Plows



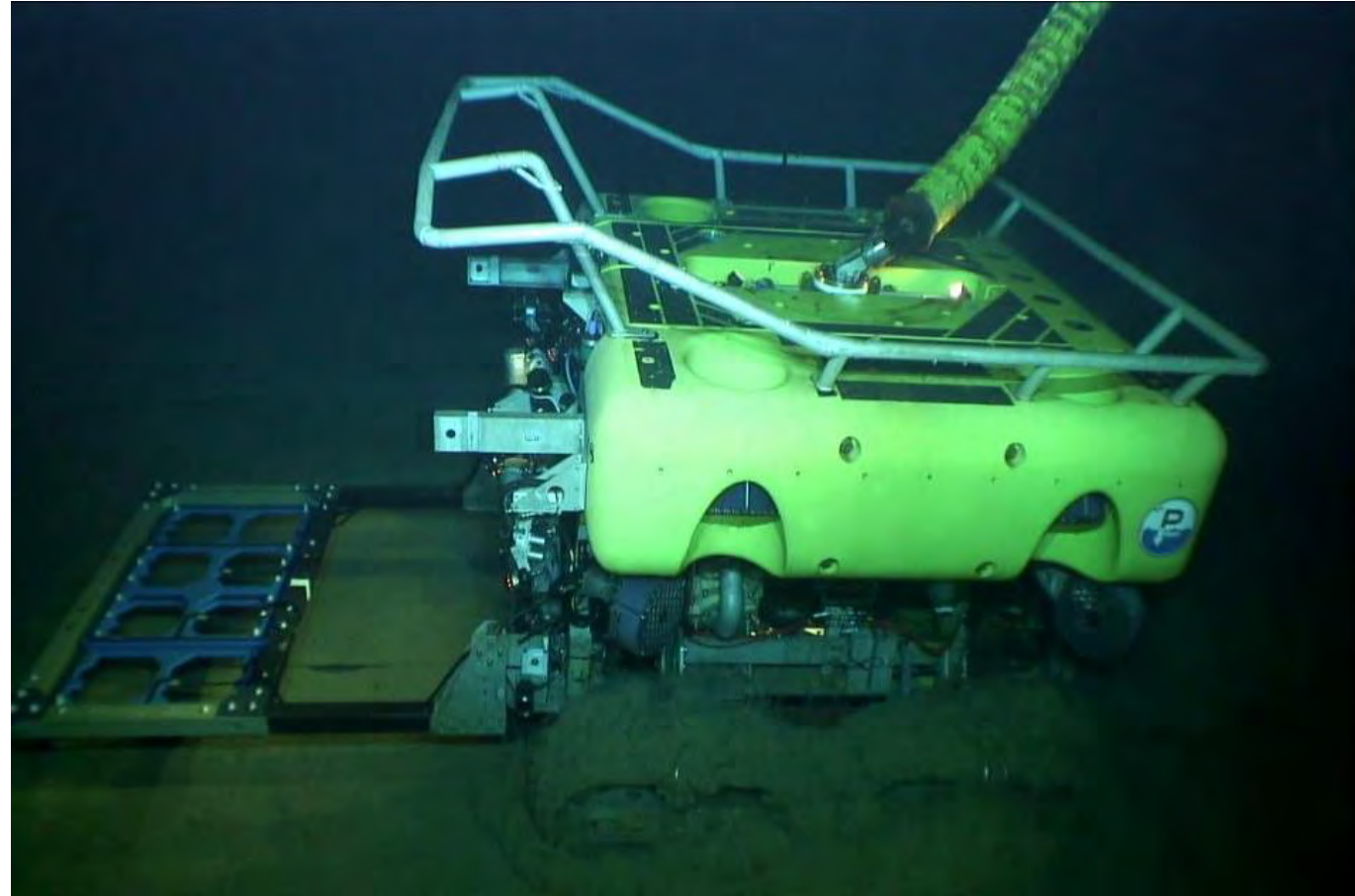
# Burial Tools - Plows

- Modern **Subsea Telecom Cable Plow** - simultaneous cable lay & burial
- **3m burial** capability
- Tow force of **80 tons** or greater



# ROV Survey & Burial

- The ROV can be operated on tracks or in free-fly mode.
- Post main-lay the ROV deploys to the seabed.
- The cable is located using cameras, sonar or specialized cable detection equipment.
- The cable is inspected and/ or buried using water jets on deployable jetting swords.
- Burial takes place to target depth or a maximum of 3 jetting passes.
- When jetting is complete, a final inspection pass is conducted to record burial results.
- The ROV can also be used to cut, recover and bury cables during cable repair operations.



# ROV Submarines

- Cable Burial ROV (Remotely Operated Vehicle)
- 2 or 3 meter burial capability
- Water jets bury cable

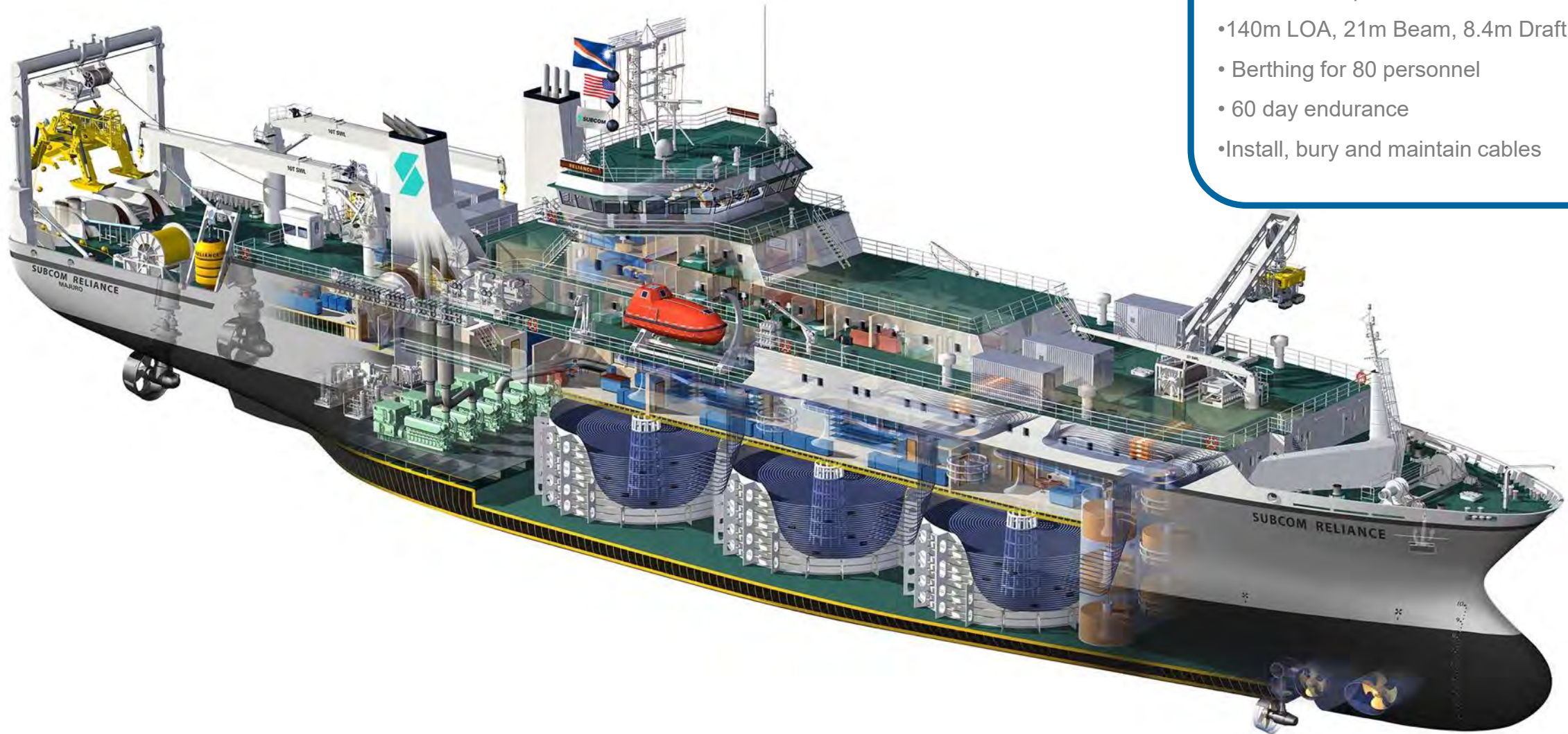


# Cable Ship Features

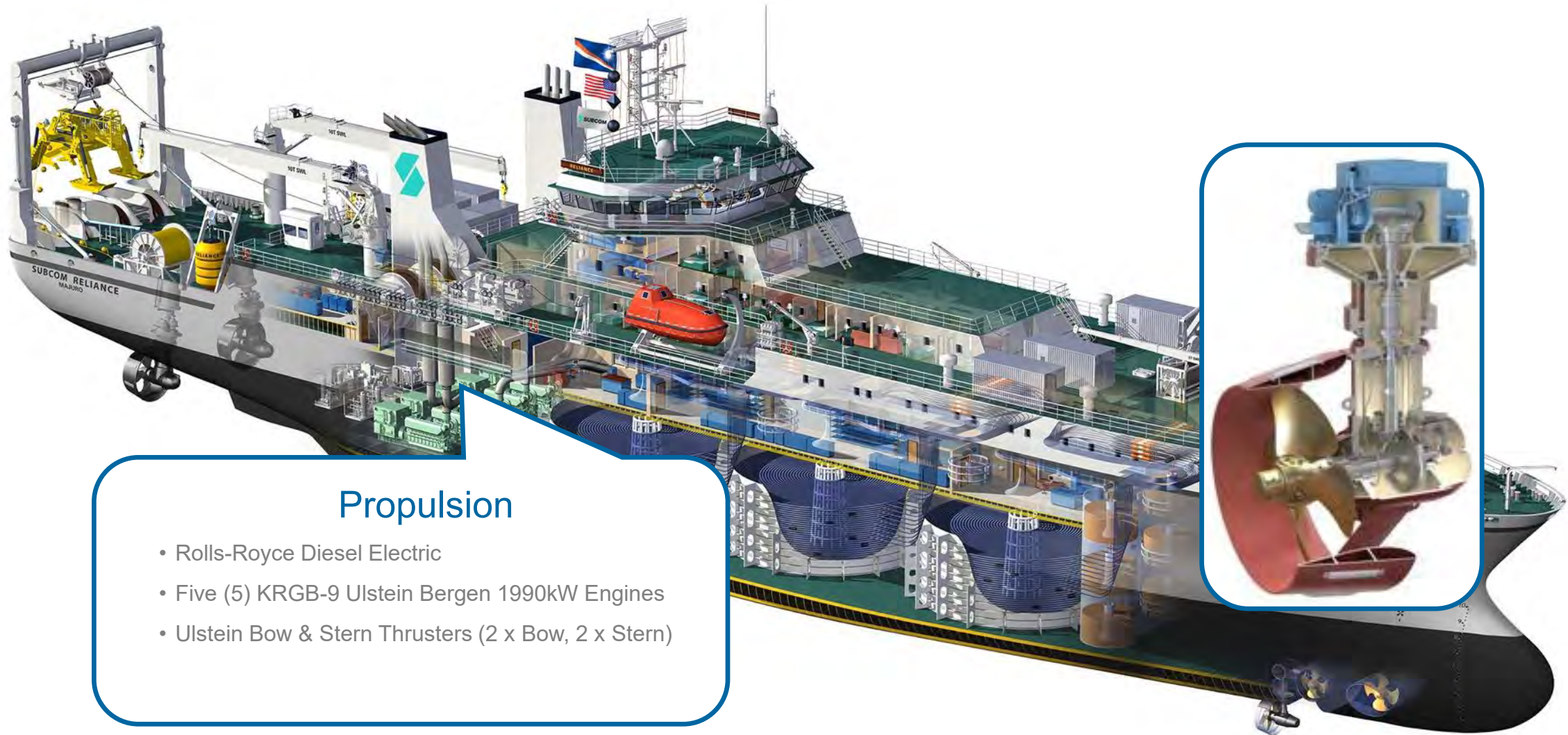
# Installation – Cable Ships

## Modern Cable Ship

- Multi-function cable lay vessel
- World wide operations
- 140m LOA, 21m Beam, 8.4m Draft
- Berthing for 80 personnel
- 60 day endurance
- Install, bury and maintain cables



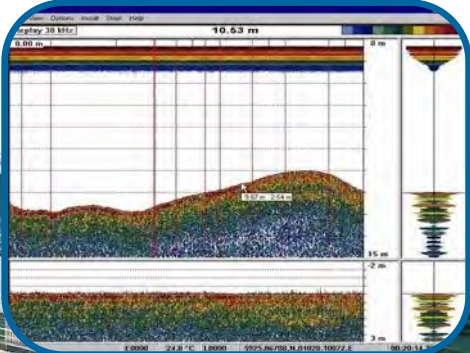
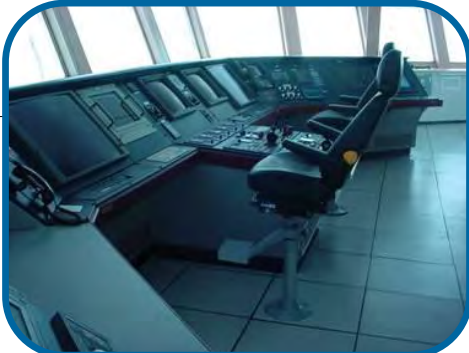
# Main Lay Capabilities



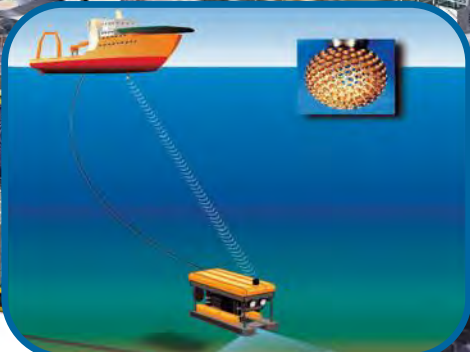
## Propulsion

- Rolls-Royce Diesel Electric
- Five (5) KRGB-9 Ulstein Bergen 1990kW Engines
- Ulstein Bow & Stern Thrusters (2 x Bow, 2 x Stern)

# Main Lay Capabilities



- ### Navigation & Positioning
- Kongsberg SDP22 DP2
  - Bandak MK12 Taut-wire for shallow operations
  - Fanbeam & Radius for ranging to platform
  - Kongsberg HIPAP 500
  - EA500 Echosounder
  - Trimble Redundant DGPS



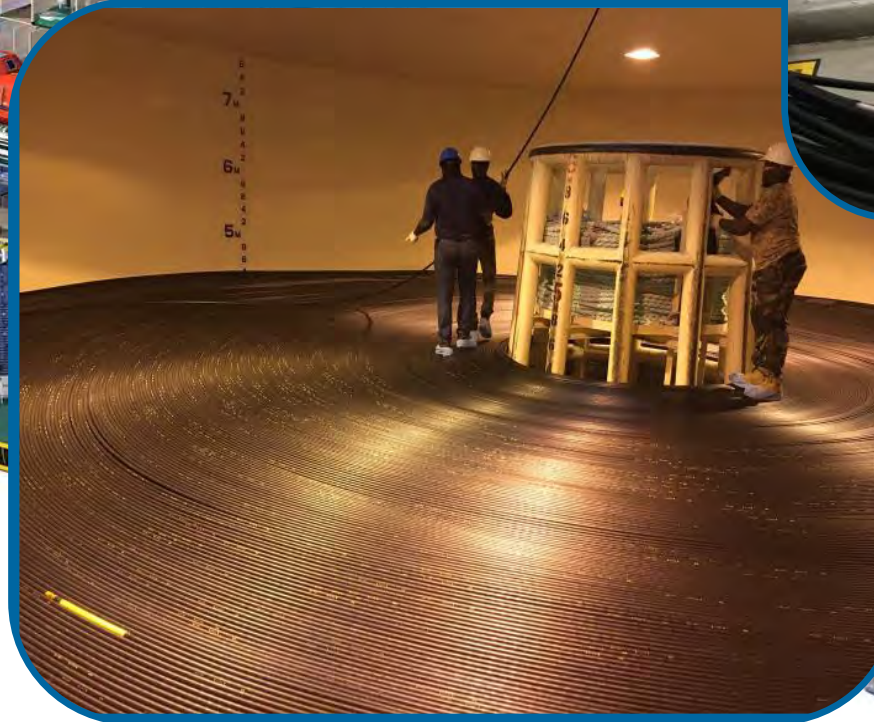


# Main Lay Capabilities

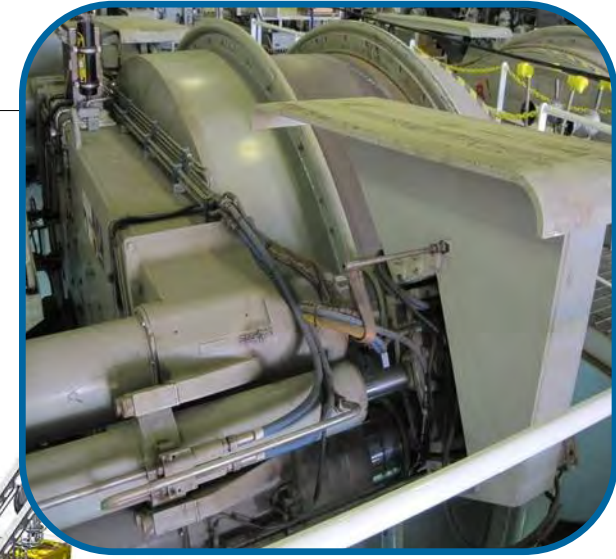
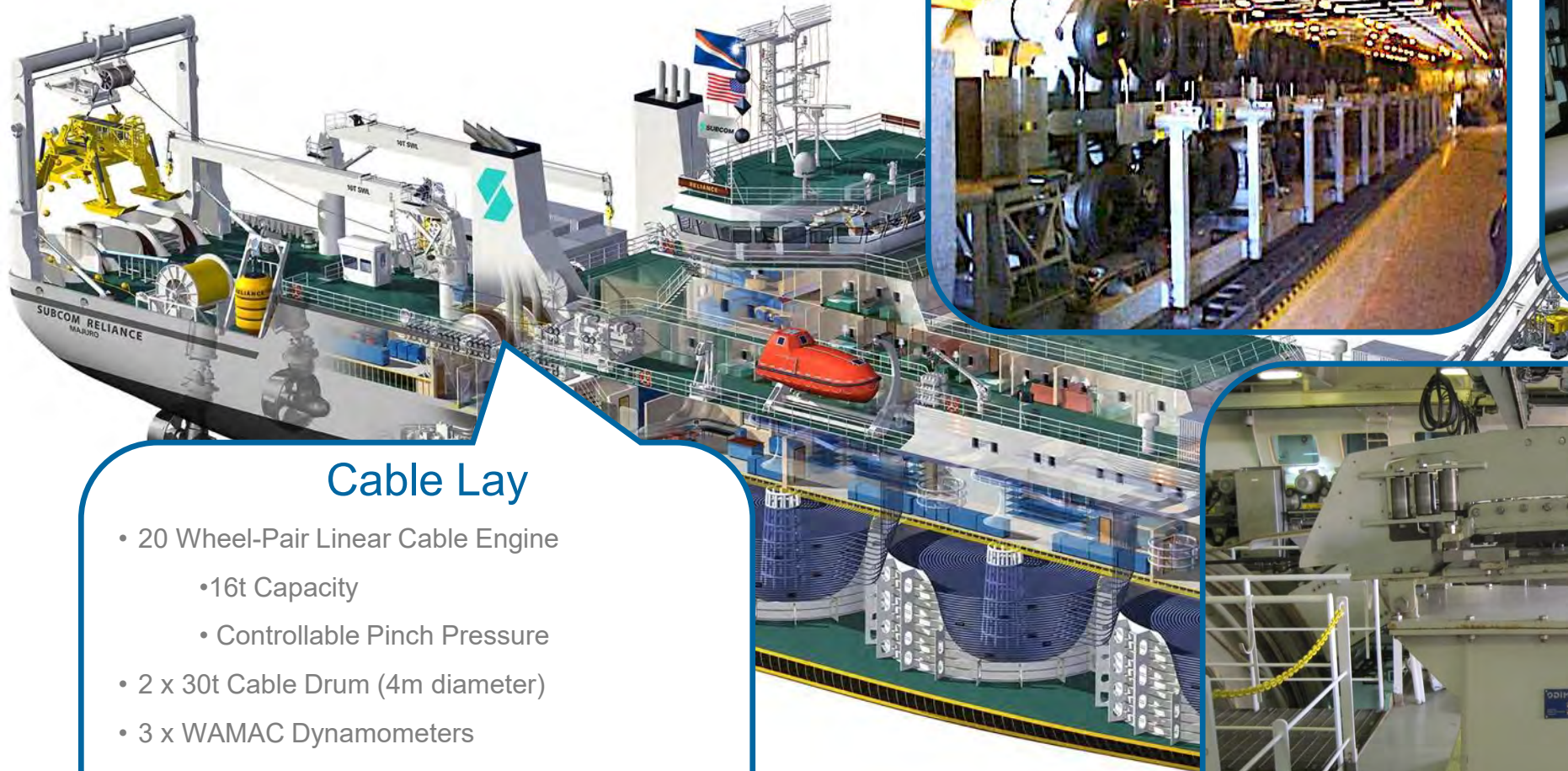


## Cable Stowage

- Three (3) Main Lay Tanks
- 5500mt Capacity
- May be outfitted with:
  - loading arms
  - turntable



# Main Lay Capabilities

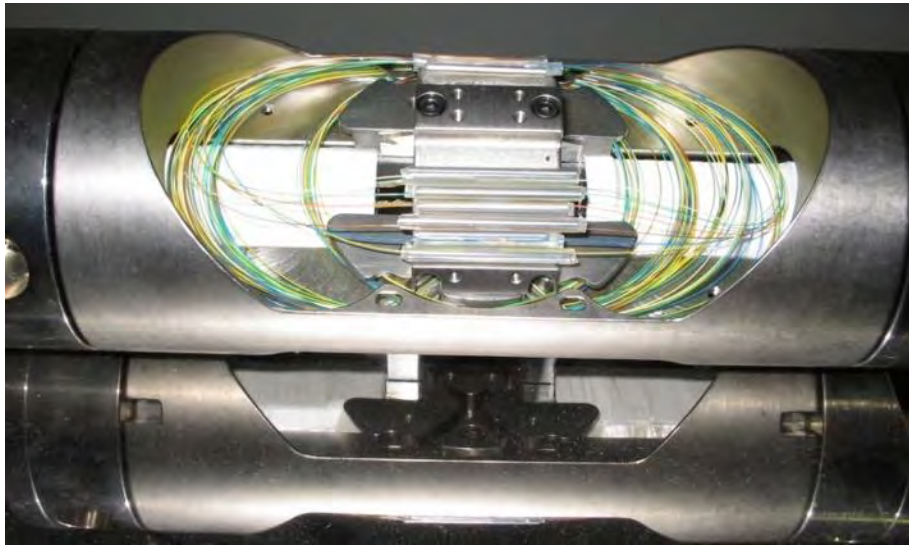
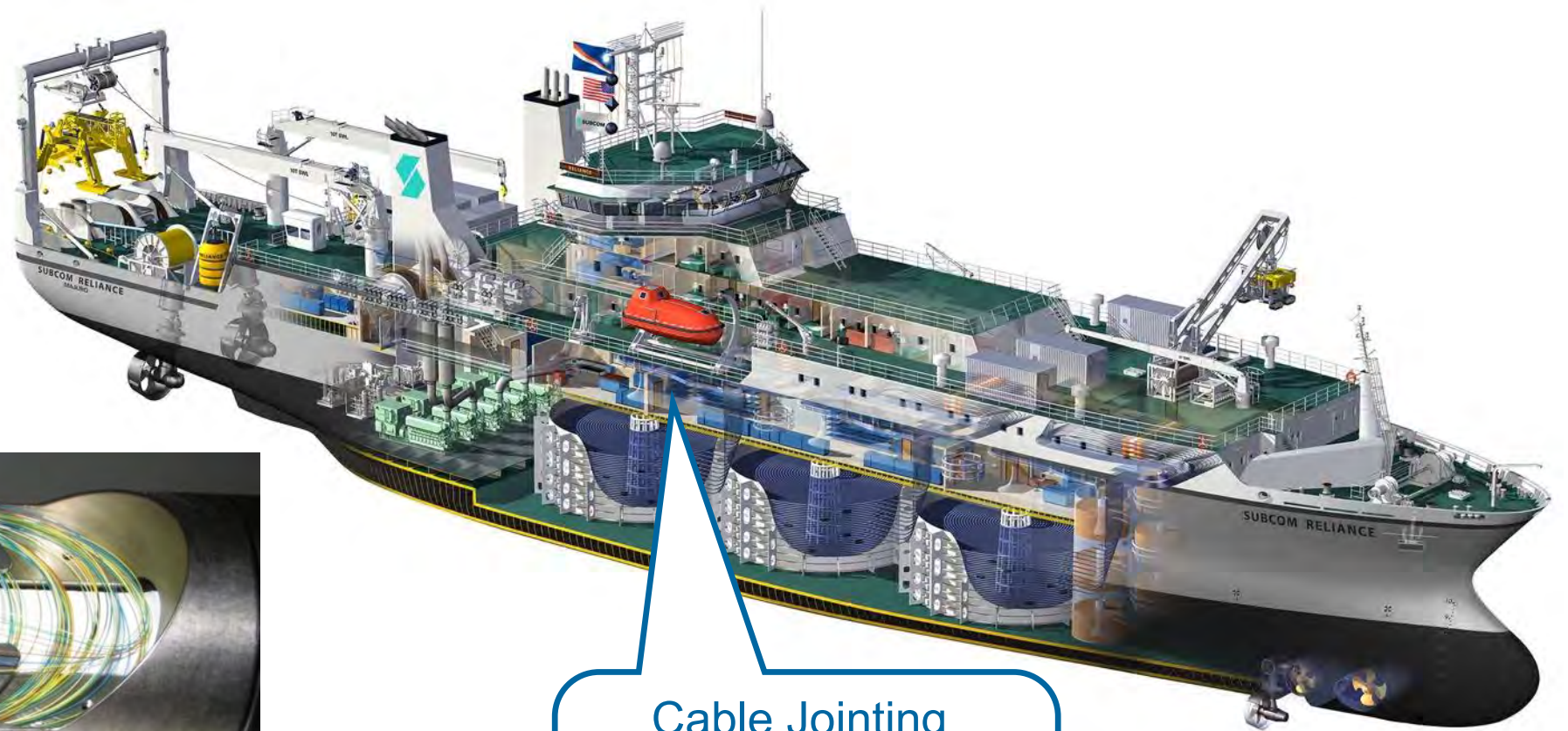


## Cable Lay

- 20 Wheel-Pair Linear Cable Engine
  - 16t Capacity
  - Controllable Pinch Pressure
- 2 x 30t Cable Drum (4m diameter)
- 3 x WAMAC Dynamometers
- 3.5m dia stern sheaves
- Can be equipped with various quadrants and tensioners



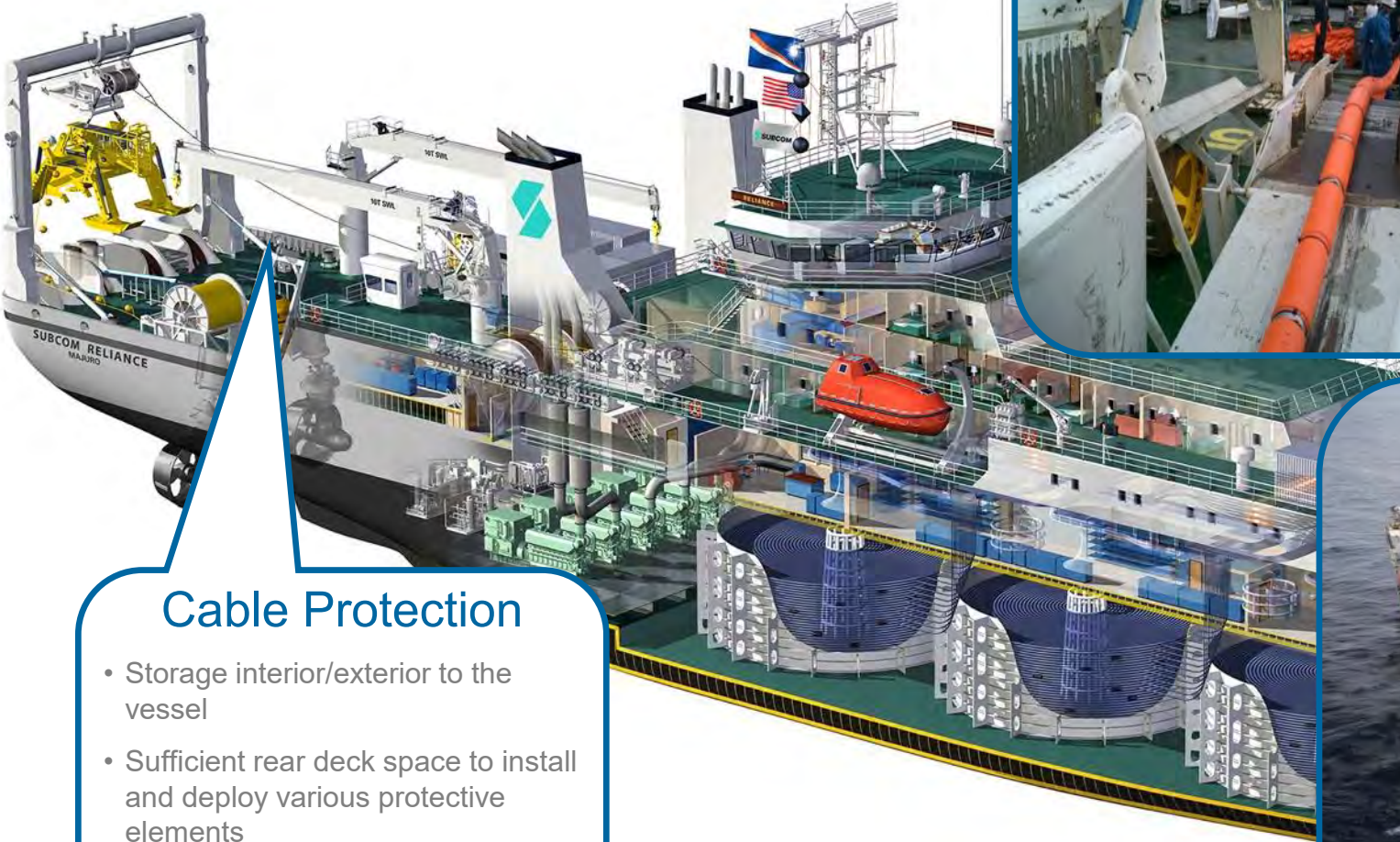
# Main Lay Capabilities



## Cable Jointing

- Interior jointing and testing area
- Specialized jointing equipment can be mobilized on cable highway or on stern

# Main Lay Capabilities

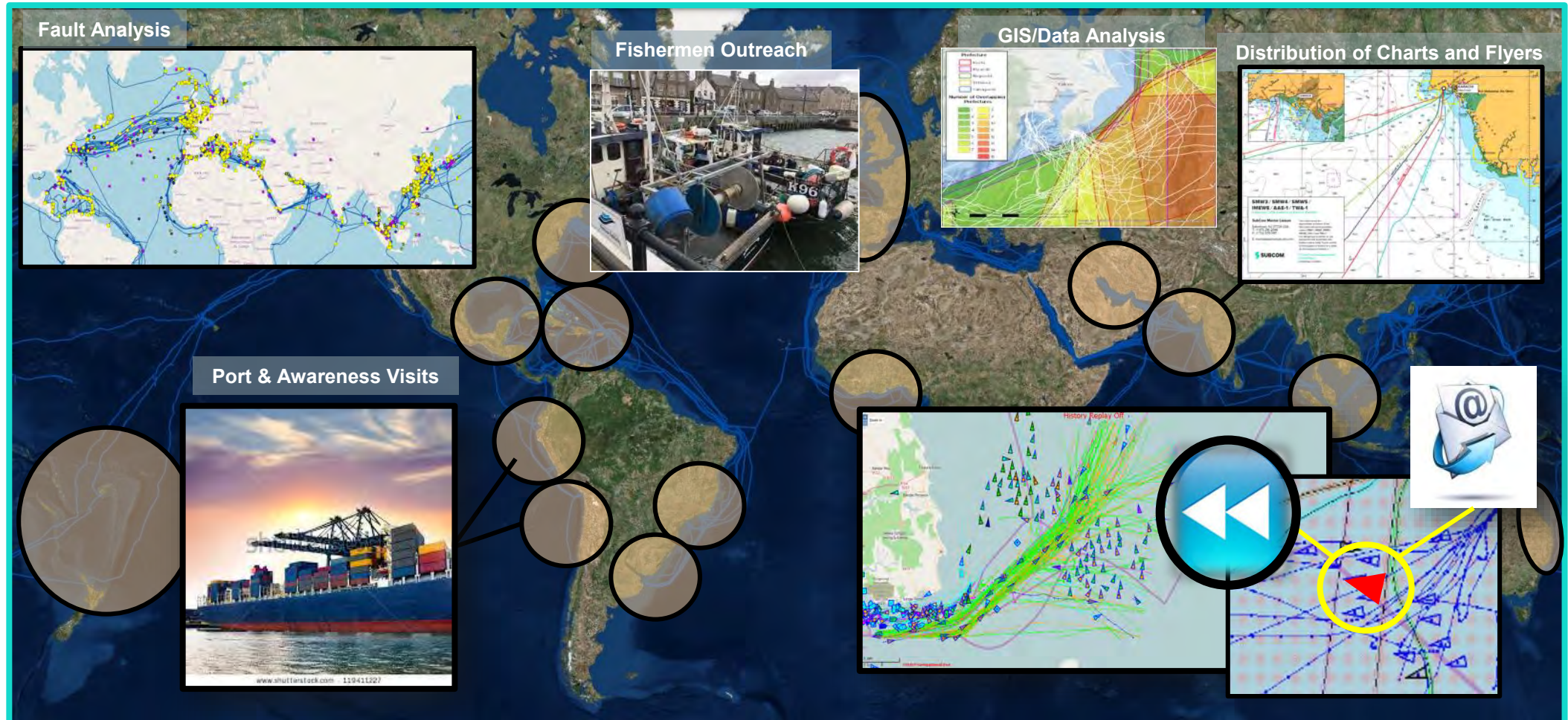


- ### Cable Protection
- Storage interior/exterior to the vessel
  - Sufficient rear deck space to install and deploy various protective elements
  - Uraduct, bend stiffeners, concrete mattresses



# Post Installation - Cable Awareness & Support

To capture fishing risks, different tools are utilized to spatially and temporally identify fishing profiles to inform system design and ensure maximized cable awareness outreach strategies



# Curie Project Highlights

# Curie Cable System – Concept

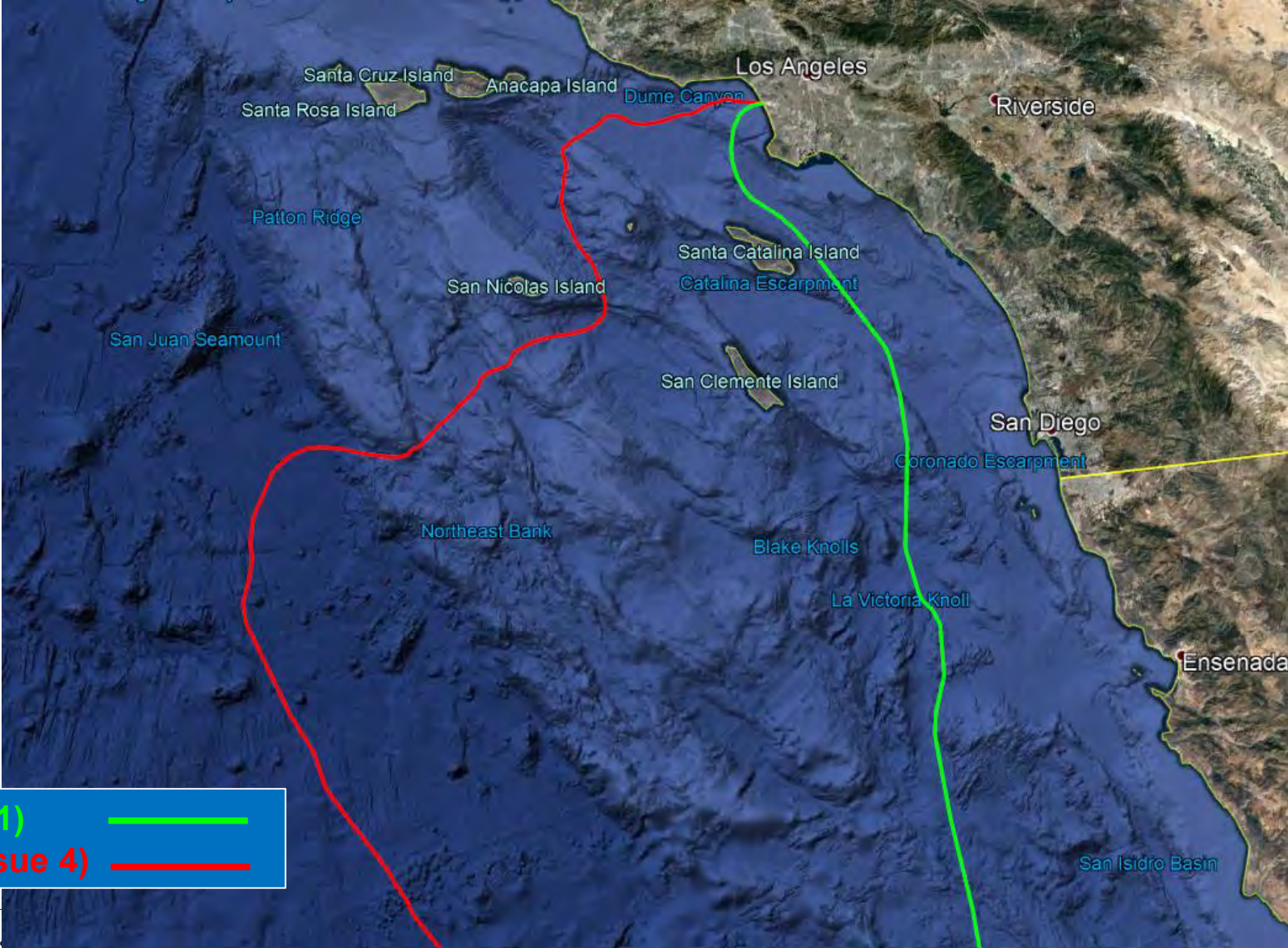


# Curie Cable System – Initial vs Final Routing



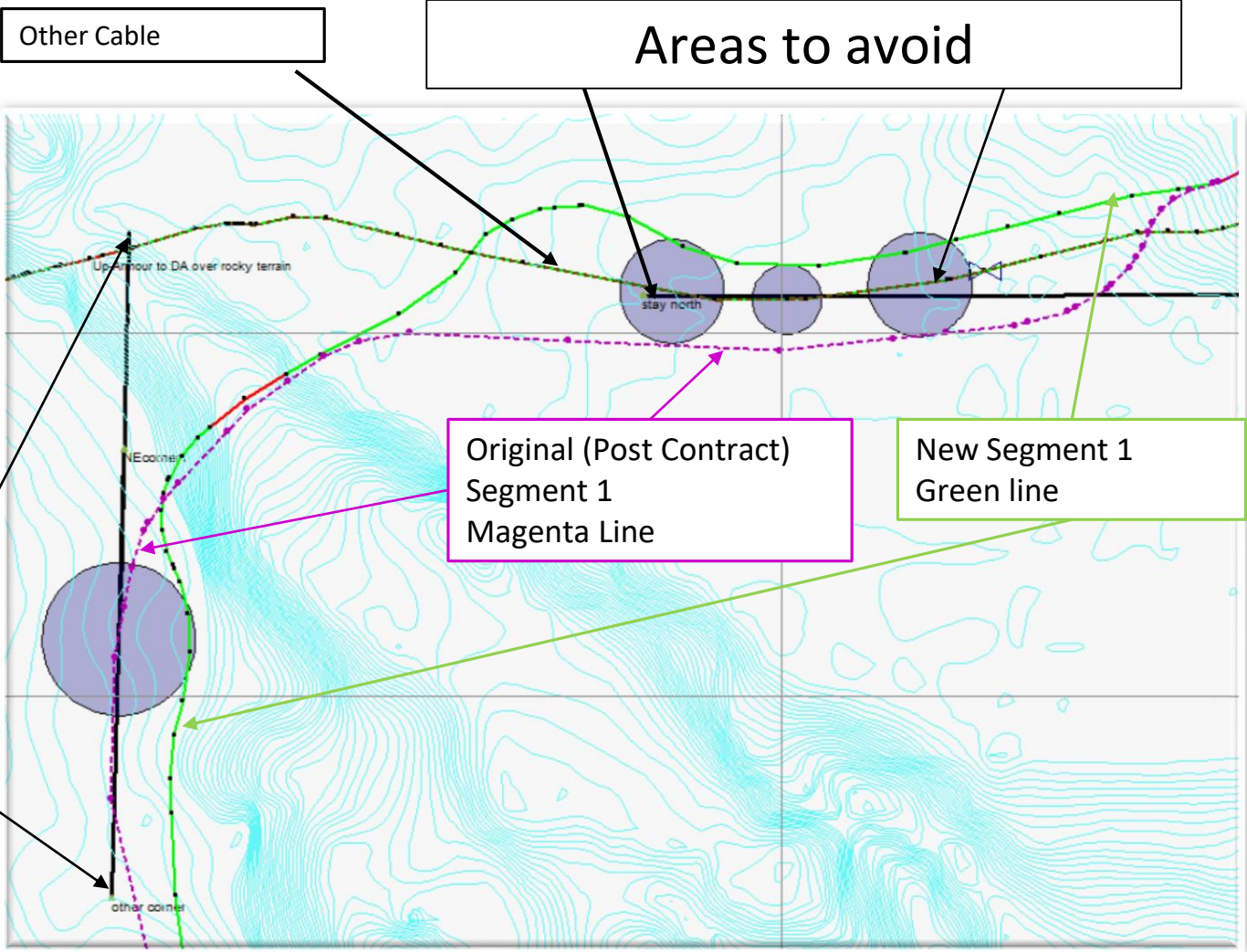


# Curie Cable System: Segment 1 DTS Changes



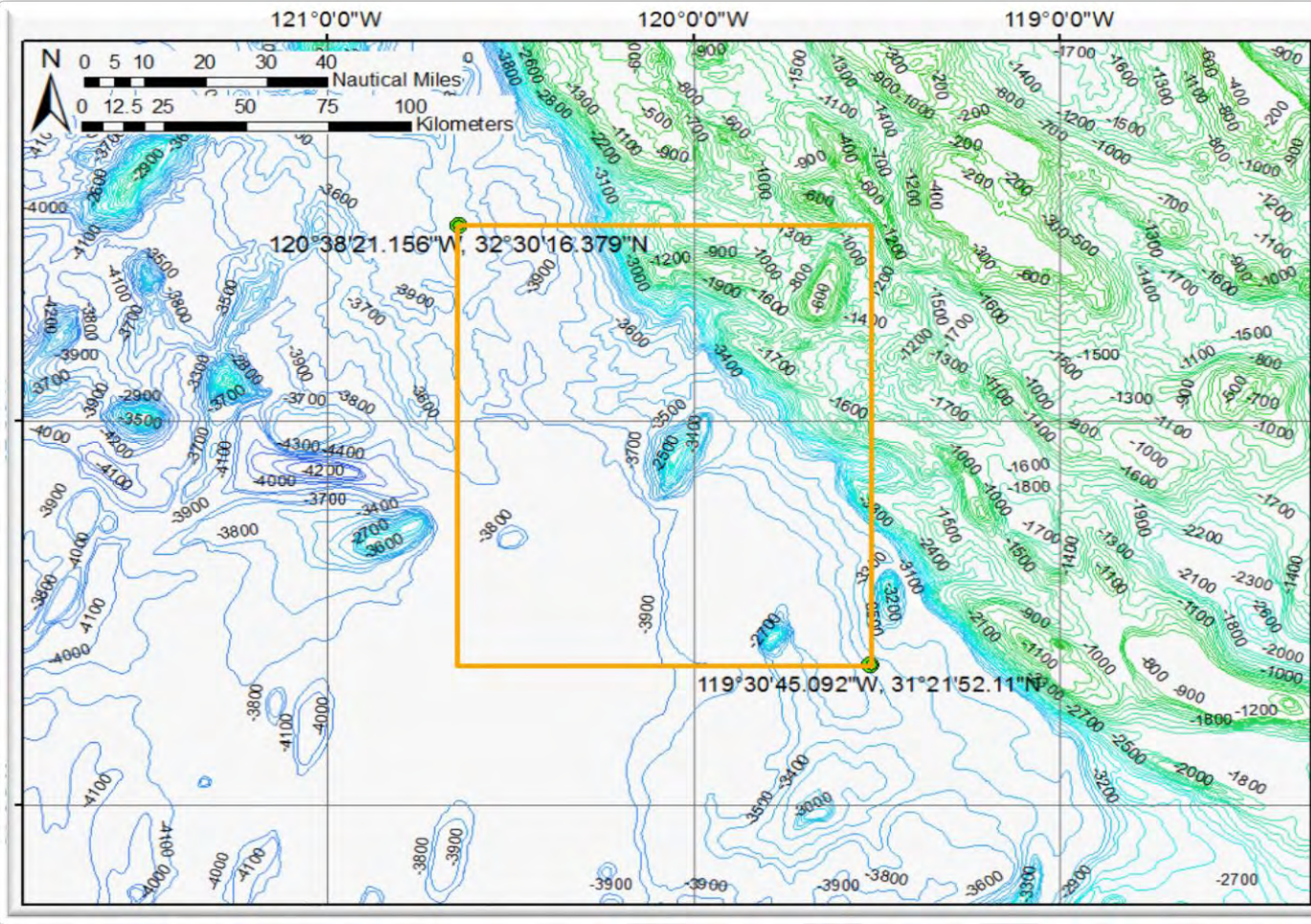
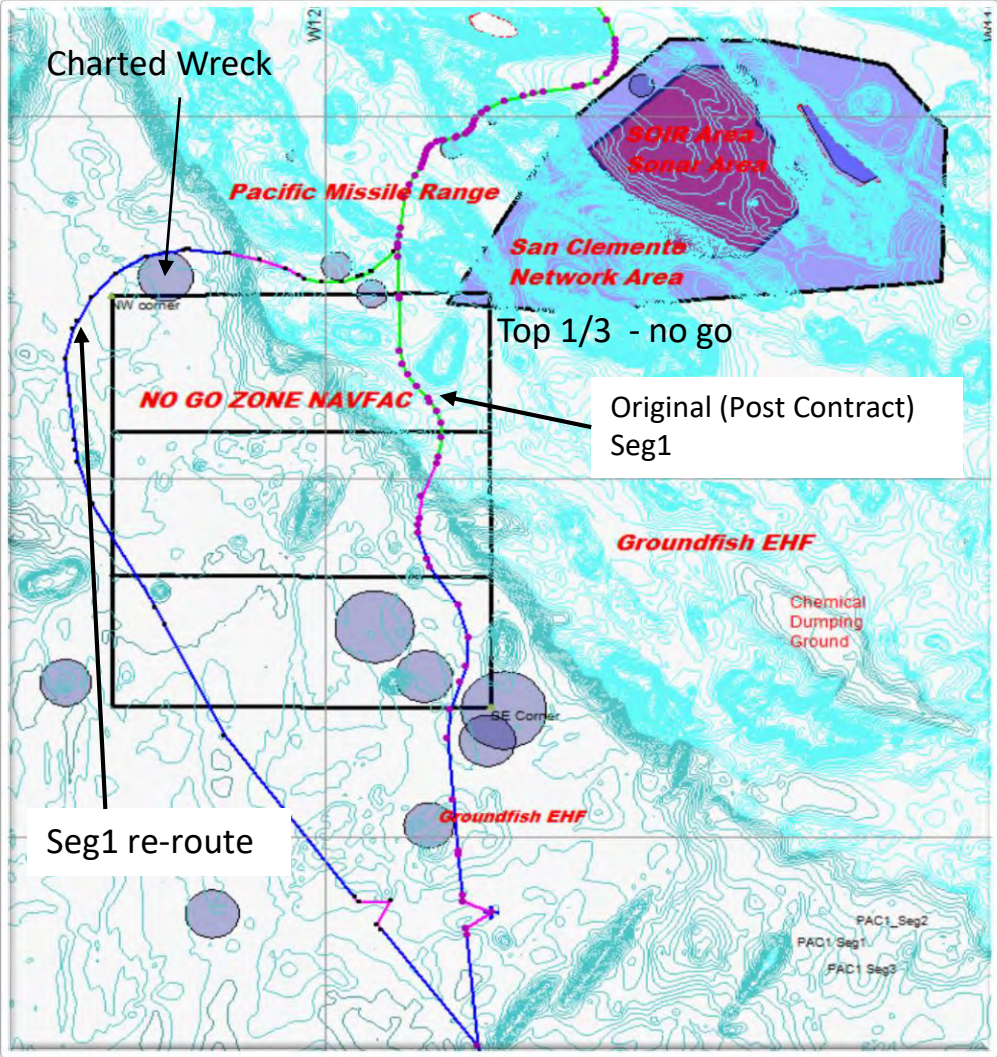
# Curie Cable System: Segment 1 DTS Changes

Based on advice from the Navy to avoid an underwater range



Route East of this Line

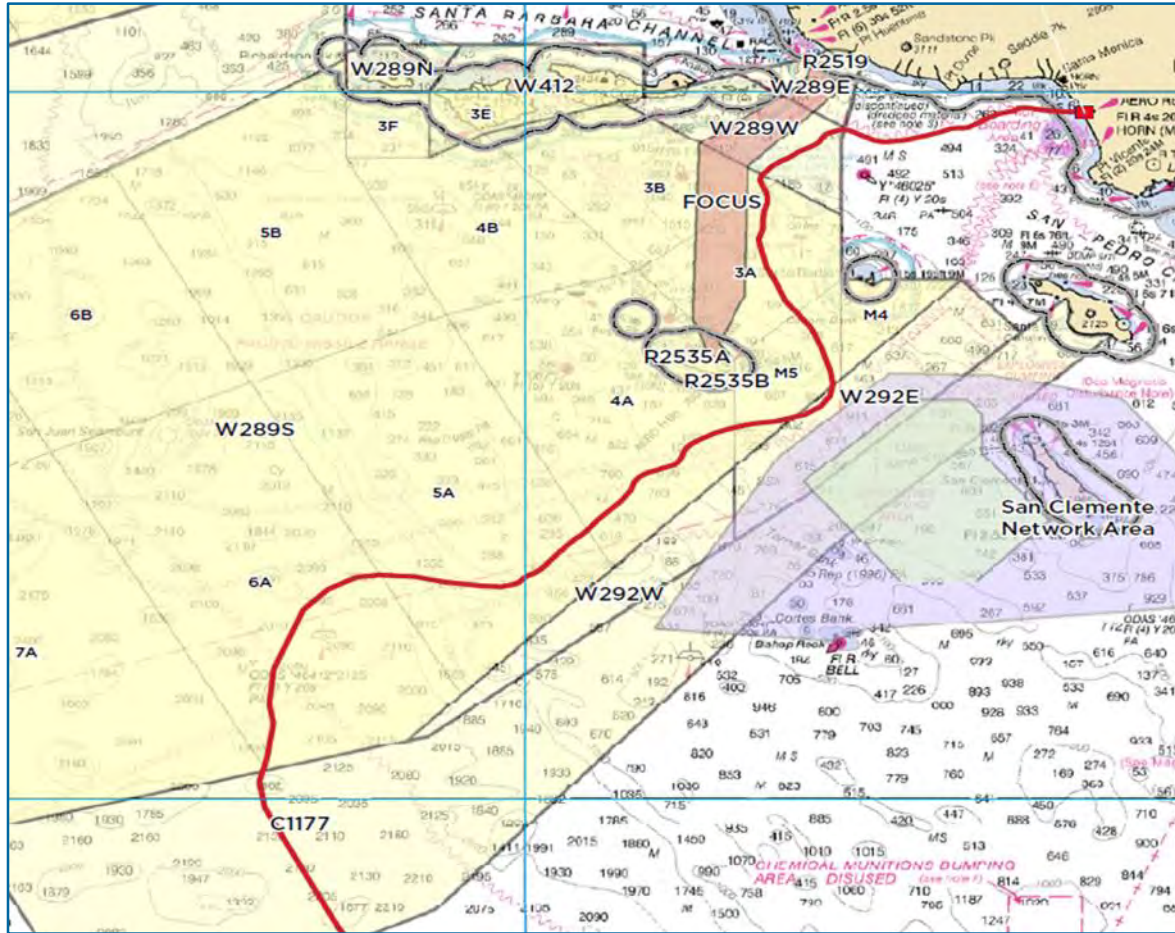
# Curie Cable System: Segment 1 DTS Changes



# Curie Cable System: Segment 1 Mexico Bio Reserve Changes



# CURIE – ROV Survey (Touch Down Monitoring)



## Dummy Ordinance & Gear on route

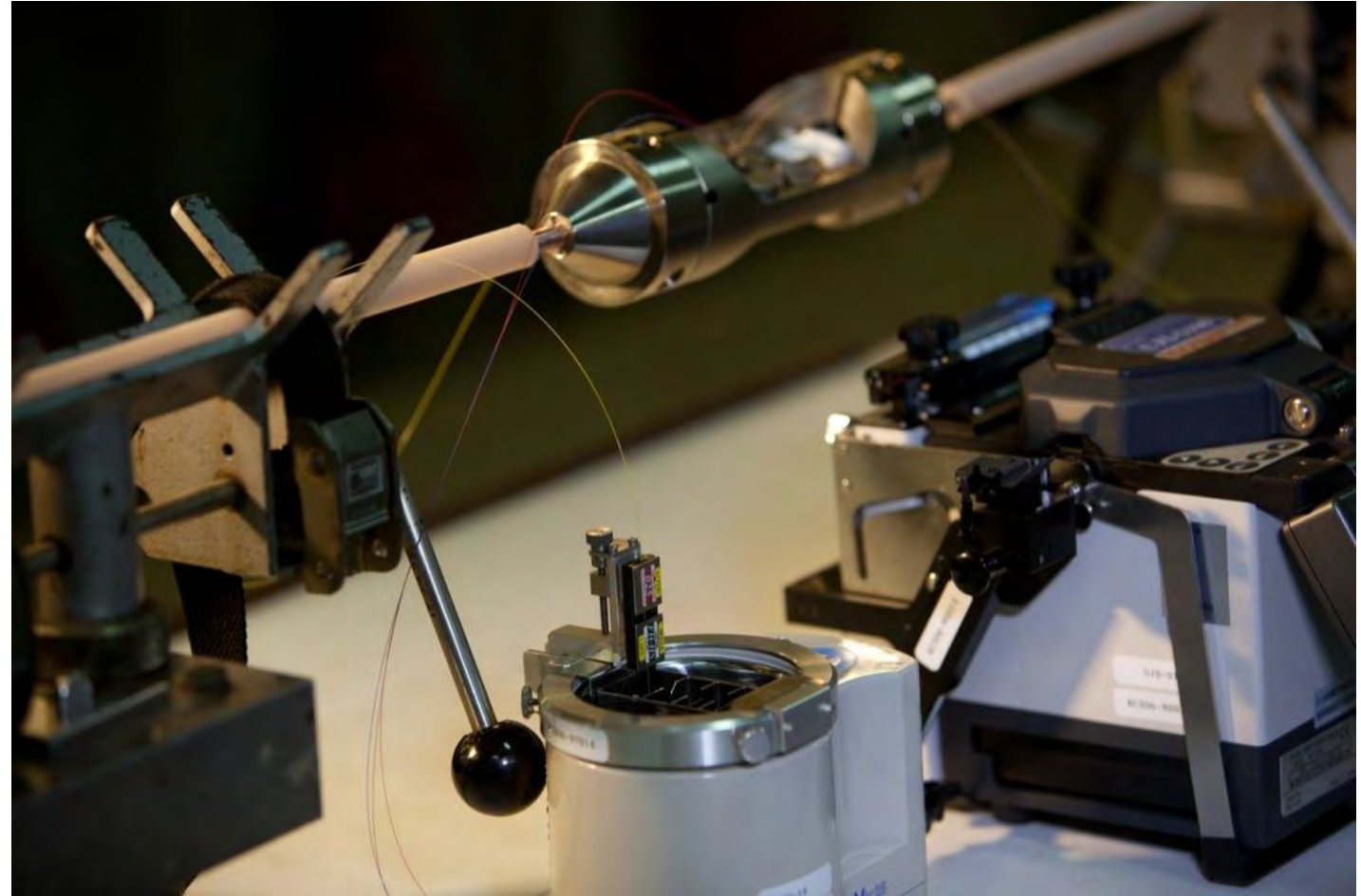


Cable was recovered and re-laid away from obstructions.

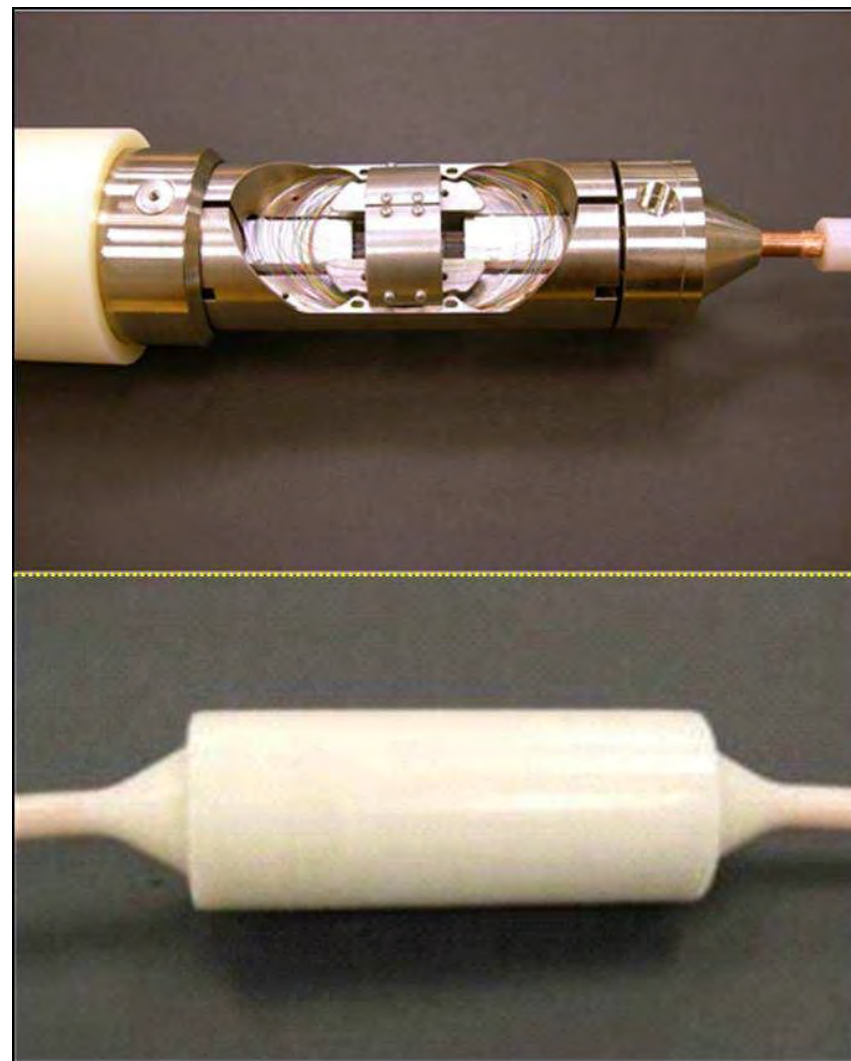
# CURIE – Jointing & Testing

20 at sea joints performed including:

- 1 final splice
- 1 Ship to Ship splice
- 3 branching unit installation
- 5 Tank to Tank
- 7 cuts / joints for Gain Tilt measurement testing
- 3 for weather and other operational events



# CURIE – Jointing & Testing



# CURIE – Landing in Chile

Direct Landing - 350m to shore

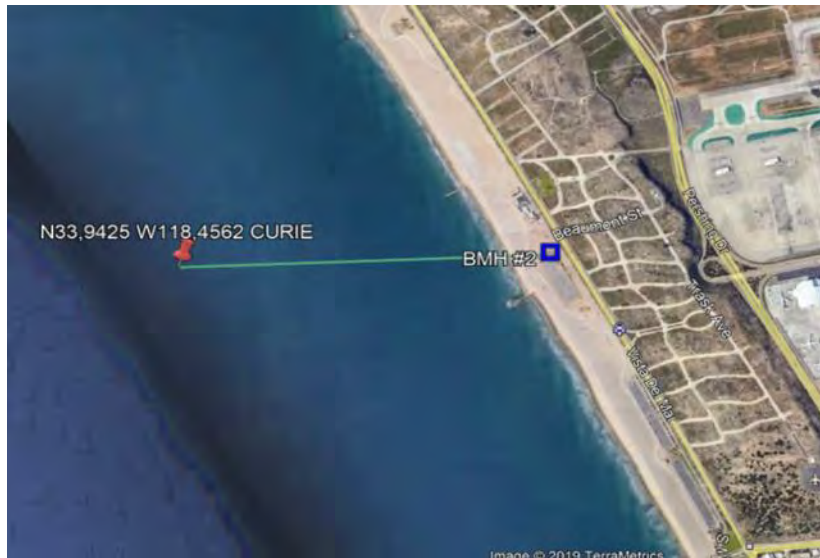




# CURIE – Horizontal Directional Drill (California)

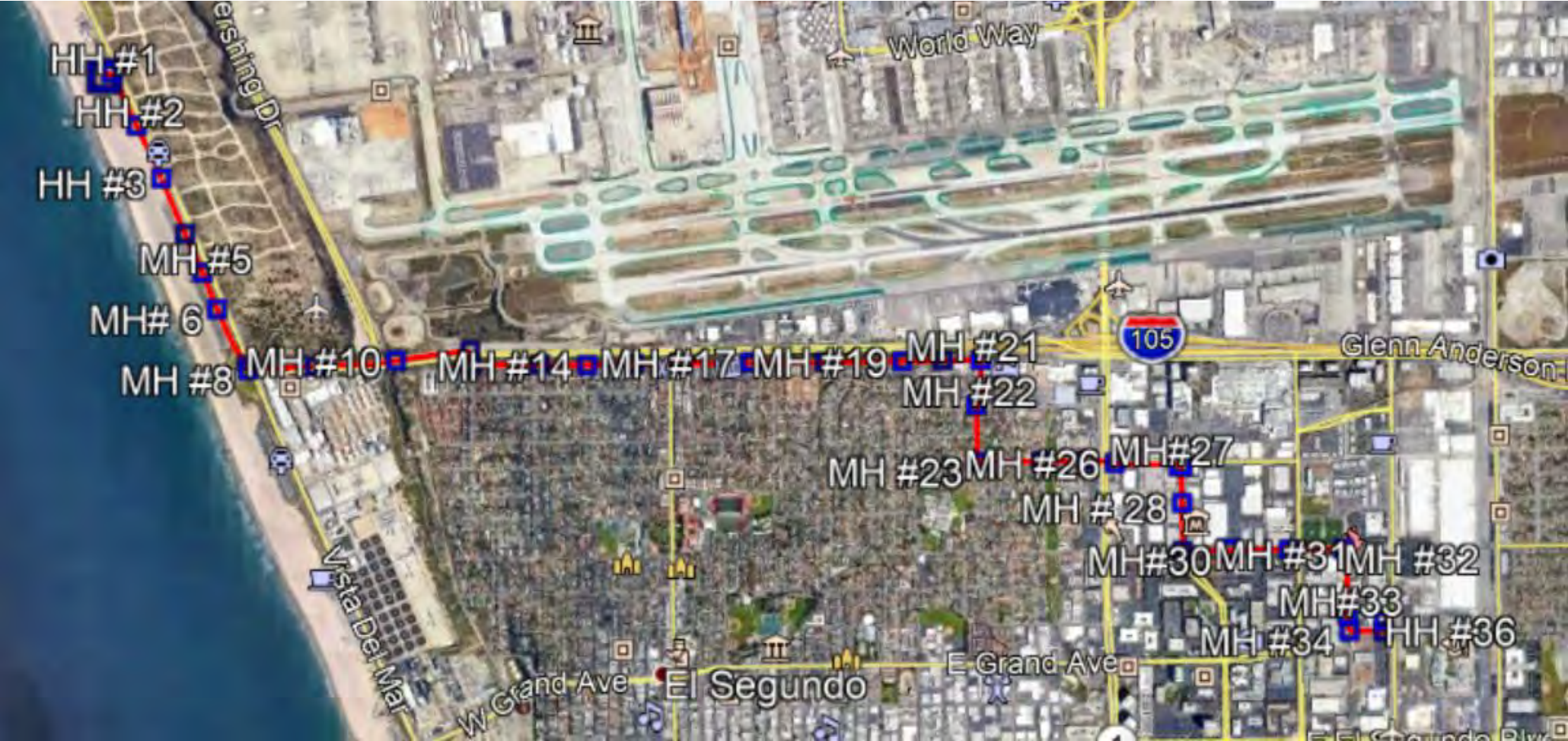
## Dockweiler Park, Los Angeles, California

- 1,300m bored conduit
- County Harbor and Parks Scheduled events required all work to stop
- Hard and rocky conditions
- Weather delays
- High surf conditions
- Reduced work site



# CURIE – Conduit Construction in Los Angeles

- Approx. 25,000ft of conduit installation with Manholes and Handholes



# CURIE – Outside Plant (OSP)

## City of Los Angeles Conduit Construction

### Open Trench Construction



### Directional Drilling



### Terrestrial Cable Installation



Questions?

Thank You!

Visit us to learn more at

# Networks Topologies and Supervisory

Yoshihisa INADA  
**NEC Corporation**



Mr. Yoshihisa Inada is Senior Manager at Submarine Network Division, NEC Corporation. He is currently the head of SLTE development group. Working in the submarine industry for the past 18 years, he has made significant contributions to the development of submarine cable transmission systems and relevant advanced products, from 10Gb/s to 100Gb/s and beyond.

He received his B.E. and M.E. degrees in Communication engineering from Osaka University in 1996 and 1998, respectively.

## Contact

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Title : Senior Manager, Submarine Network Division, NEC Corporation  
E-mail : y-inada@ak.jp.nec.com

# Contents

## I. Network Topology

- a. Overview
- b. Network Topology of Submarine System

## II. System Supervisory

- a. Overview
- b. Cable and Repeater Monitoring
- c. Fault Localization

## III. Future Trend

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# Network topology of sub-sea cable

Sub-sea cables play important roles as global infrastructure nowadays.

- 1995 => Sub-sea cable : Satellite = 50:50
- 2014 => Sub-sea cable : Satellite = 99:1

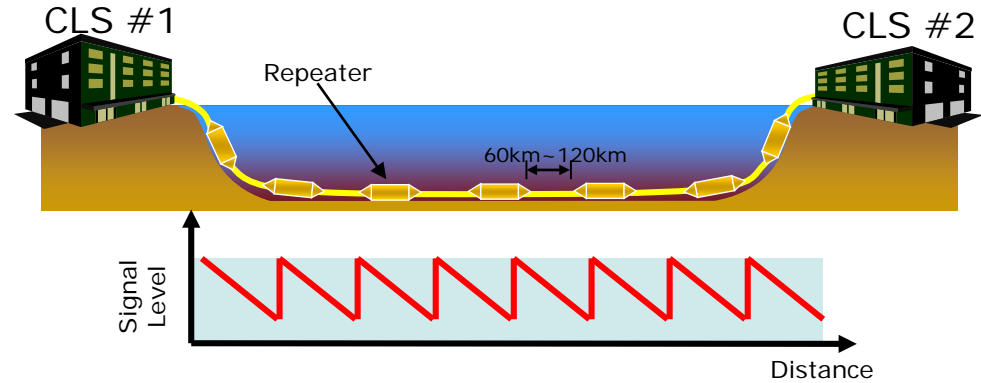
The network topology is to be optimized in following points.

- To maximize the system availability
  - Against the equipment failures (transponder failure, repeater failure..)
  - Against the cable failures (cable cut/damage..)
  - Against the optical path failure (fiber cut/damage..)
  - Against the powering path failure (powering line shunt..)
- To maximize the system flexibility
  - For the capacity (capacity expansion as demand)
  - For the connectivity (capacity connection change as demand)
- To justify the cost
  - Equipment cost (repeater, cable, transponder..)
  - Installation cost (vessel, landing..)
  - PJ management cost (Permission, Insurance..)

# System Classify

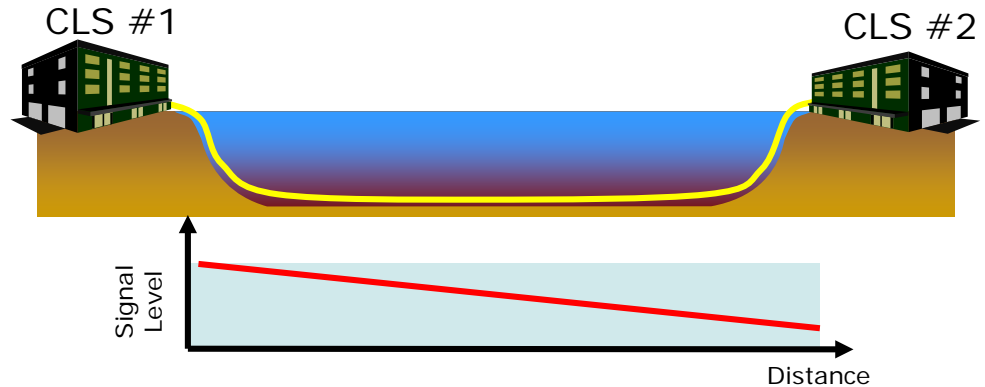
## Repeatered

- Amplified by chained repeaters
- ~ 15,000km
- Trans oceanic application



## Un-Repeatered

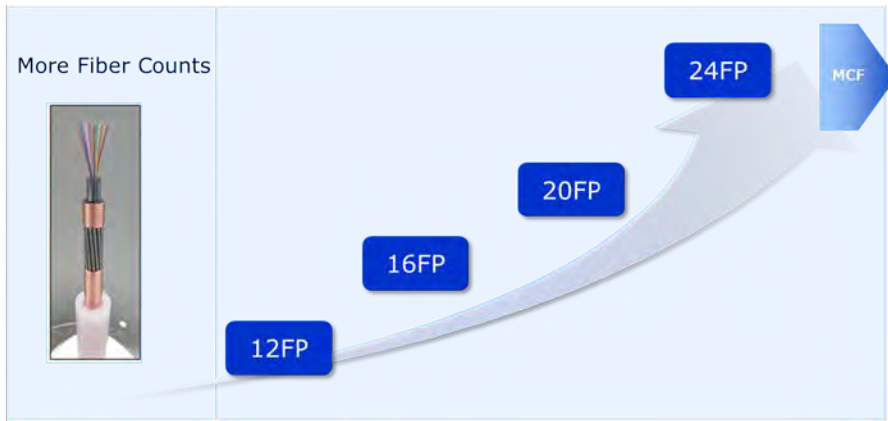
- Non amplified
- < 400km
- Regional application



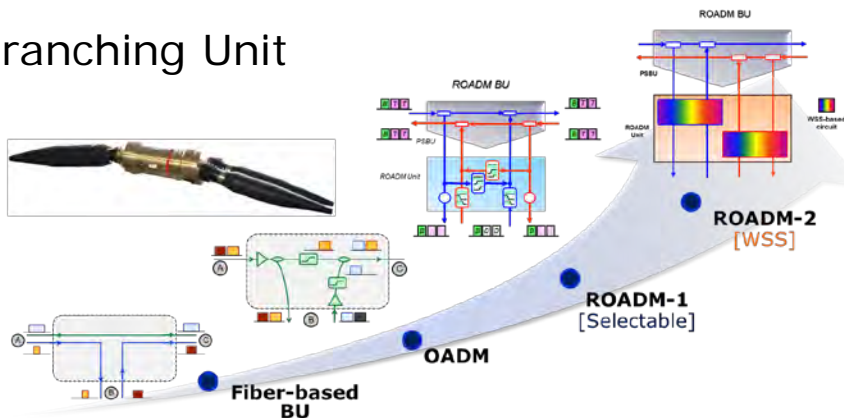
CLS : Cable Landing Station

# Overview of Current Submarine Technologies

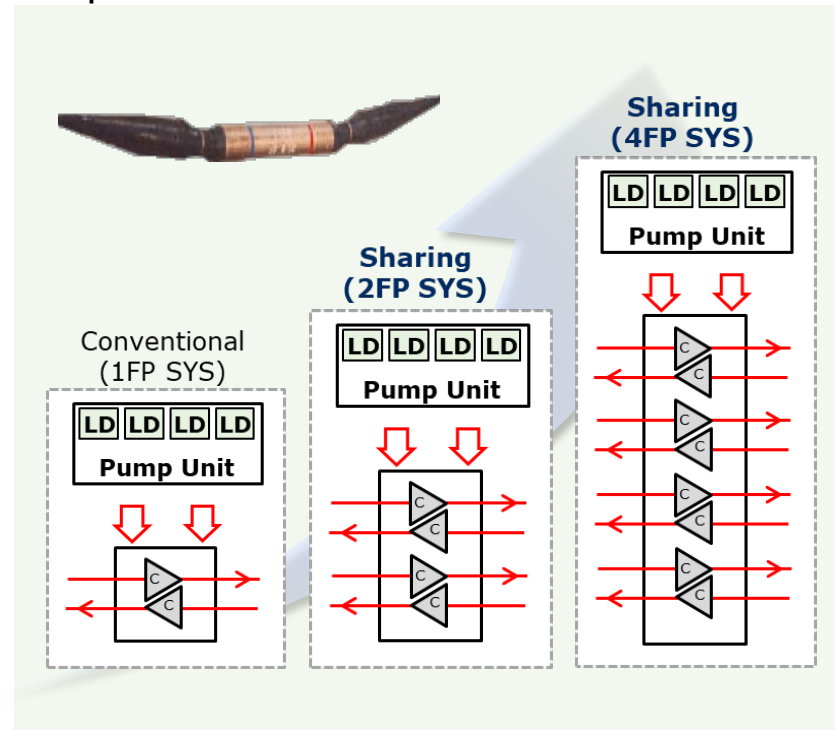
## Cable



## Branching Unit

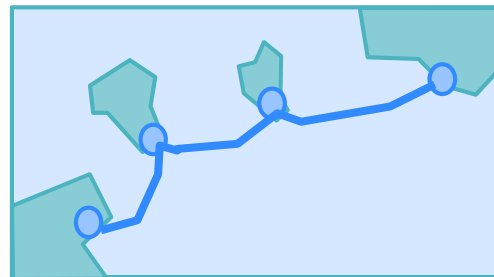
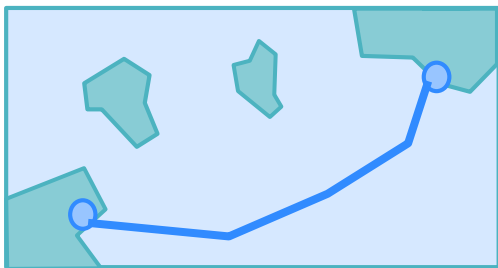


## Repeater



# Regional system (Repeatered vs Un-Repeatered)

In regional systems, both repeatered and un-repeatered are candidates.

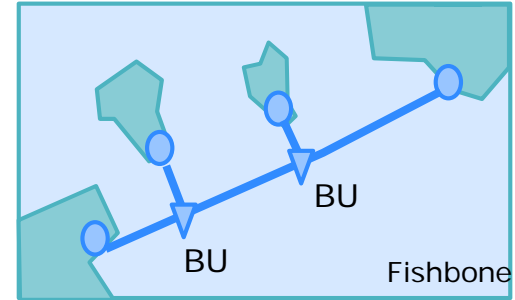
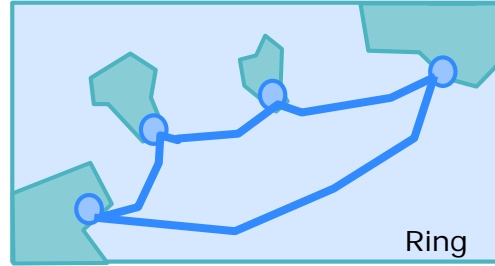
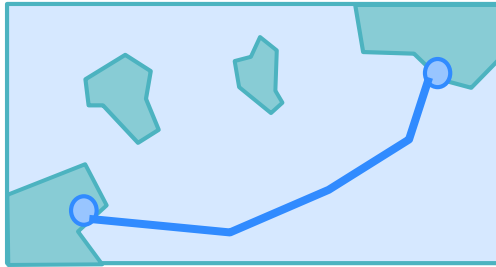


	Repeatered	Un-repeaterd (Festoon)
Connectivity	Point-to-point	Festoon
Capacity (FPs)	8~20 FP	~50 FP
System Cost	Equipment: Repeater, Cable, PFE Installation: Vessel + Landing	Equipment: Cable w/o copper Installation: Vessel + Multiple Landing

# Transoceanic repeatered system

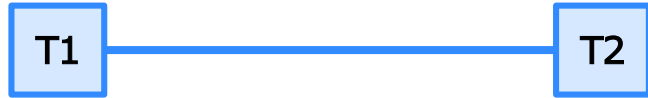
In transoceanic systems, there are several options for the network topology.

- Point-to-point
- Ring
  - Cable redundancy as route diversity
- Fishbone
  - Fiber redundancy as collapsed ring
  - Various optical path (Fixed OADM, Selectable OADM, Reconfigurable OADM)
  - Various powering path (Non-switching, Power switching)

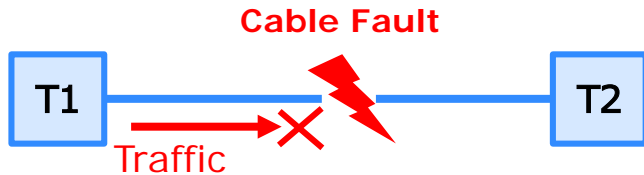


# Point-to-point

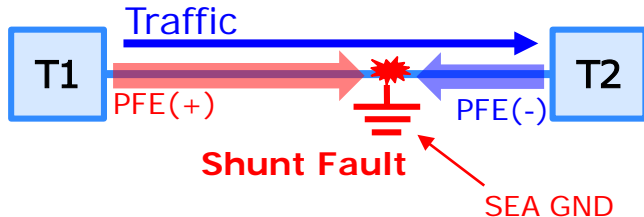
## Point-to-point Configuration



## Cable complete fault



## Cable shunt fault



## System availability

- Cable complete fault impacts on all the traffics
- Cable shunt fault does not impact thanks to double end feeding.

## Flexibility

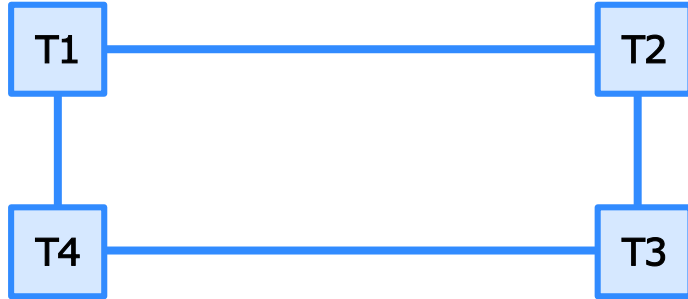
- Capacity is fixed at planning stage
- Connectivity is fixed at planning stage

## System cost

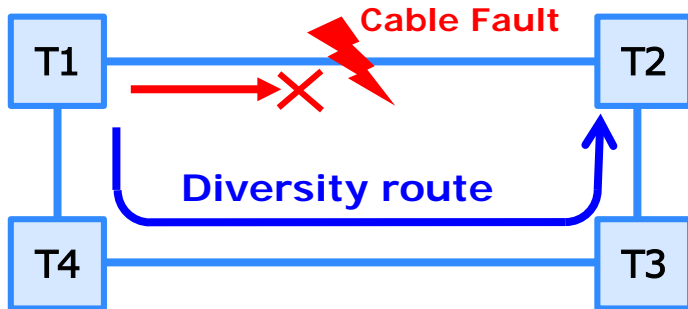
- Baseline of submarine cable

# Ring

## Ring Configuration



## Robustness to Cable Fault



## System Availability

- Cable complete fault dose not impact thanks to route diversity

## Flexibility

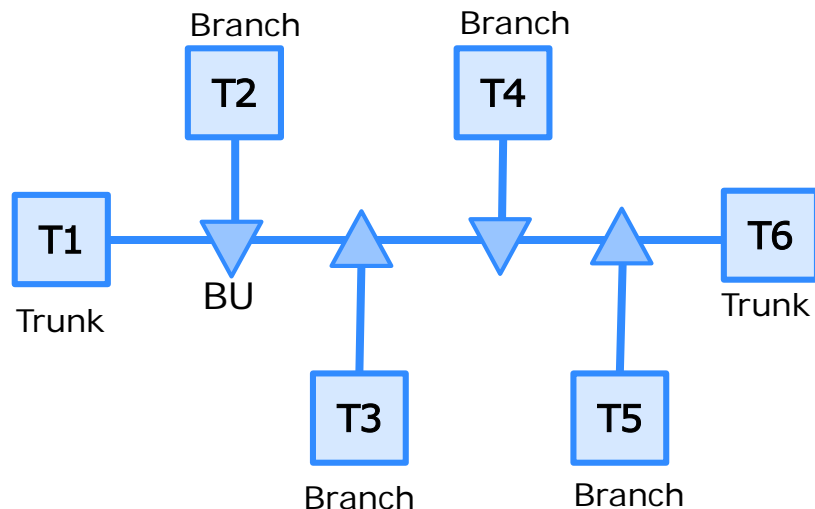
- Capacity is fixed at planning stage
- Connectivity is fixed at planning stage
- Both flexibilities can be improved by dry ROADM in station.

## System cost

- In general, double of point-to-point

# Fishbone

## Fishbone Configuration



BU: Branching Unit

## System Availability

- Cable complete fault dose not impact on the traffics in other segment cables
- Cable shunt fault dose not impact thanks to double end feeding and power switching BU.

## Flexibility

- Capacity can be changed as demand in case of ROADM BU
- Connectivity can be changed as demand in case of ROADM BU

## System cost

- In general, lower than ring configuration

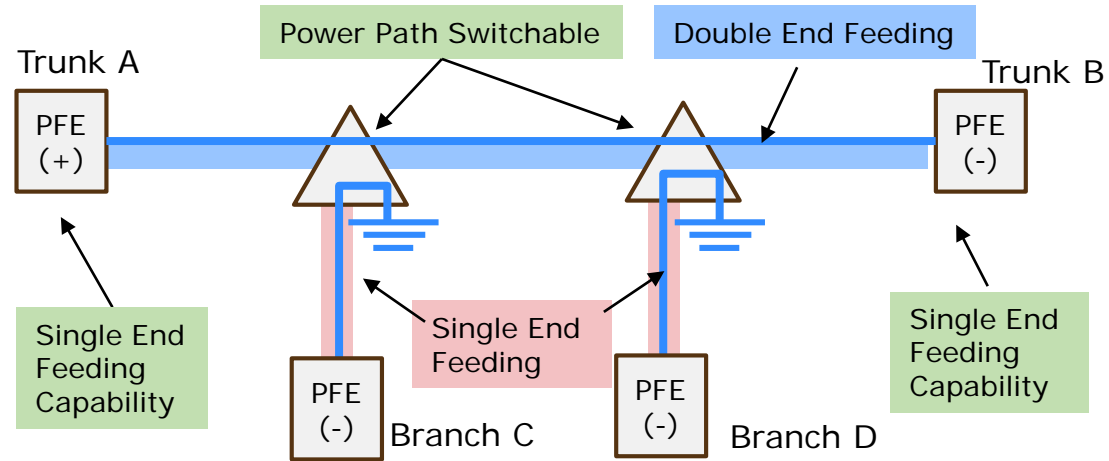
*Widely introduced in the latest submarine network*



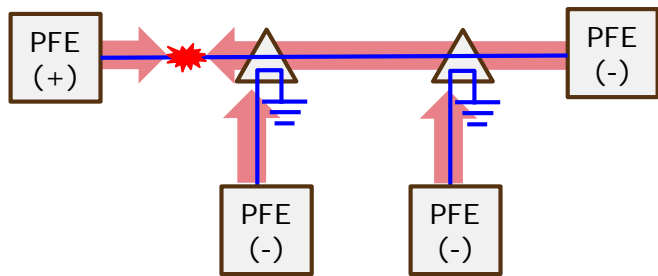
# Powering Topology (Availability)

## Features:

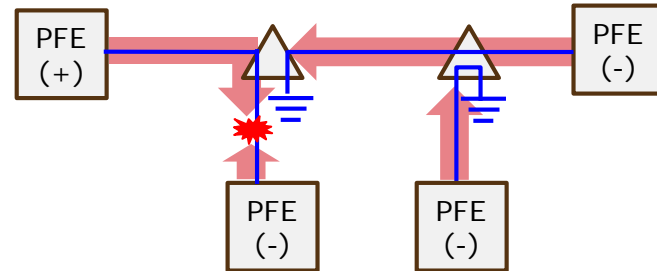
- Trunk Double End Feeding with Single End Feeding capability
- Branch : Full Equipment Redundancy
- BU : Power Path Re-configurable



Shunt fault in Trunk → Powering can be kept



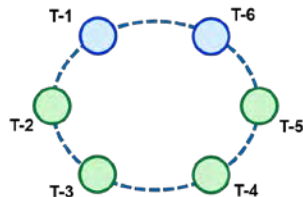
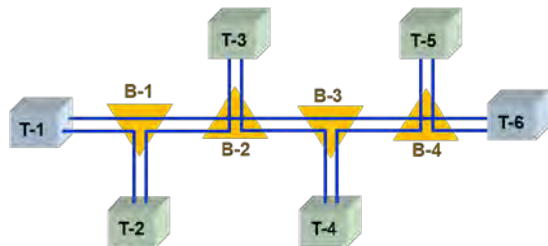
Shunt fault in Branch → Powering pass is reconfigured  
Powering can be kept



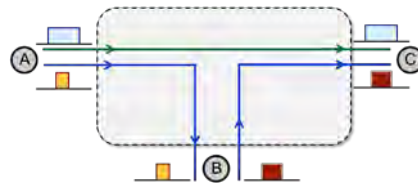
# Traffic Topology

## Fiber-based Traffic Topology

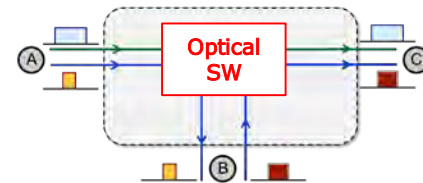
### Architecture



### Fixed BU

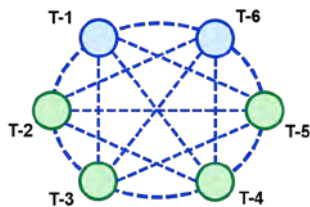
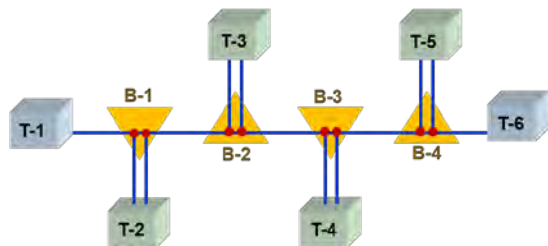


### OPSW BU

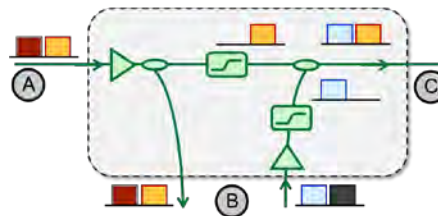


## Wavelength-based Traffic Topology

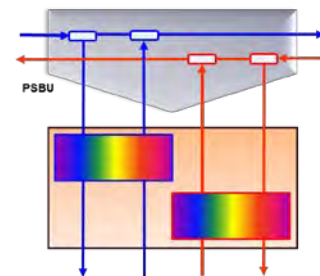
### Architecture



### Fixed OADM BU



### ROADM BU



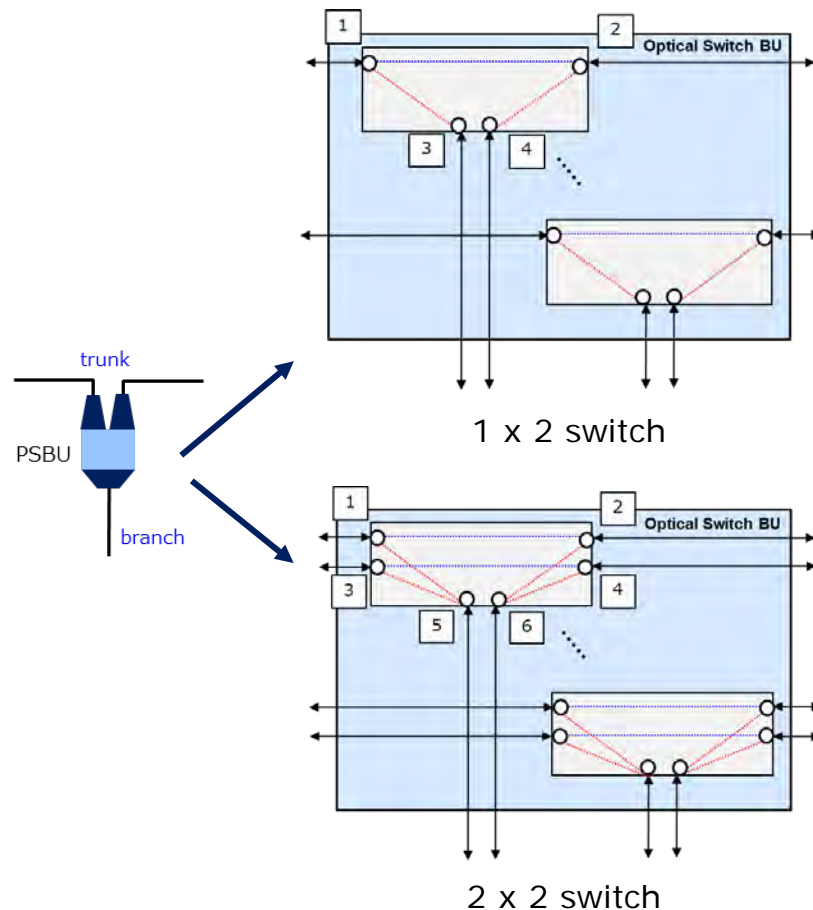
# Technology - Fiber-based Traffic Topology

## 1 x 2 Fiber Pair Switch

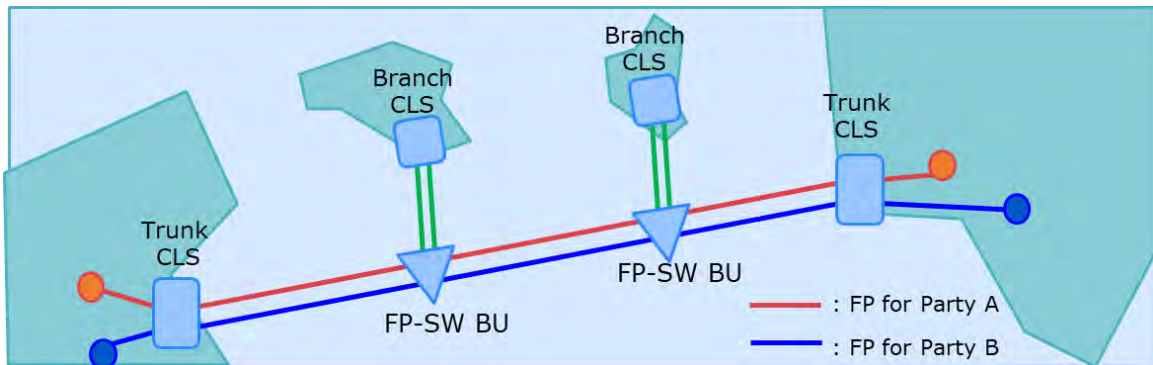
- One (1) trunk fiber pair switched to two (2) branch FPs
- Switching State
  - State 1: 1-2
  - State 2: 1-3 & 2-4

## 2 x 2 Fiber Pair Switch

- Two (2) trunk fiber pair switched to two (2) branch FPs
- Switching State
  - State1: 1-2, 3-4
  - State2: 1-2, 3-5 & 4-6
  - State3: 3-4, 1-5 & 2-6

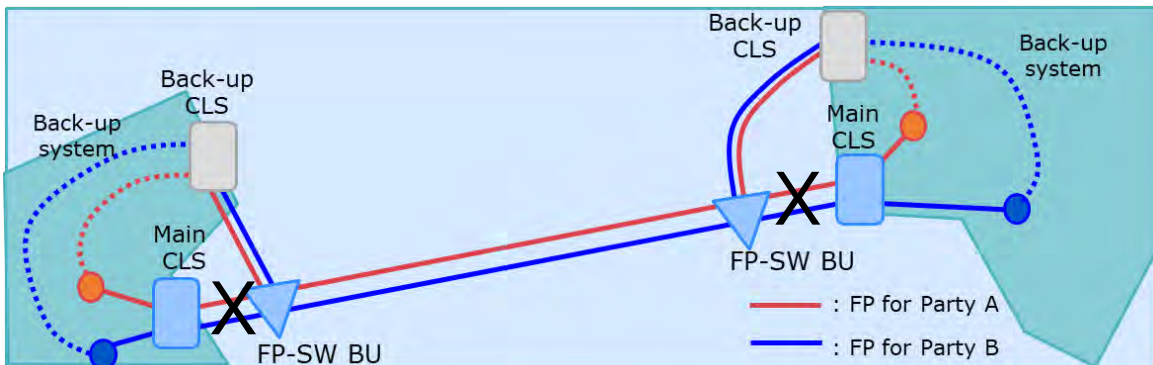


# FP Switching Network in SDM -Examples



## Trunk-Branch FP Sharing

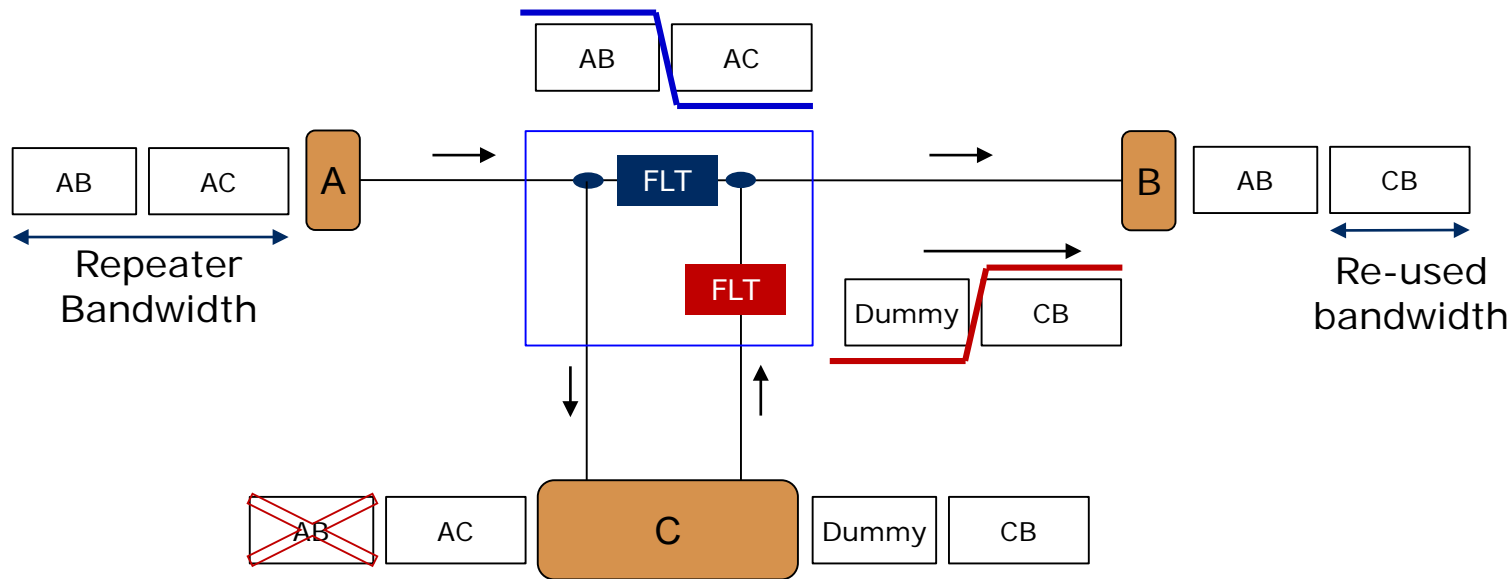
- ✓ Party A / B share branch FP
- ✓ Trunk - Branch FP Routing as needed



## Shore-end Protection Network

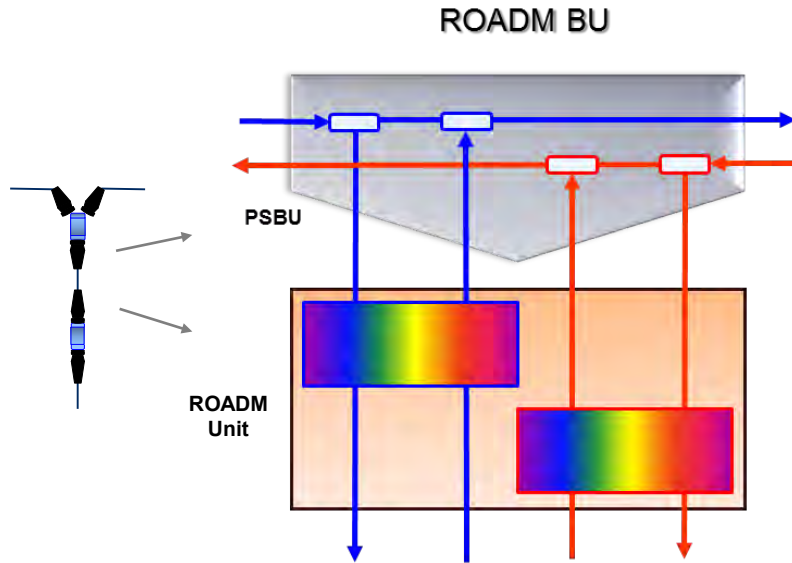
- ✓ Cable fault at shore end to be restored by FP Switching

# Principle of OADM networks: Wavelength reuse



Equivalent circuits for opposite direction

## Apply WSS for spectrum re-configuration



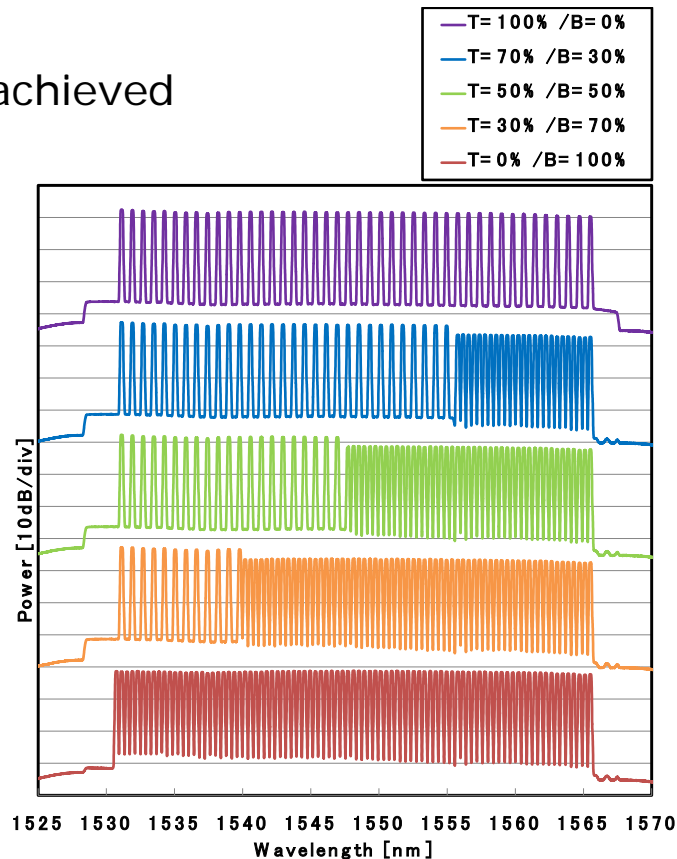
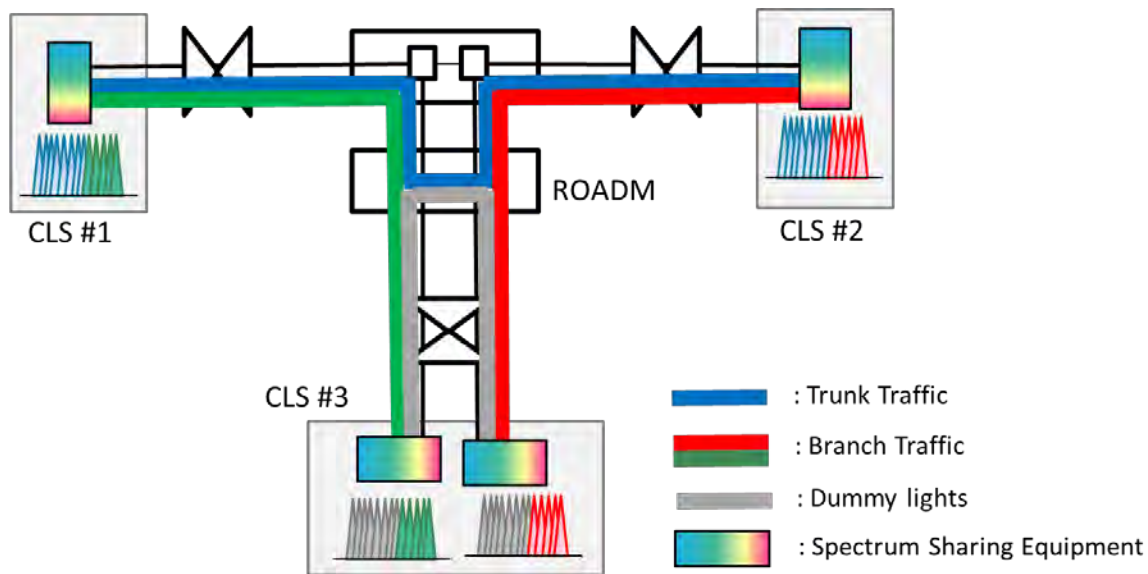
- Unlimited add/drop ratio re-configurability
- Tunable attenuation adjustment
- Reconfiguration and adjustment control by remote command from terminal station

WSS : Wavelength Selective Switching

# Technology - Re-configurable OADM (RODAM)

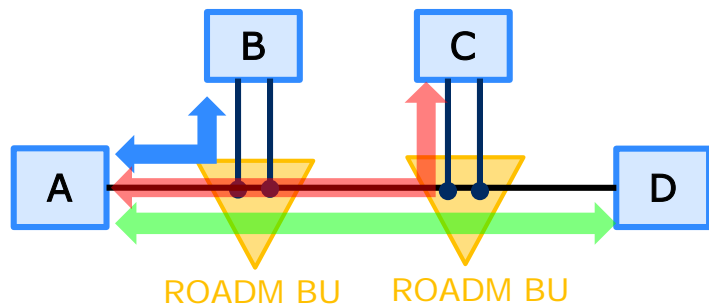
## Switching flexibility of add/drop ratio

- Flexible switching with any add/drop ratio can be achieved

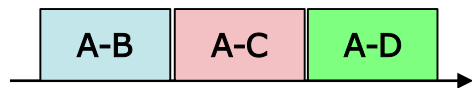


# Optical Path(Flexibility)

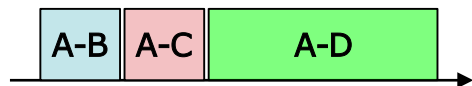
## Capacity Allocation



Capacity Allocation1

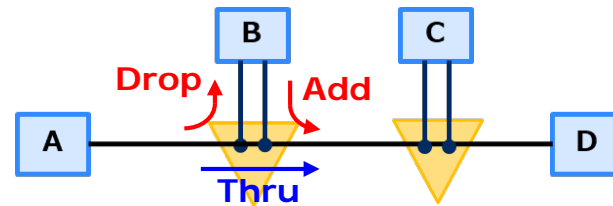


Capacity Allocation2



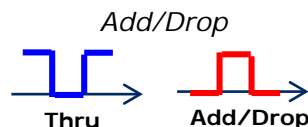
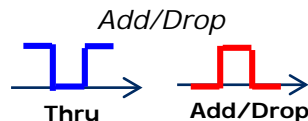
Capacity assignment can be flexibly changed by add/drop ratio setting of ROADM BU

## Connectivity



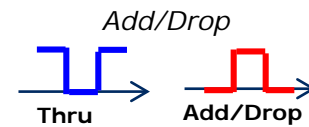
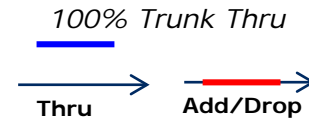
ROADM BU(B)

100% Trunk Thru



ROADM BU(C)

100% Trunk Thru



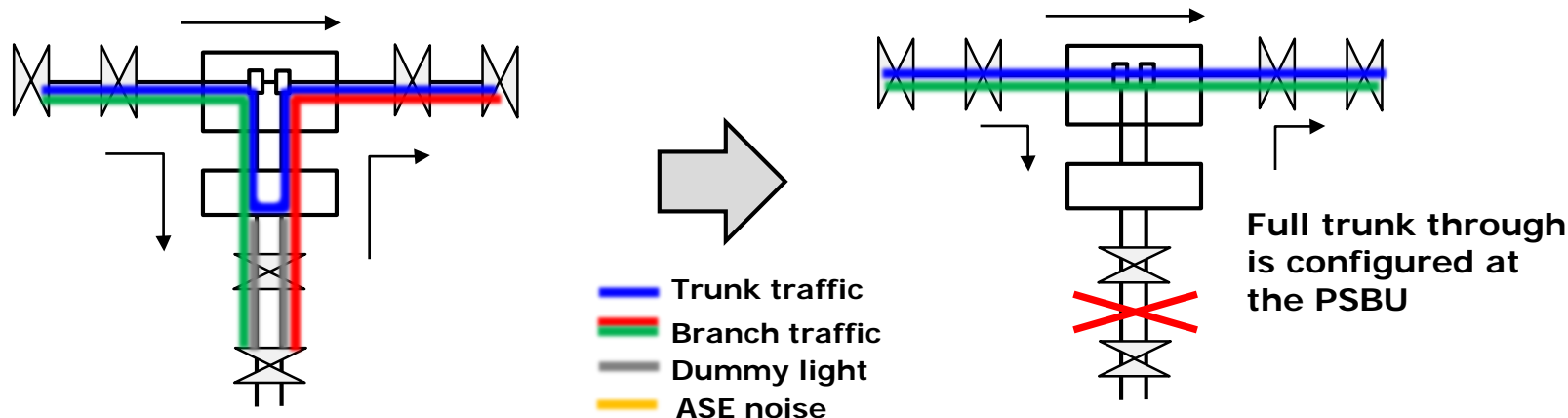
Connectivity





# Optical path reconfigurations under Cable Faults

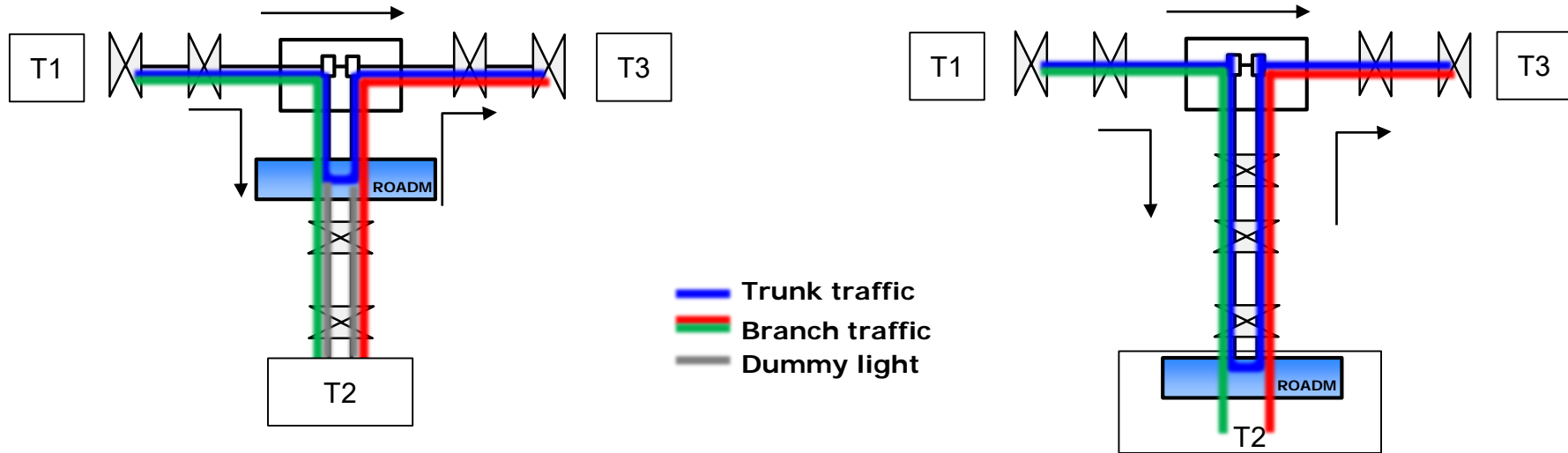
## Branch fault



Optical switches in the BU react automatically against branch faults

General criteria is to maximize trunk traffic availability

# Connectivity options: Wet ROADM vs Dry ROADM



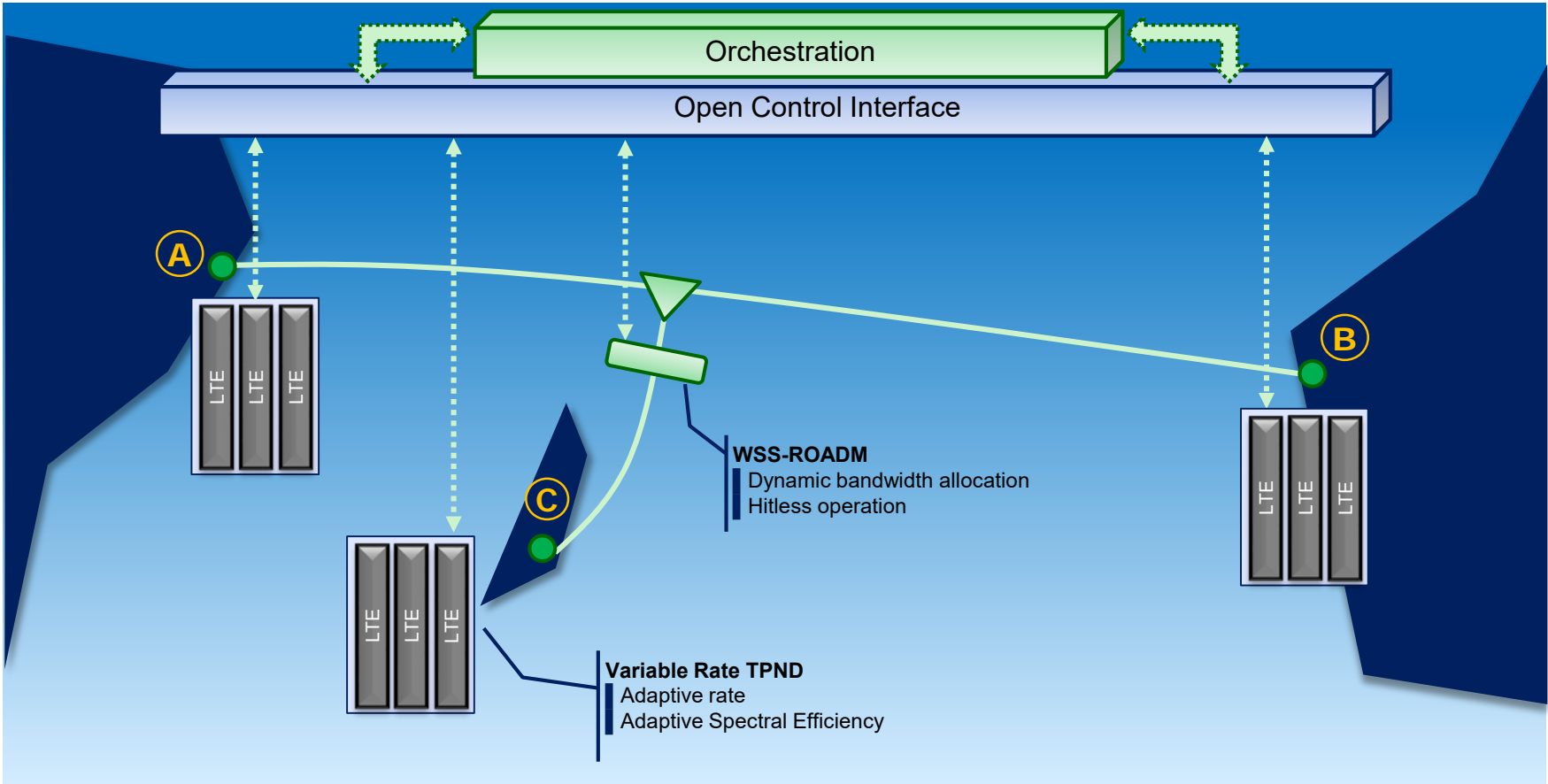
## Wet ROADM

- Lowest Latency T1-T3
- Large OSNR T1-T3
- Trunk traffic privacy

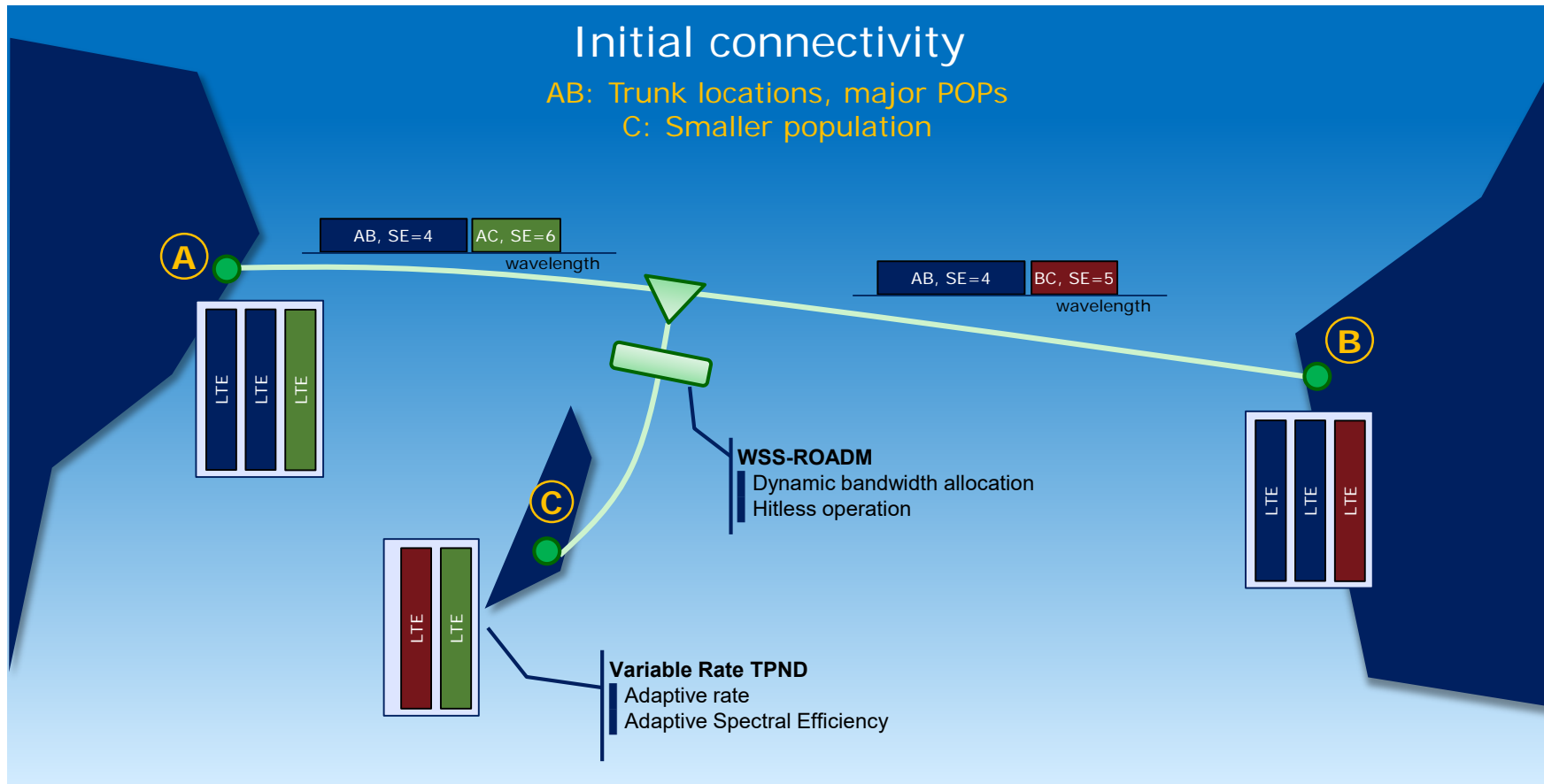
## Dry ROADM

- Lower equipment, installation and maintenance cost
- Latency and OSNR penalty T1-T3

# Dynamic submarine networks

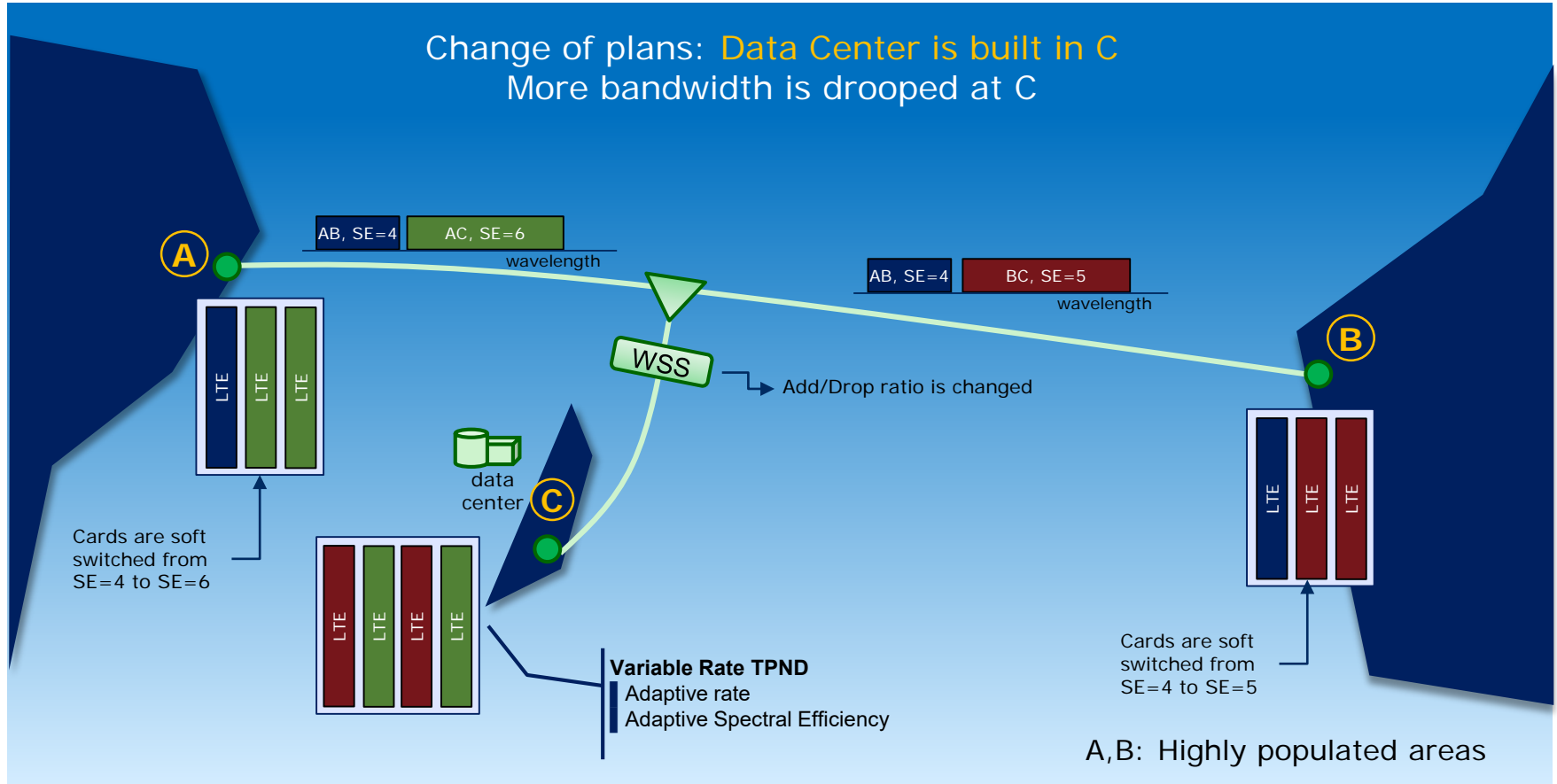


# Dynamic/Adaptive submarine networks



# Dynamic/Adaptive submarine networks

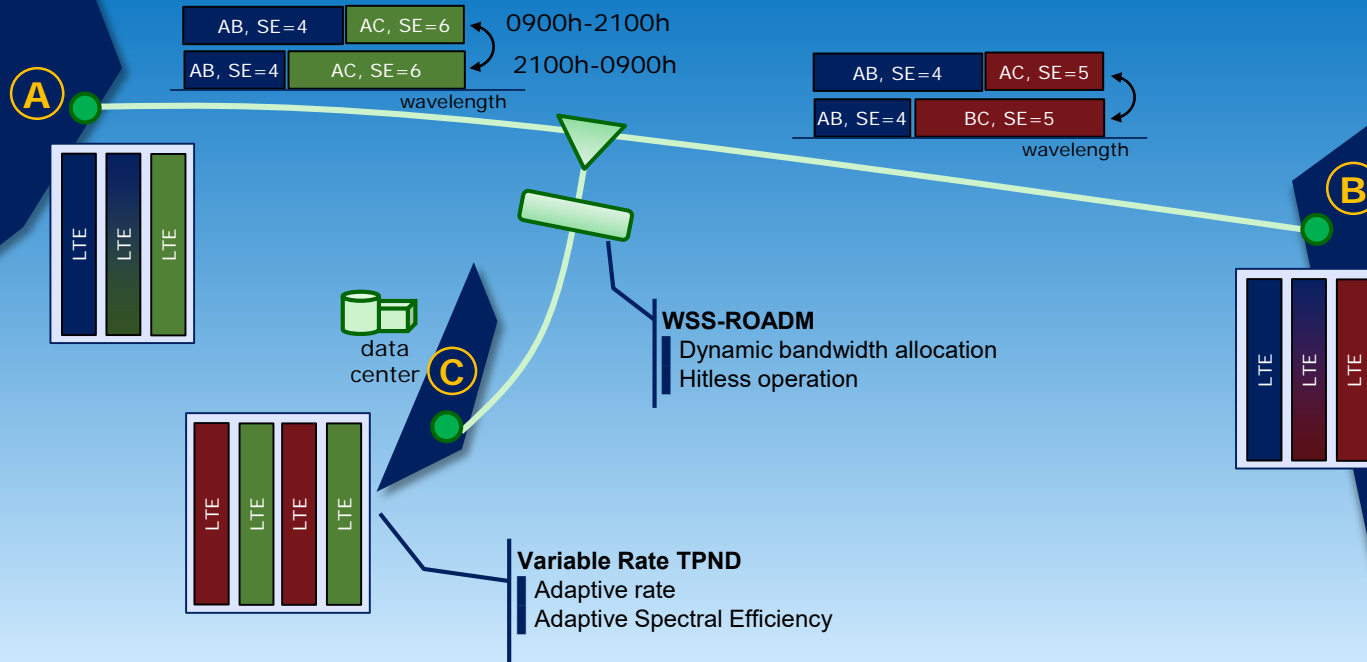
Change of plans: Data Center is built in C  
More bandwidth is dropped at C



# Dynamic/Adaptive submarine networks

Change of plans: DC is built in C  
Dynamic traffic pattern optimization

AB traffic: Human-to-Human – Business hours  
AC/CB traffic: Machine-to-Machine – Non Business hours



# Contents

## I. Network Topology

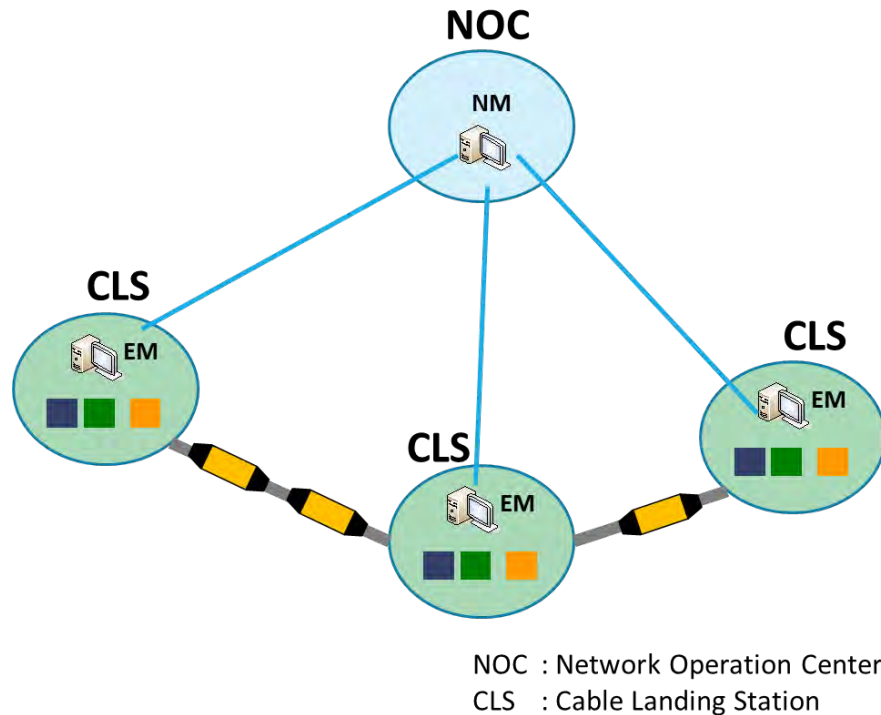
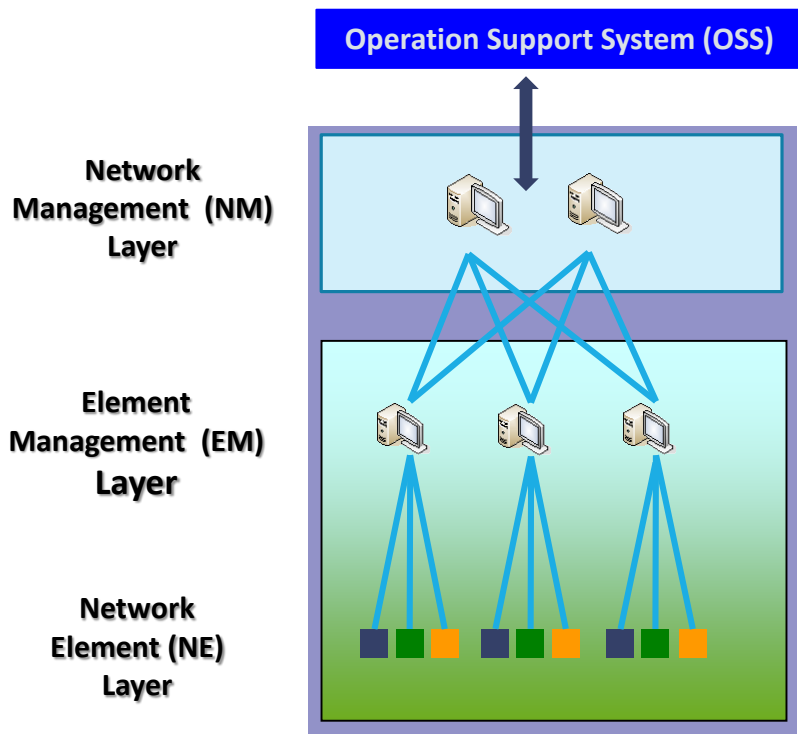
- a. Overview
- b. Network Topology of Submarine System

## II. System Supervisory

- a. Overview
- b. Cable and Repeater Monitoring
- c. Fault Localization

## III. Future Trend

# Management Overview





# Network Element Layer

## Equipment composed in submarine network

- Submarine Line Terminal Equipment (SLTE)
- Power Feeding Equipment (PFE)
- **Wet Plant (Repeaters, Cable, BU)**
- Other transmission equipment...



SLTE



PFE



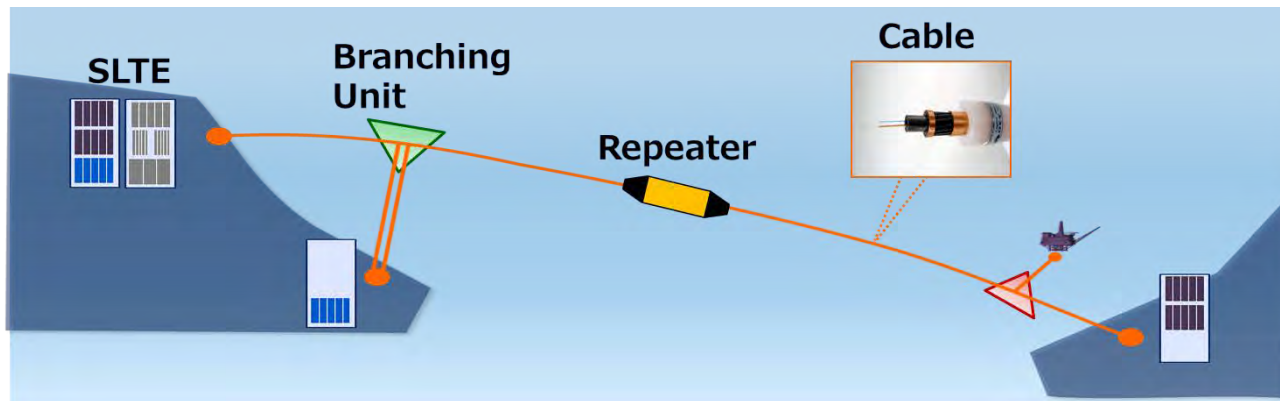
Submarine Repeater

**Wet-plant Supervisory is unique function compared to terrestrial network**

# Wet-plant Supervisory and Control

**Wet-plant equipment** is supervised and controlled remotely from SLTE

- Submarine Repeater
- Cable, Fiber
- Branching Unit (Power Switching, Optical Switching, ROADM )



## Repeater

- Pin, Pout, Gain,
- Pump LD Fail
- Gain Tilt

## Cable/Fiber

- Fiber Loss Increase
- Fiber Cut
- Open/Shunt Fault

## Branching Unit

- Health of active components (AMP, WSS)
- WSS setting of ROADM
- Power switching setting

# Supervisory method

## Command / Response method

- SV LSI in submarine repeater
- Direct measurement for each component operating condition
- Two transmission method
  - Dedicated WL
  - Superimpose to WDM traffic signal

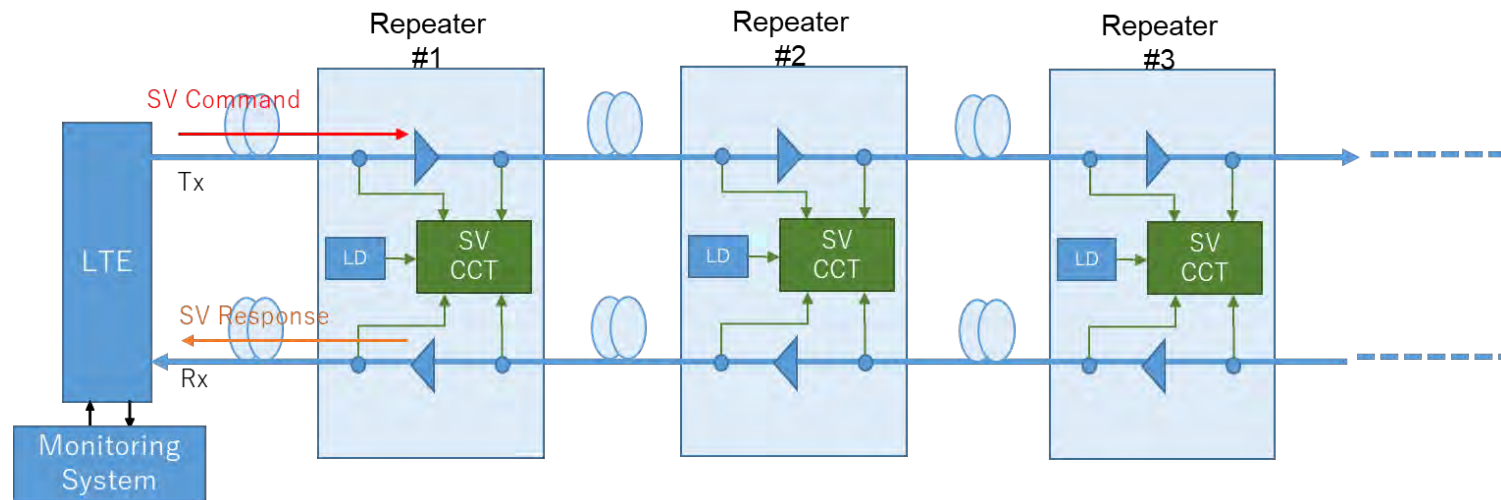
## Optical loop-back method

- Passive optical circuit in repeater
- Dedicated wavelength assignment
- Advanced signature analysis provides automatic fault localization and fault mode analysis function

# Supervisory method (1): Command & Response

## Active Method (Command & Response)

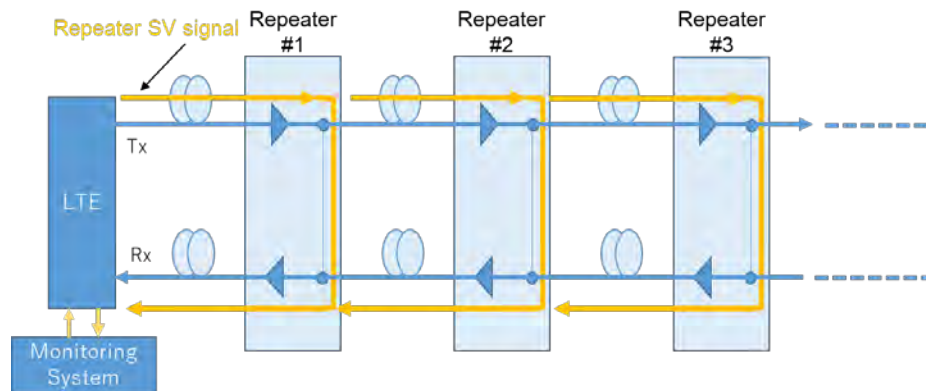
- A command from LTE invoke a response or reply from repeater.
  - Each repeater has Electric SV circuit and unique address.
- Output power, Input Power and LD current are read by SV circuit
- The communication method used is typically Amplitude Shift Keying ("ASK"), which modulation is applied to the overall optical output of SLTE or repeater



# Supervisory method (2): Optical loop-back

## Passive Method (All optical)

- SV signal (allocated in out band of traffic signal wavelengths) is launched from LTE (Tx).
- Dedicated SV signal is returned through loop-back circuit in each repeater
- Returned SV signal is measured at LTE (Rx)
  - Roundtrip time : identify repeater location
  - Roundtrip optical level : measure Round trip gain
- Measured round trip gain is analyzed
  - Repeater power reduction
  - Span cable loss increase
  - Fiber cut

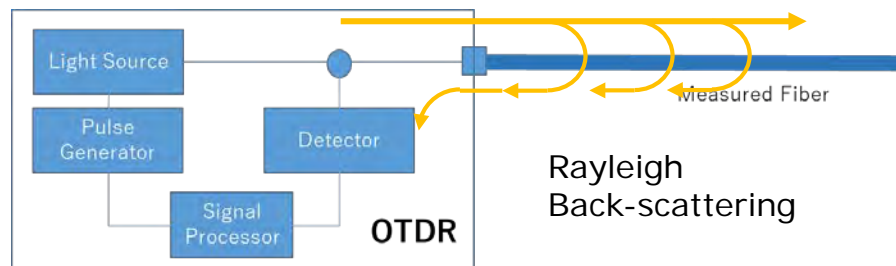


# OTDR (Optical Time Domain Reflection)

## Method

- Measure loopback signal or back-scattered light on time domain
  - ✓ Rayleigh back-scattered light
  - ✓ Fresnel reflection
  - ✓ Loopback signal through submarine repeater loopback circuit

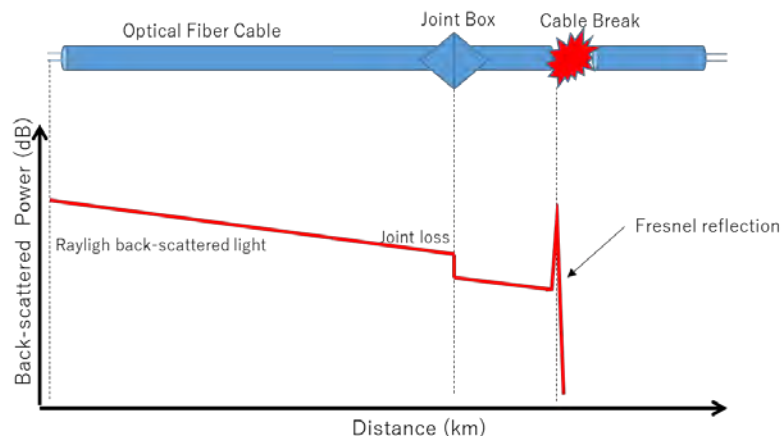
## Typical OTDR Configuration



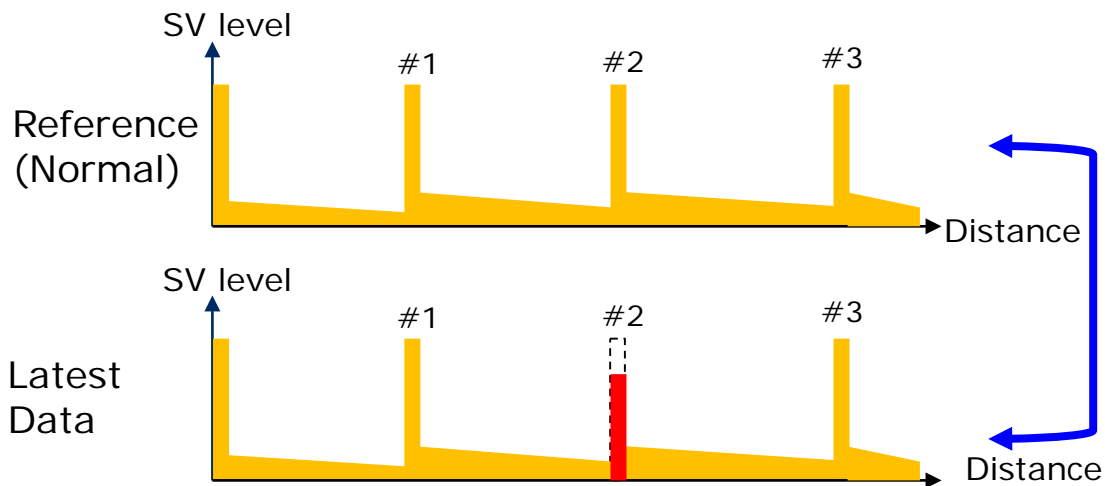
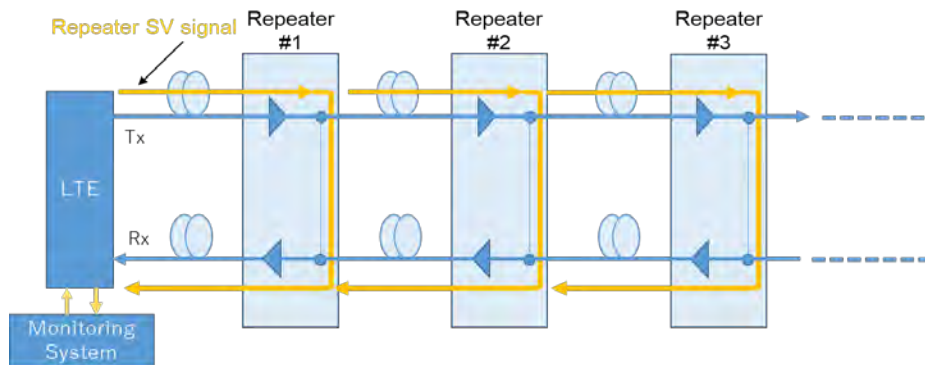
## OTDR Configuration

- Transmitter sends an optical pulse signal to the fiber
- Back-scattered light or loopback signal returns to the OTDR through the fiber
- OTDR receiver directs to a Back-scattered light over time and analysis on time domain

## OTDR Trace Example



# Fault Mode Analysis



Latest data is compared to the base line data and analyzed

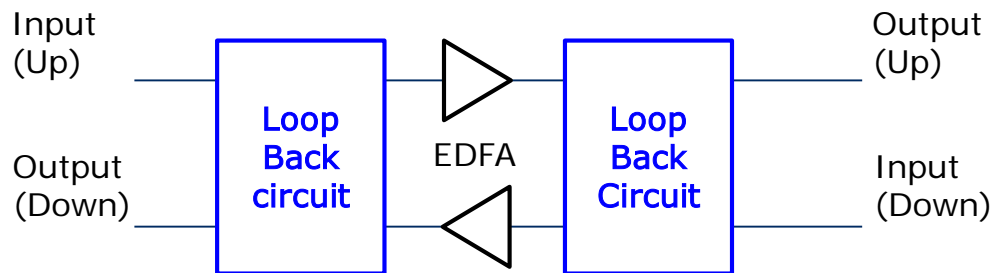
- Repeater power reduction
- Span cable loss increase
- Fiber cut

Automatic fault localization and fault mode analysis function are available

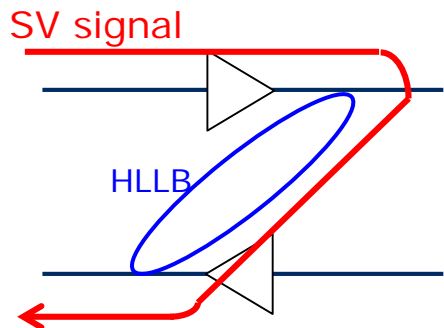
- No signature analysis is required by the station staffs.

# Repeater Loop-back Circuit

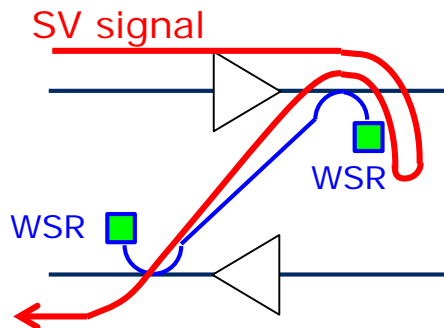
## Submarine Repeater



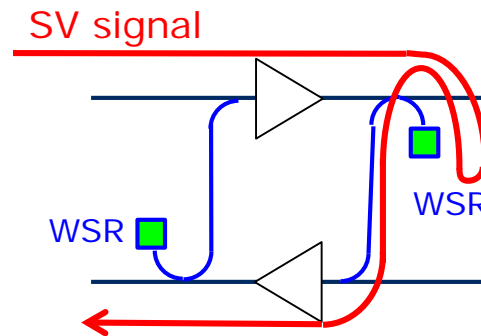
High loss loopback



Loopback Circuit with Reflector(1)



Loopback Circuit With Reflector(2)



WSR: Wavelength Selective Reflector



# Cable Faulty Point Localization (C-OTDR)

Standard OTDR equipment is not used for Repeated submarine cable system, by the following reasons

- Isolator installed in Repeater; Isolator cut-off back scattered light
- Deterioration of receiver sensitivity by ASE noise of submarine repeater

C-OTDR (Coherent-Optical Time Domain Reflectometer) is widely used for faulty point localization of submarine cable system

- High receiver sensitivity by coherent detection
- Effective ASE noise reduction generated in submarine repeaters

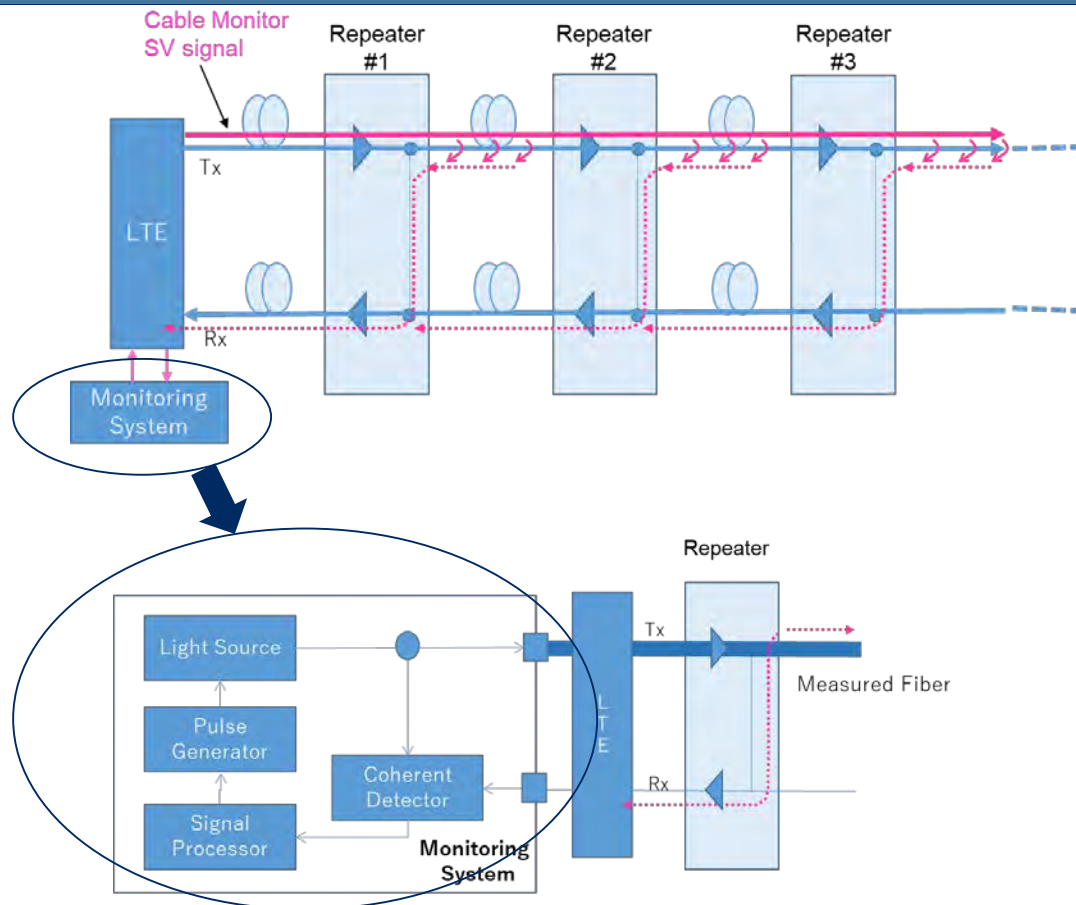
## Method

- Measure back-scattered light on time domain using by coherent detector
  - ✓ Rayleigh back-scattered light
  - ✓ Fresnel reflection

# C-OTDR

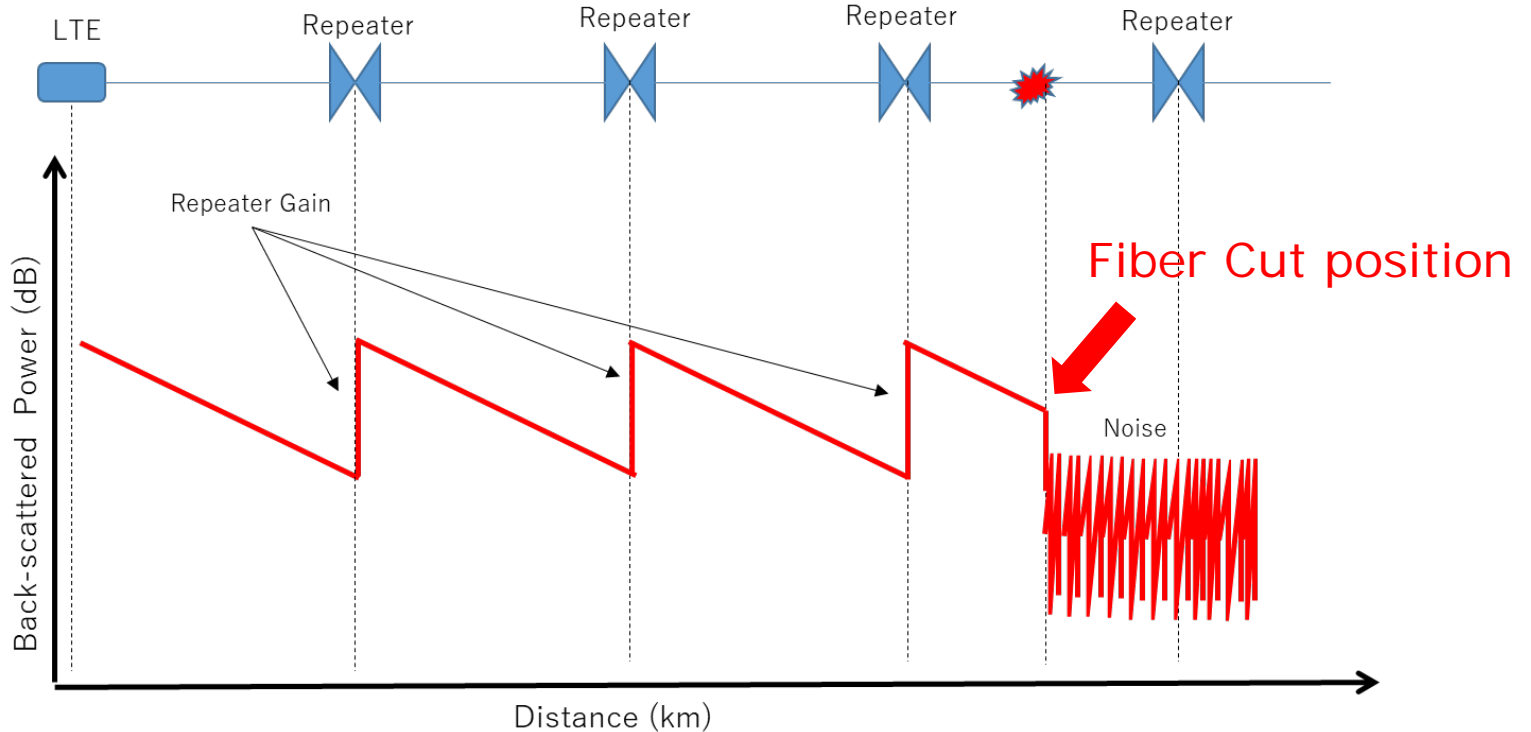
## C-OTDR Configuration

- Dedicated SV signal transmitter sends a probe light to the fiber.
- The Rayleigh backscattered light returns through the loop back circuit of submarine repeater.
- Monitoring system with C-OTDR receiver directs to a returned back-scattered light over time and analysis on time domain. (OTDR method)
- Only C-OTDR trace for up-stream direction fiber is measurable.



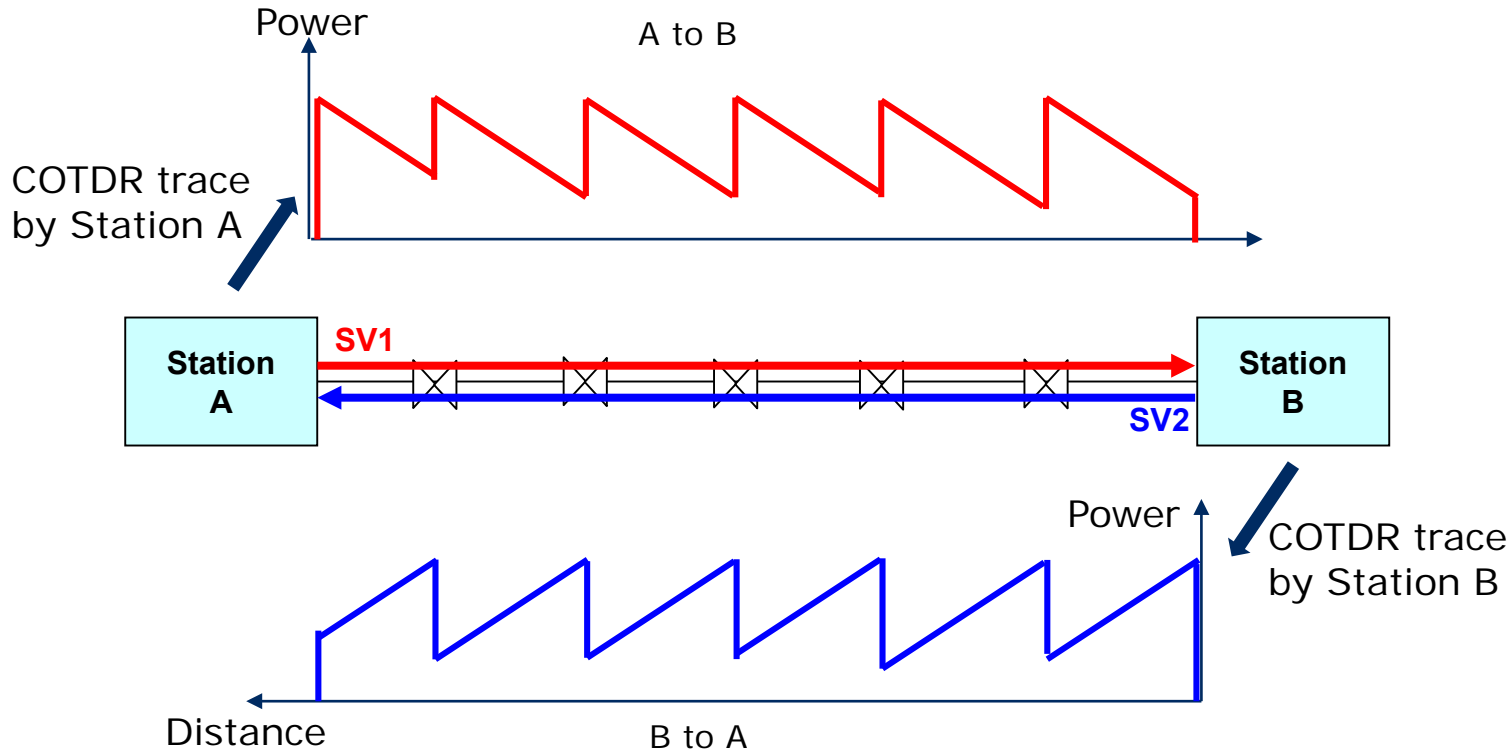
# C-OTDR (Coherent-Optical Time Domain Reflection) (3/3)

## Fiber Trace Example

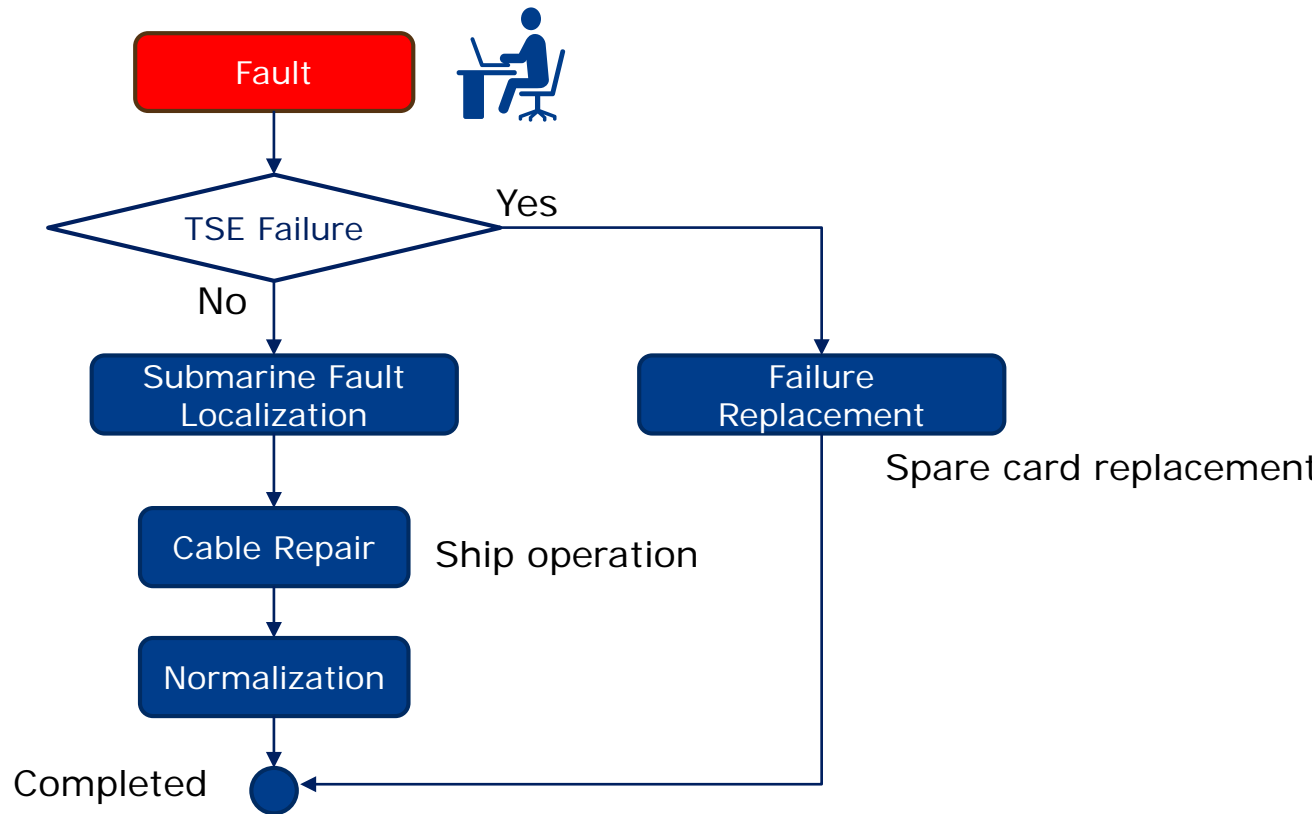


# COTDR monitoring for submarine cable system

## Point-to-point

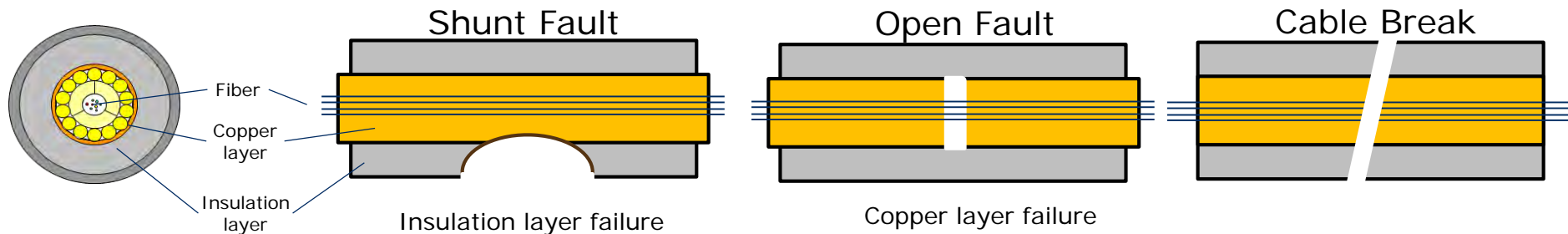


# System Monitoring Steps



# System monitoring for Submarine Fault

Fault Type		Fault Localization Method
Cable Fault	Shunt Fault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repeater Monitoring</li> <li>• DCR Measurement</li> </ul>
	Open Fault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacitance Measurement (very rare in submarine portion)</li> </ul>
	Cable Break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repeater Monitoring</li> <li>• DCR Measurement</li> <li>• Back-scatter Test (OTDR Measurement)</li> <li>• C-OTDR Measurement</li> </ul>
Repeater Fault		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repeater Monitoring</li> </ul>



# Submarine Fault Localization Technique

## OTDR Test / C-OTDR Test

- Measure fiber break point along fiber

## Direct Current Resistance (DCR) Test

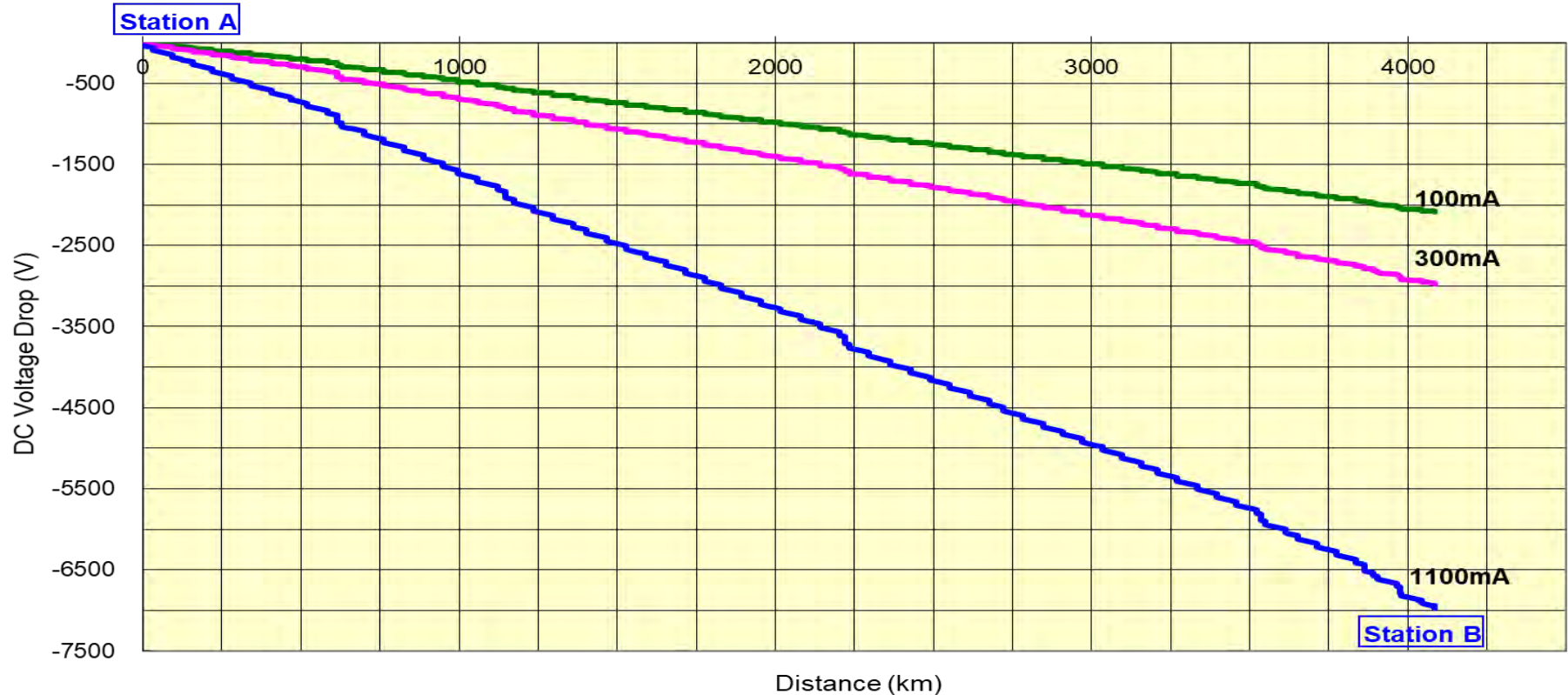
- Apply direct current and read voltage
- The faulty point is estimated from the calculation from cable resistance and/or repeaters drop voltage, which were pre-measured before system installation at factory

## Capacitance Test

- Measure capacitance of system
- The faulty point is estimated from the calculation from cable capacitance

# DCR Measurement

$$\text{DCR Calculation : } V_{\text{CABLE}} + V_{\text{REP}} + V_{\text{BU}} + V_{\text{PFE}} + V_{\text{EARTH}}$$





# Contents

## I. Network Topology

- a. Overview
- b. Network Topology of Submarine System

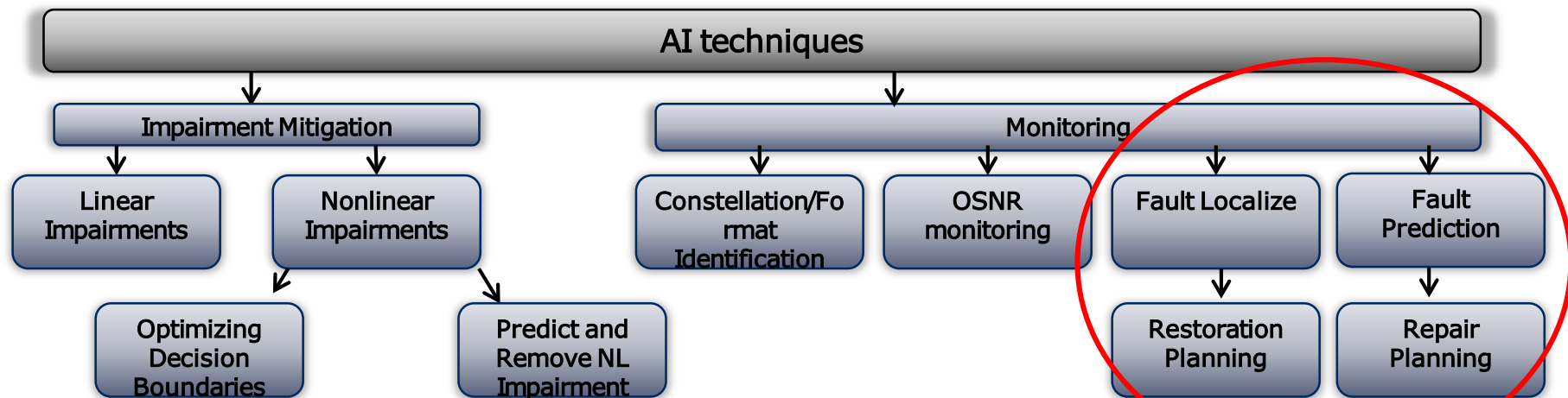
## II. System Supervisory

- a. Overview
- b. Cable and Repeater Monitoring
- c. Fault Localization

## III. Future Trend

# Network Supervisory by Artificial Intelligence

- Artificial intelligence techniques has been discussed in many areas of optical communication system
- AI techniques excel with abundance of data. Optical transmission has plenty of data.



[1] Expectation Maximization: D. Zibar et al., Opt. Express 20, B181-B196 (2012)  
[2] K-means clustering: L. Pakala et al., Photon. Network., ITG Symposium, (2015)  
[3] K-nearest neighbors: D. Wang et al., IEEE Photon. Technol. Lett. p.2102, (2016)

[1] Extreme Machine Learning: T. S. R. Shen et al., in Proc. OECC, 2011, pp. 816–817.  
[2] Artificial Neural Network: M. A. Jarajreh et al., IEEE Photon. Technol. Lett., 27(4), 2015  
[3] SVM: E. Giacomidis et al., OFC2016 , Th2A.49 (2016)

# Network Management by Artificial Intelligence

Wet-plant supervisory becomes more important for recent submarine cable system

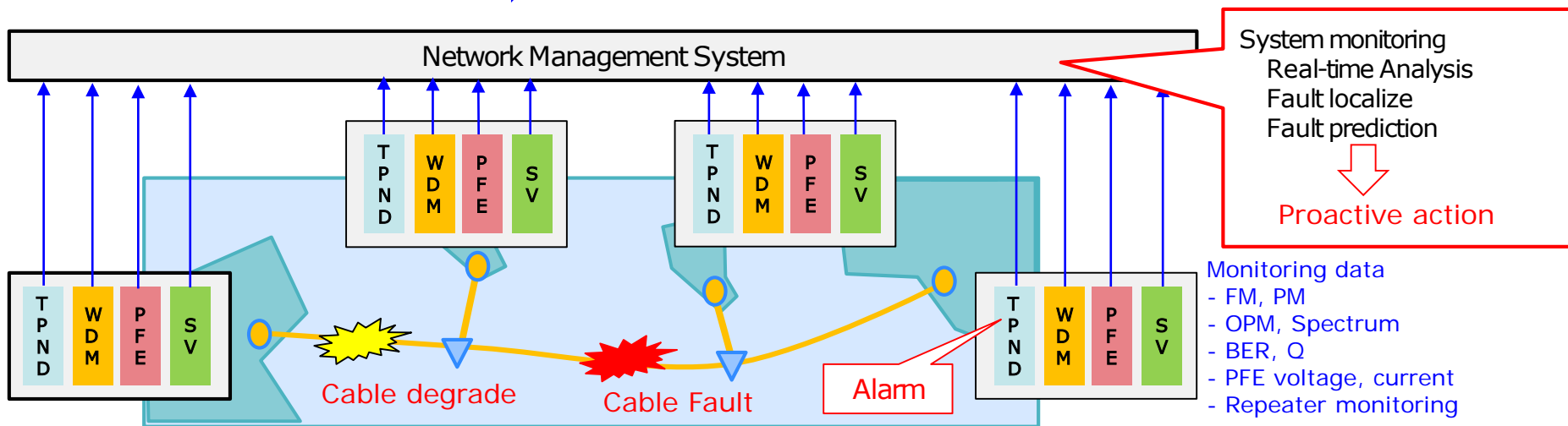
- Increased connectivity
- Increased flexibility

➔ **Fault localization becomes complicated**

Wet-plant fault localization and fault prediction is promising candidate of AI

- Analysis of plenty monitoring data from NEs from all the stations (Big data)
- Fault localization and root cause analysis without time consuming human investigation
- Fault prediction

➔ **Maintenance efficiency Improvement (cost reduction)**



# SDM Technology for Submarine Systems

## Submarine systems have specific limitations

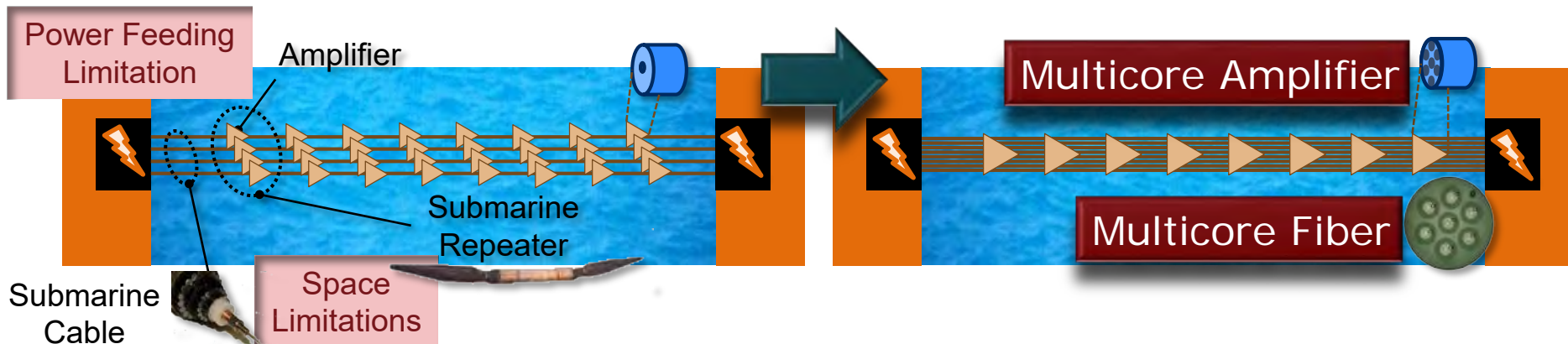
- Space limitations due to cable structure, manufacturing, handling and deployment
- Power limitations due to feeding of the optical amplifiers from the land

## SDM can help increase capacity despite these limitations

- Higher signal density per cable area unit
- Higher power efficiency through sharing and pumping techniques

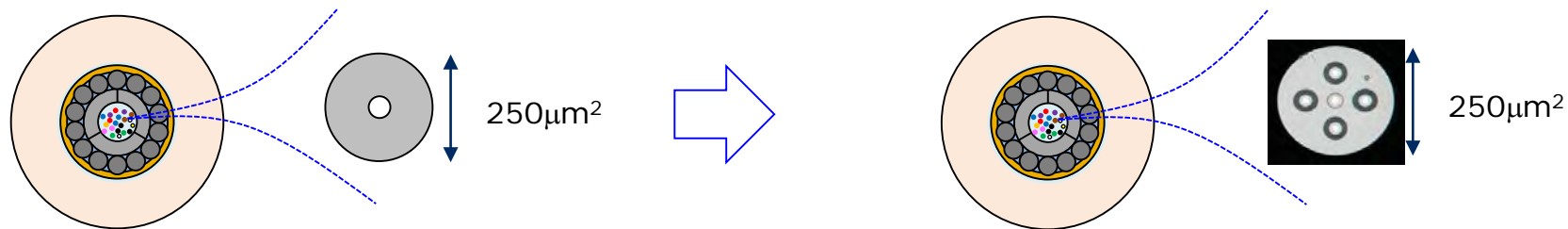
## Different flavors of SDM

- Single core fiber SDM (SDM 1.0 or SDM 0.0): increasing number of fiber pairs (>8fp)
- **Multicore SDM: High density and good uniformity among cores**

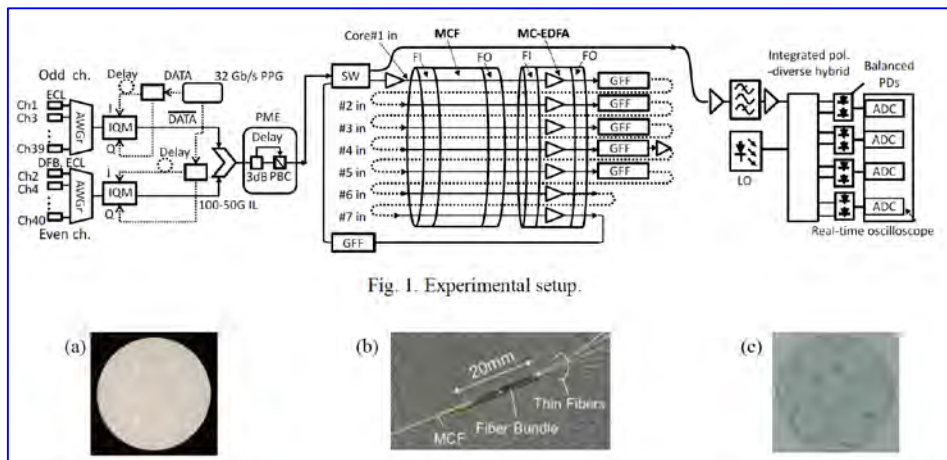


# Different flavors of SDM: Multicore fiber transmission

Multicore fibers have the potential to increase the core density in submarine cables



NEC/KDDI confirmed for first time 6000km+ multicore transmission in 2012

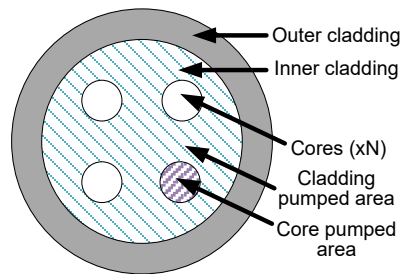


- Submarine Transmission with multicore fiber is confirmed long ago
- There is catch...special SLTE is required to eliminate inter-core cross-talk

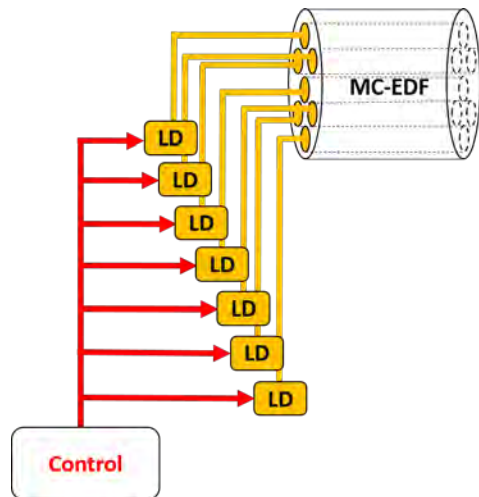
# Different flavors of SDM: Multicore fiber amplifiers

## Pumping Scheme

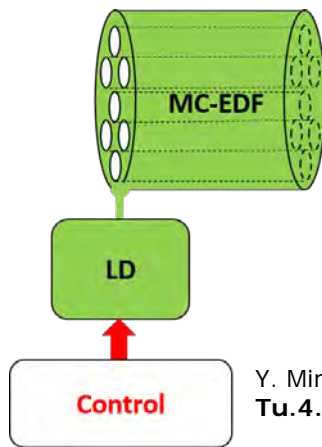
- Core pumping
- Cladding pumping
- Hybrid pumping(Core/Clad)



### Individually Core Pumped

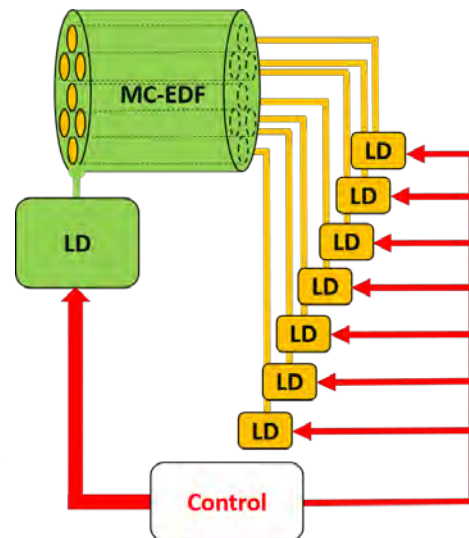


### Clad pumping



Y. Mimura *et al.*, ECOC 2012, Tu.4.F.1 (2012)

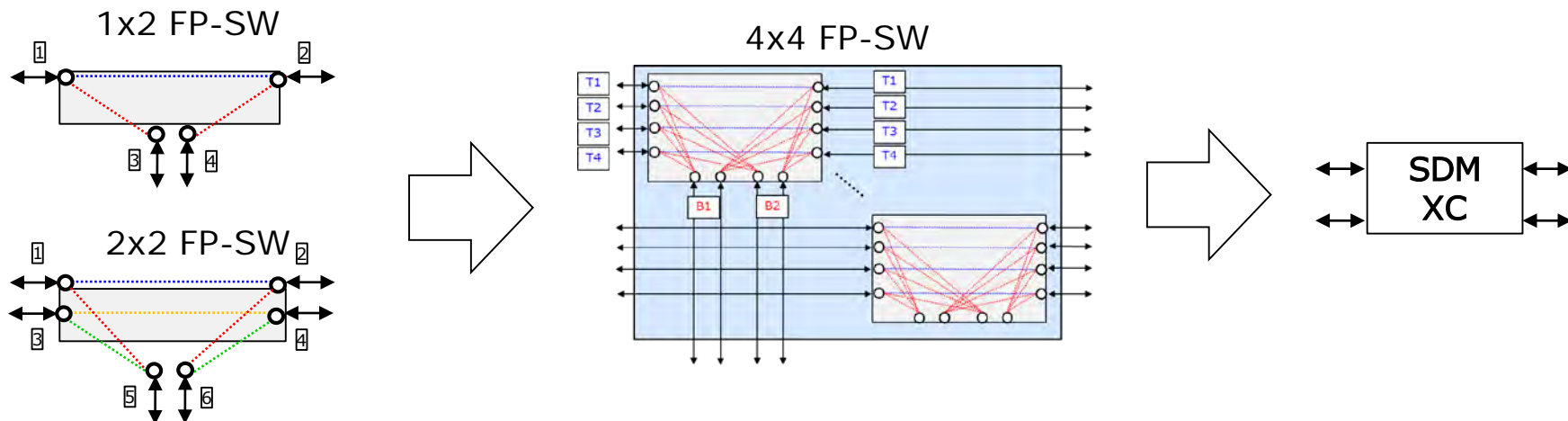
### Hybrid pumping Scheme



E. Le Taillandier de Gabory *et al.*, OFC 2017 Th.1.C.1 (2017)

# Connectivity in next gen SDM networks

- Multicore technologies will enable many space channels with better power efficiency and space usage.
- Then, network topology and traffic routing will gradually shift from wavelength switching to space-channel switching (FP first, FC later..)





# \Orchestrating a brighter world

NEC brings together and integrates technology and expertise to create the ICT-enabled society of tomorrow.

We collaborate closely with partners and customers around the world, orchestrating each project to ensure all its parts are fine-tuned to local needs.

Every day, our innovative solutions for society contribute to greater safety, security, efficiency and equality, and enable people to live brighter lives.



The background of the slide is an underwater scene with sunlight rays filtering through the water. A large, semi-transparent teal diamond shape is overlaid on the right side of the image.

# Submerged Plant Equipment Lecture I

Georg Mohs

August 6, 2019

Confidential and Proprietary

# Submerged Plant Equipment Characteristics

## High performance:

- Ultra-long transmission distance up to 14,000 km!!
- High data capacity: 250 Tb/s across the Atlantic!

## Space & Power Limitations:

- All functionality must fit inside an undersea body.
- Equipment must be powered from shore through the cable conductor.



## Reliability for a 25 year lifetime in the undersea environment:

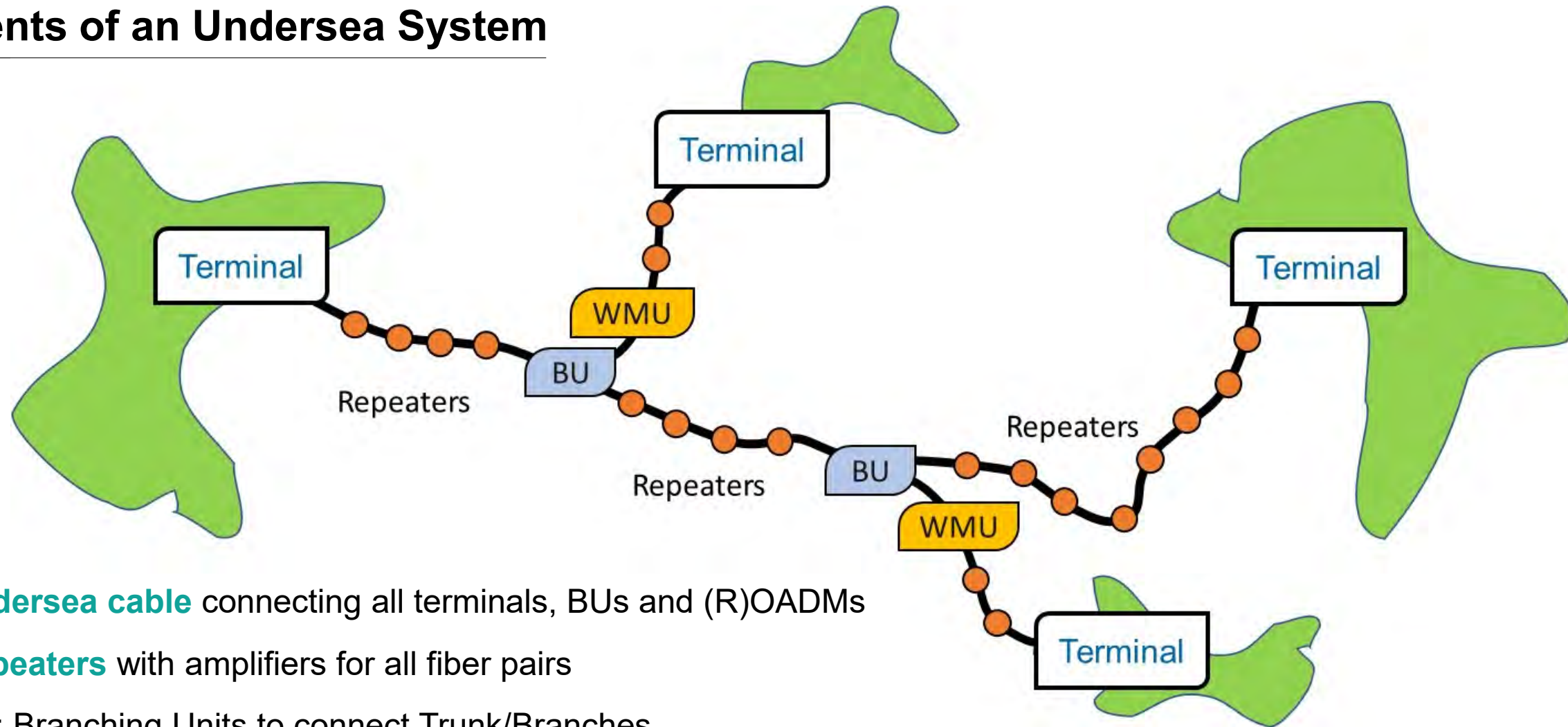
- Water-proof and pressure-stabilized body
- High reliability optics/electronics.

## Deployment:

- Equipment must support shipboard storage, deployment, and retrieval for repairs.

*Unique technology for a unique environment*

# Elements of an Undersea System

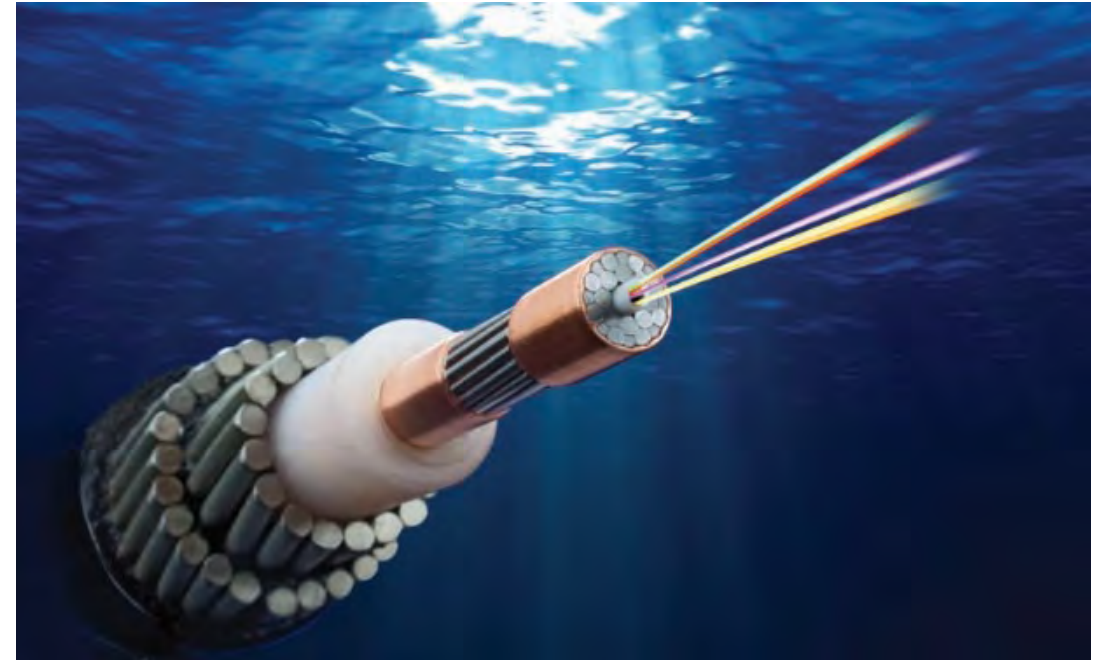


- **Undersea cable** connecting all terminals, BUs and (R)OADMs
- **Repeaters** with amplifiers for all fiber pairs
- **BU**: Branching Units to connect Trunk/Branches
- **WMU**: Wavelength Management Units – (R)OADM

# Outline

---

- Cable
- Repeaters
  - Amplification and gain equalization
  - Self-healing of a chain of amplifiers; gain tilt
  - Pump manifold and reliability
  - Line Monitoring and High Loss Loopbacks (HLLBs)
  - L-band amplification
  - The pressure vessel
- Branching Units
  - Fiber routing and optical switches - Why only one branch leg (3 port BUs)?
  - Electrical reconfiguration – Recovering from shunt faults
- Wavelength Management Units: (Reconfigurable) Optical Add Drop Multiplexing
- System Reliability

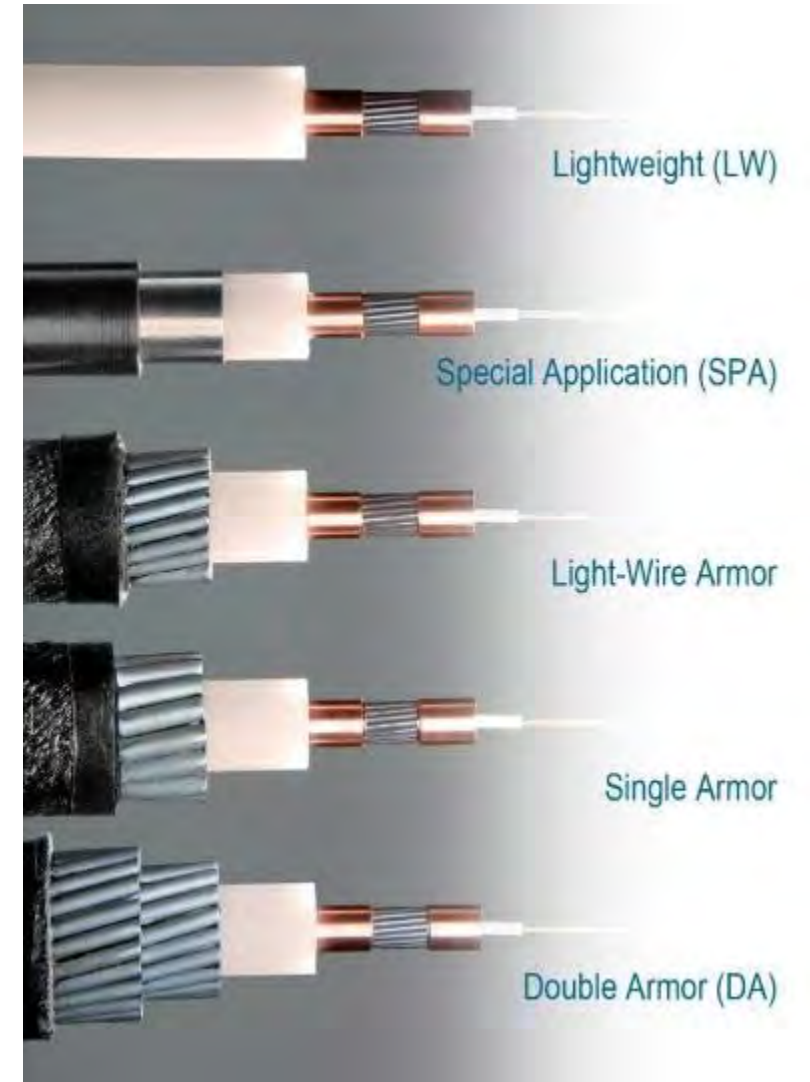


# Undersea Fiber-Optic Cable

## Cable Characteristics:

- **Fibers:** Benign environment for optical fibers
- **Strength:** For deployment and retrieval
- **Electrical:** Power for repeaters and network elements
- **Armoring:** Protection against external aggression

More on cable  
next by Marsha!



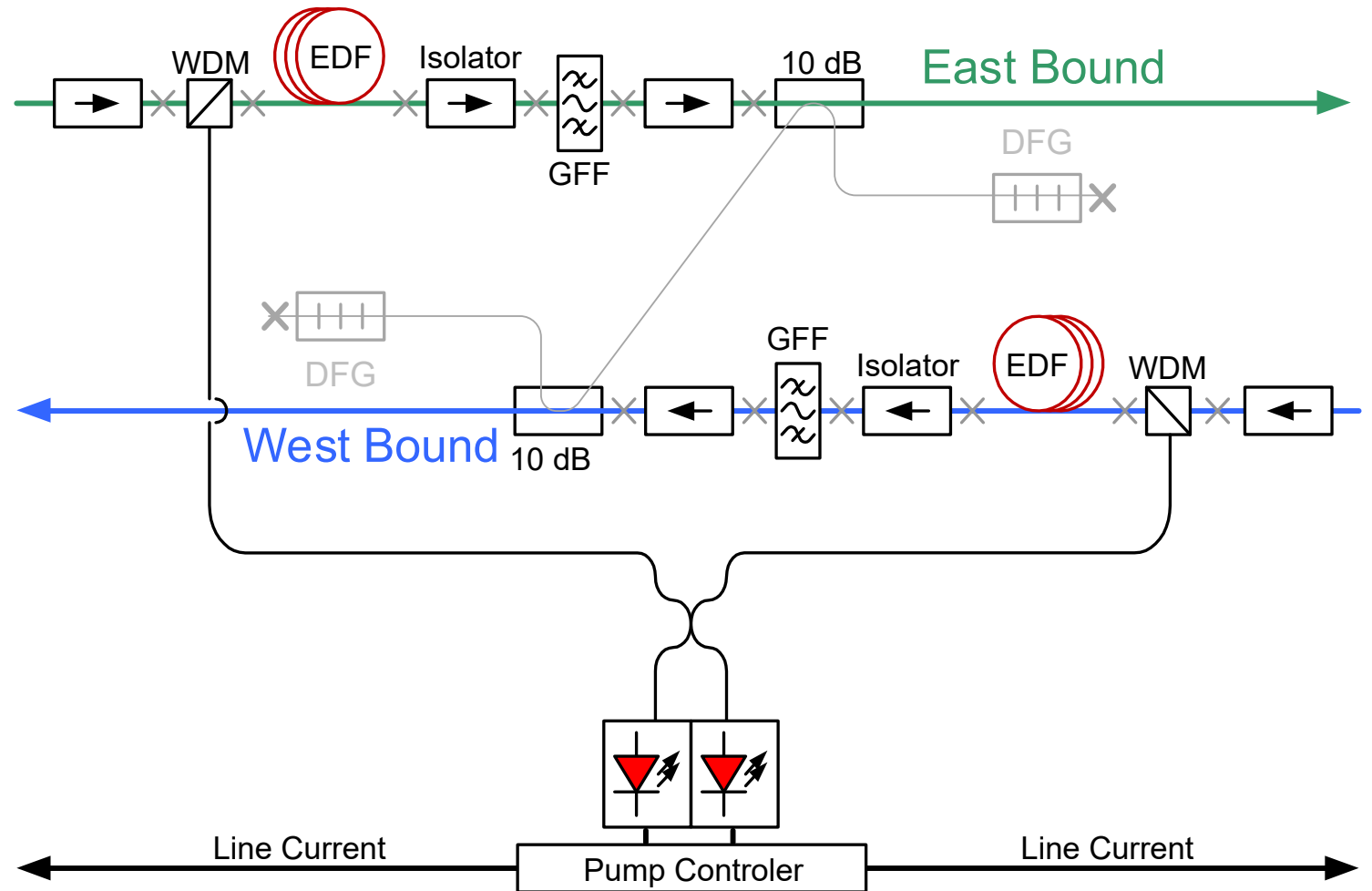
# Repeater

---



# The Repeater

- The modern repeater is an amplifier for the optical data signals on the fiber
- Amplification for fiber pairs
  - both directions of traffic: east and west bound
- High performance design for ultra-long distance transmission
  - Forward pumping for low noise figure
  - Single stage design
- 25 year design life
  - High reliability components
  - Higher order pump manifold
- COTDR path for fault localization



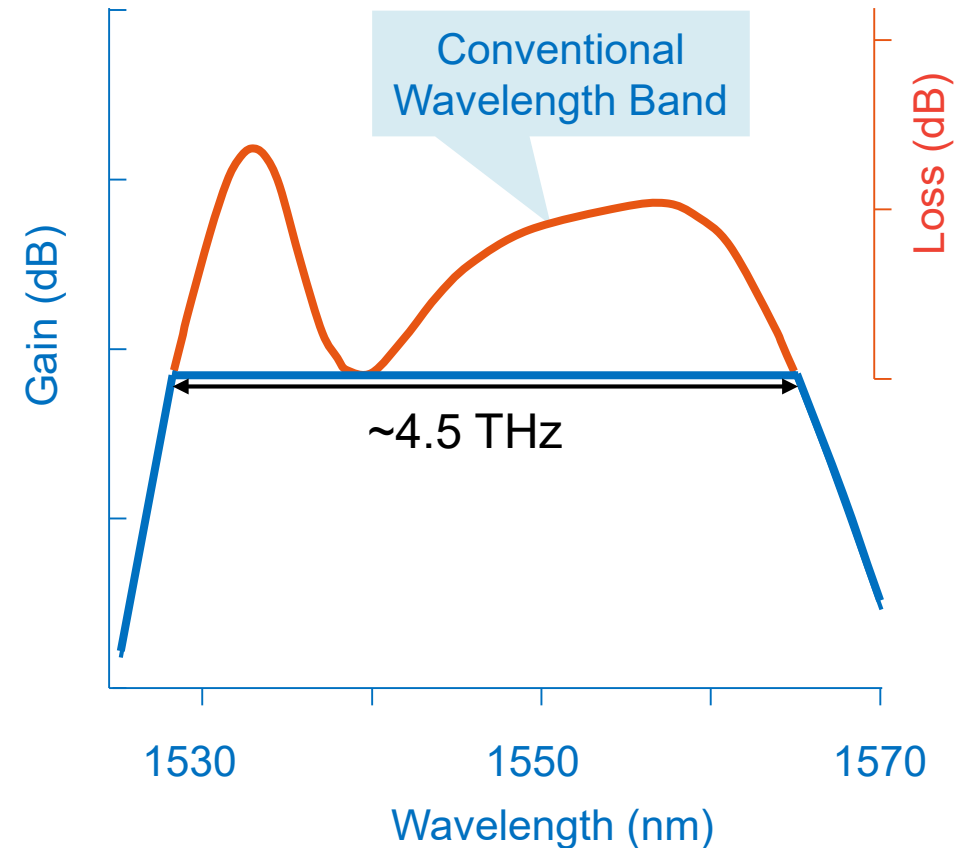
# Amplification

## Erbium Doped Fiber (EDF):

- Amplification around 1550 nm
- Bandwidth around 4.5 THz (1529 – 1565 nm)
- Optical pumping near 980 nm
- Significant gain variation across the amplification bandwidth (gain shape)

## Gain Flattening:

- Gain flattening filter (GFF) to minimize gain variation across the amplification band
  - GFF is typically a Fiber Bragg Grating (FBG)
  - FBG reflection tuned to follow the EDF shape
  - Optical isolators suppress reflections and avoid lasing of the amplifier
- 0.1 dB gain variation leads to 10 dB across 100 repeaters (ignoring spectral-hole burning – more later)



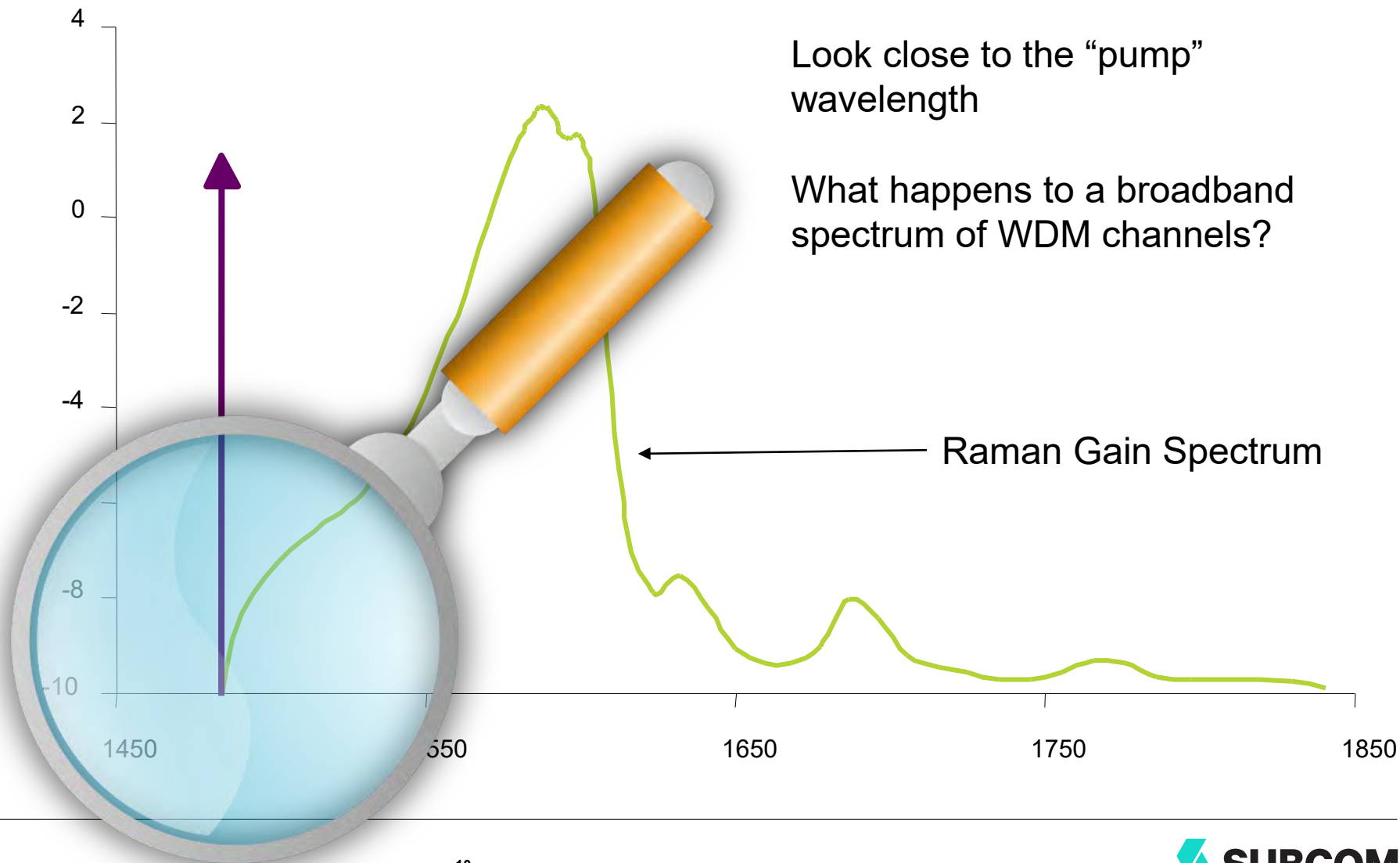


## Gain Equalization

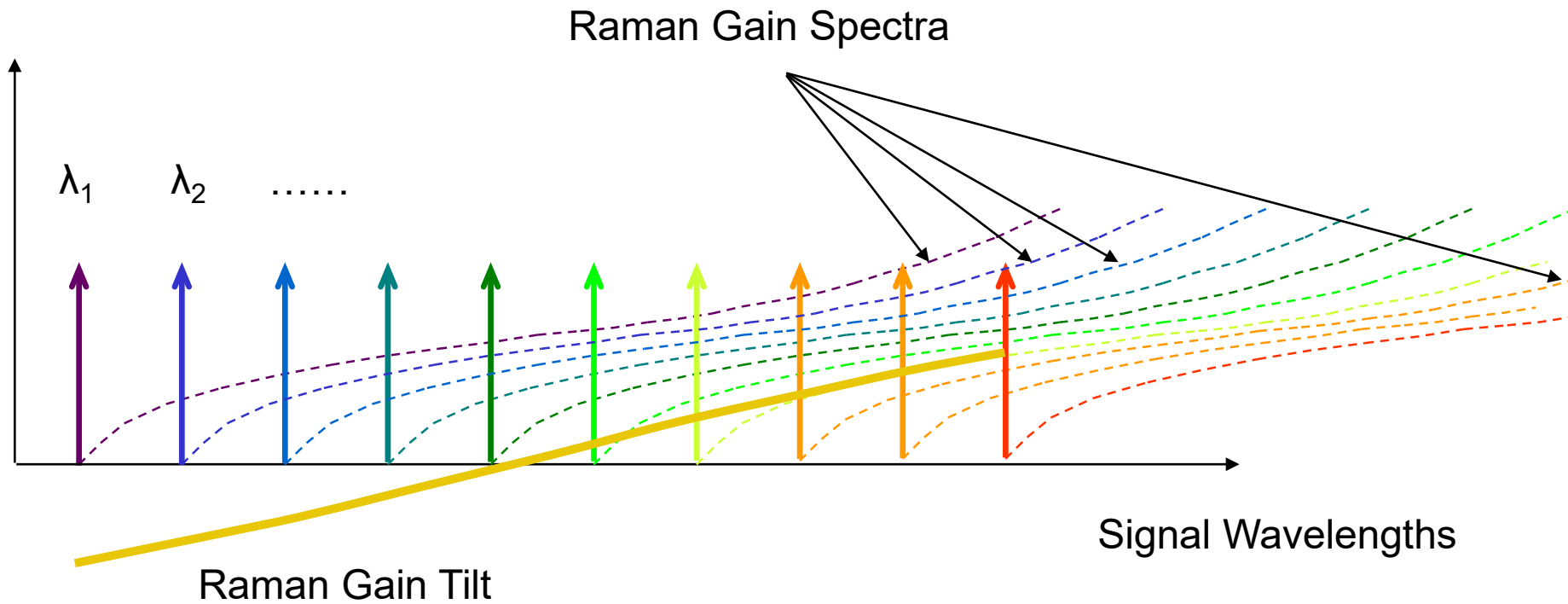
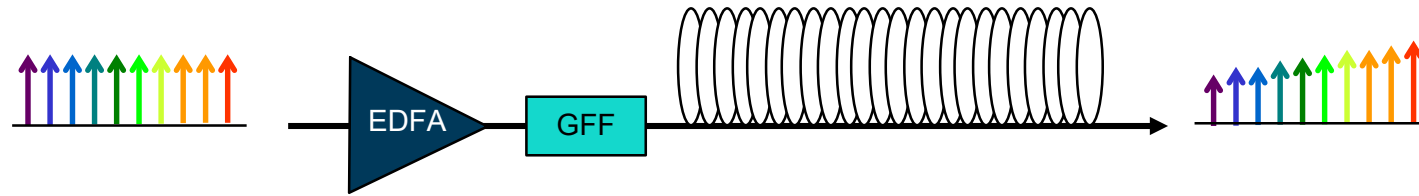
- EDF Shape
- Fiber Loss Shape
- Raman Gain
- Spectral-Hole Burning

# Stimulated Raman Scattering

- Nonlinear scattering of light with optical phonons (lattice vibrations)
- A higher energy photon is scattered creating a phonon and lower energy photon

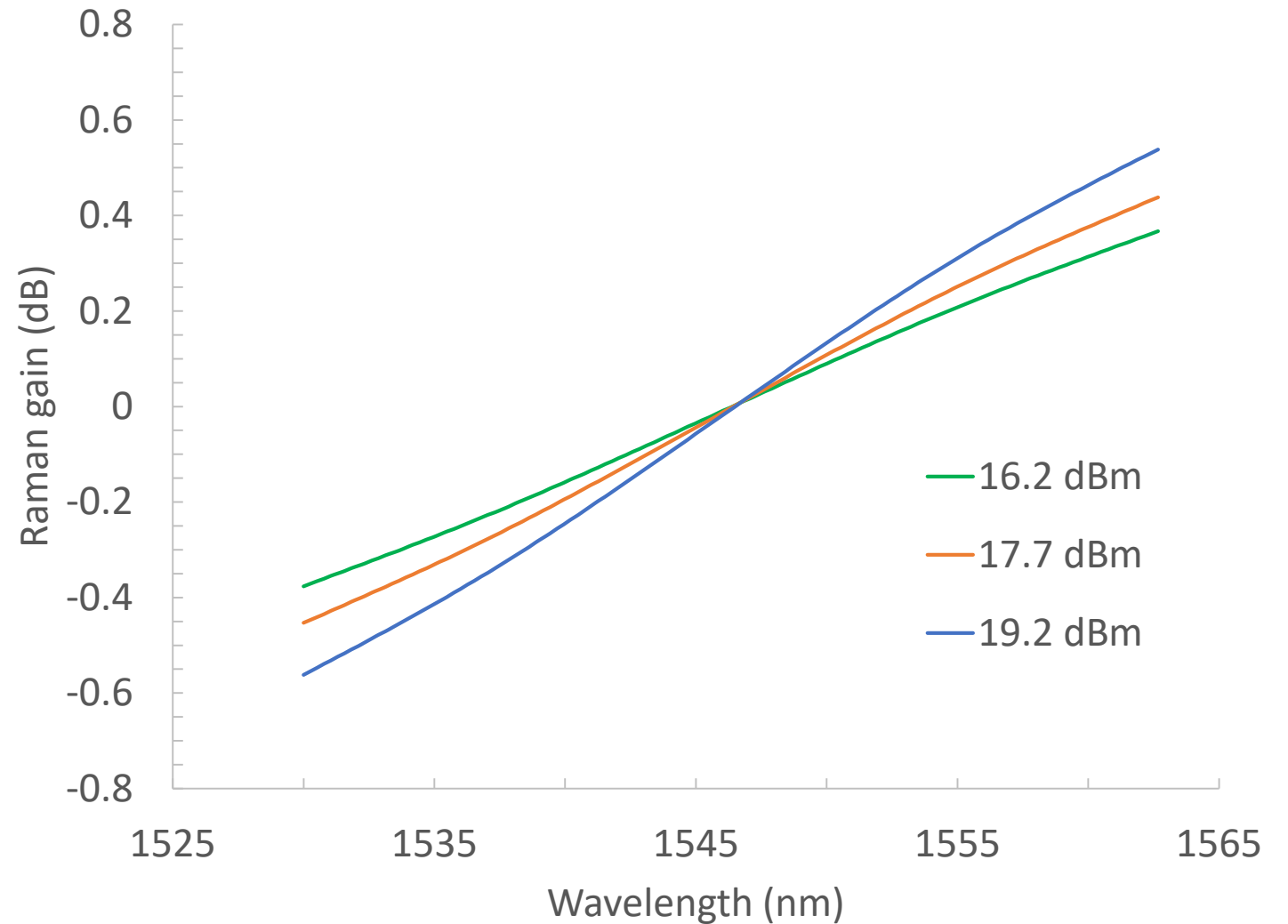


# Intra-Band Raman Effect



# Raman Gain Tilt

- Power transfer from short to long wavelengths
- Amount of power transfer depends on
  - Repeater power level (nonlinear)
  - Fiber (effective area)
  - Span length



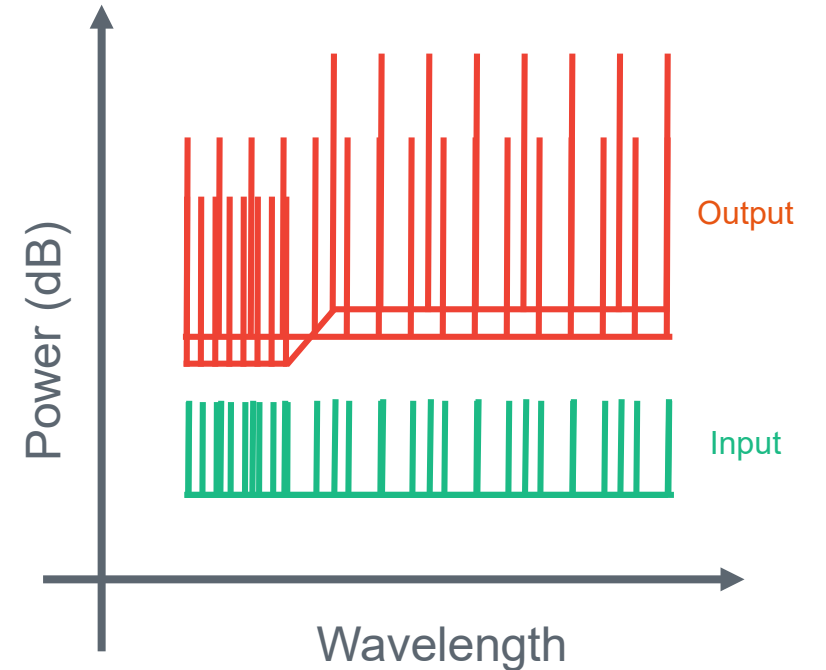
## Gain Equalization

- EDF Shape
- Fiber Loss Shape
- Raman Gain
- Spectral-Hole Burning

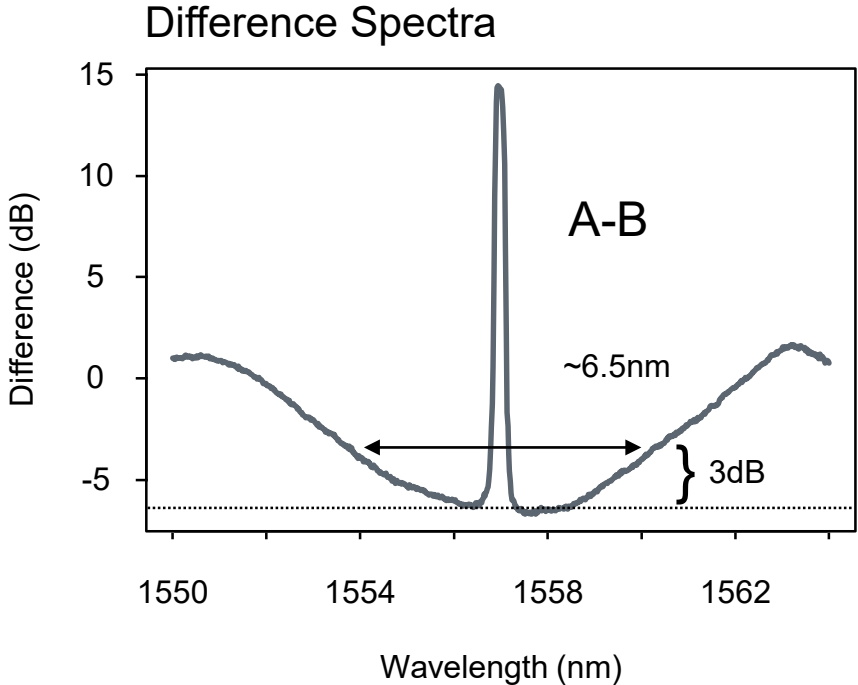
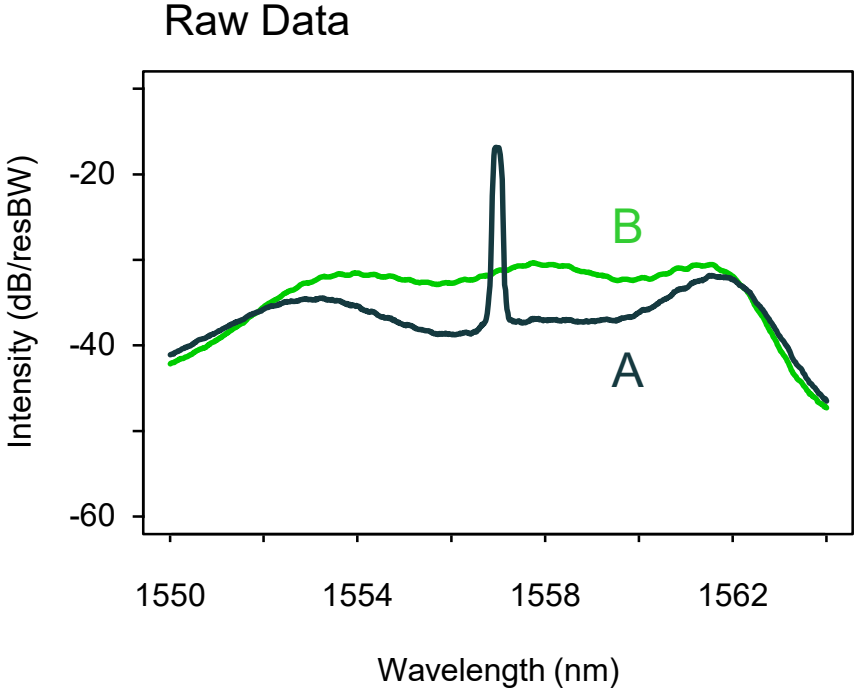
# Spectral-Hole Burning

EDFAs tend to equalize power spectral density across the band

- Amplification depends on spectral loading of the EDFA
- Lower amplification where the power is high and higher amplification where the power is low
- Nonlinear effect
- Must be included when designing the gain management
- Tends to mitigate any residual gain error
- Tends limit effectiveness of pre-emphasis

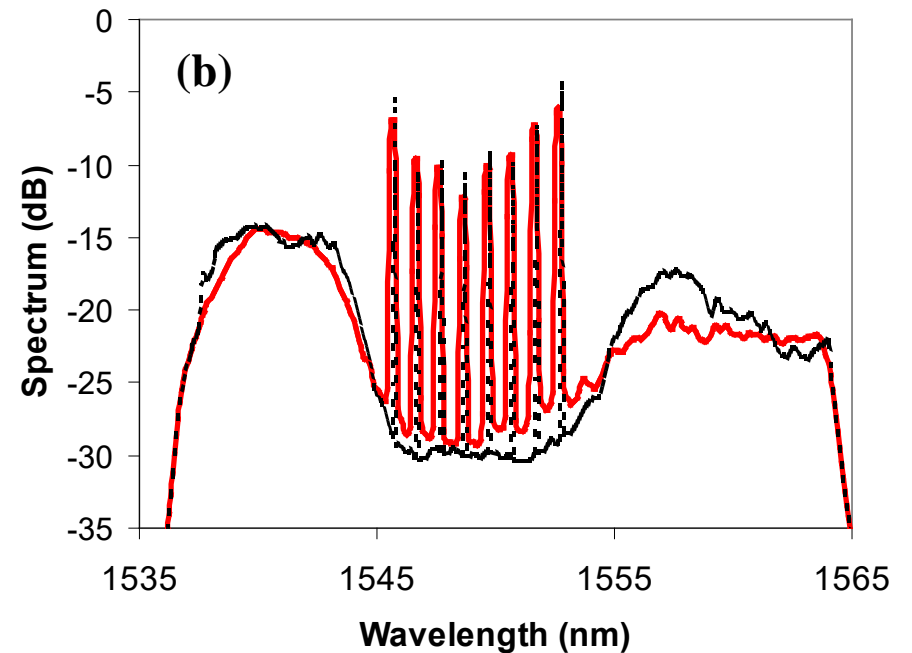
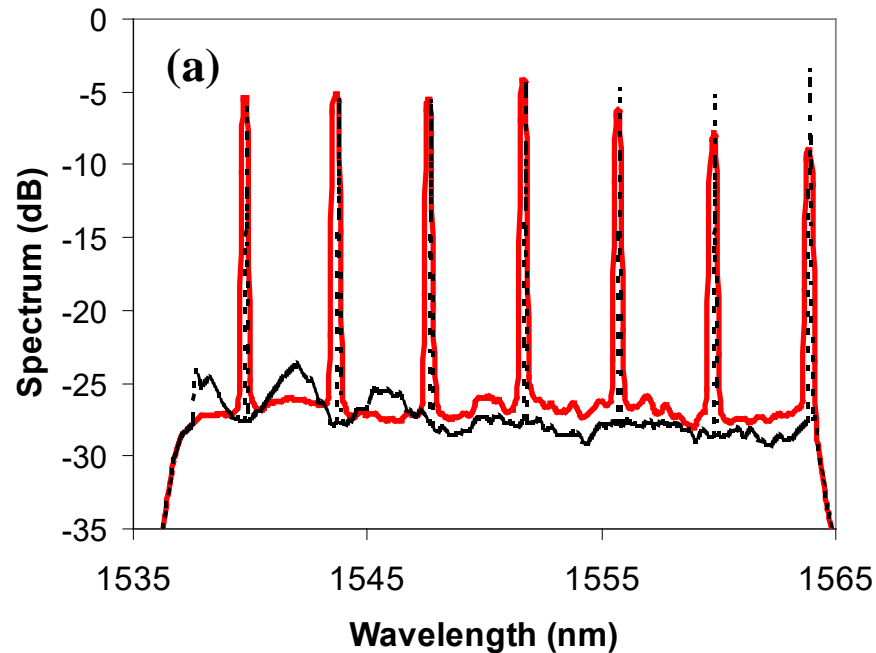


# Spectral Hole-Burning in a 5,000km Amplifier Chain



# Spectral Hole-Burning in WDM Systems\*

Measured and simulated gain vs. wavelength using an installed 6,650km undersea cable system



\* A. N. Pilipetskii et al., OFC'03



# Gain Management in System Assembly

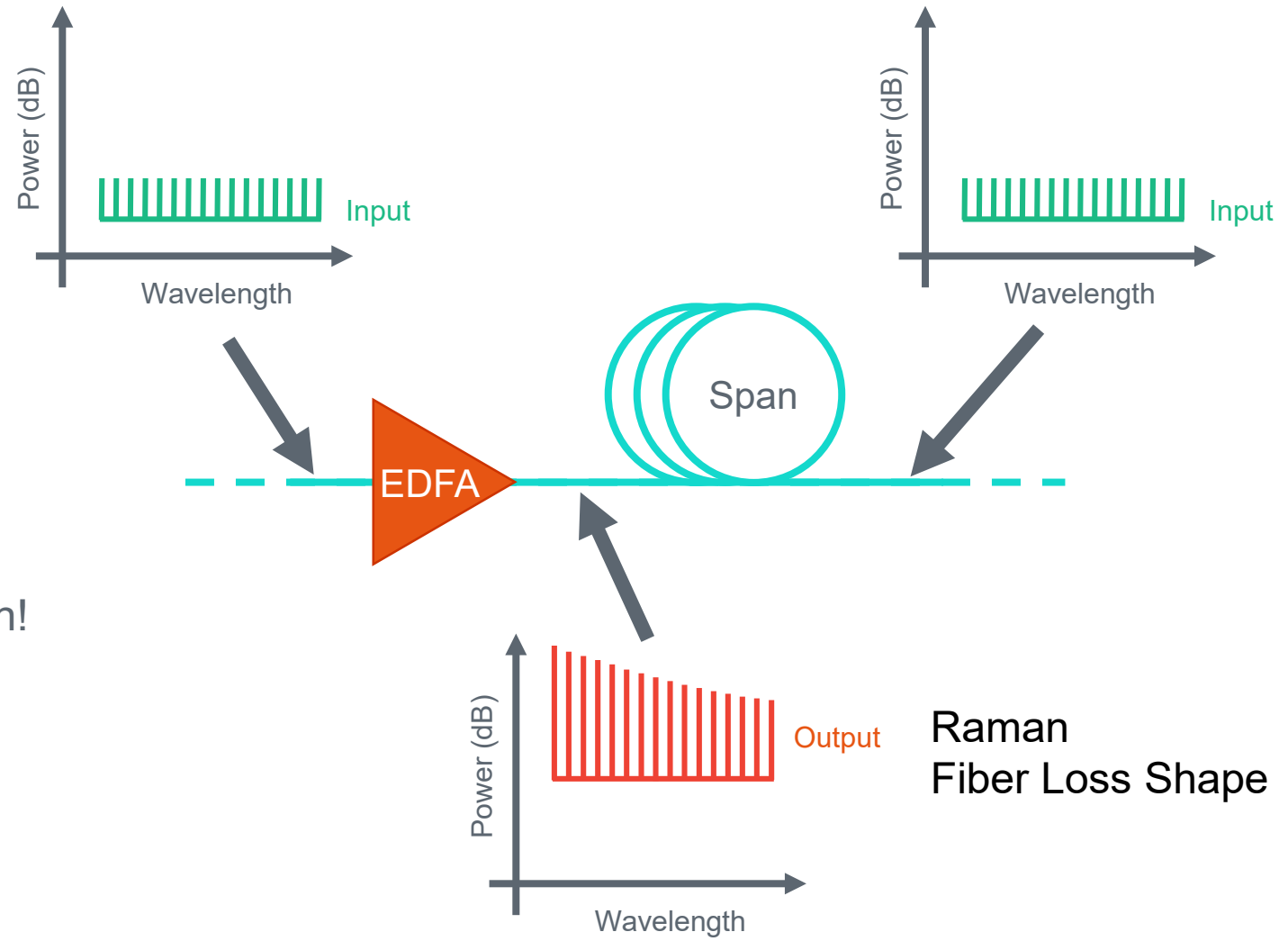
# Repeater Design

## Main Contributors to Gain Variation

- EDF shape
- Fiber loss shape (see Marsha)
  - Fiber loss minimum near 1565 nm
- Intra-band Raman effect
- Spectral-hole burning

## Gain Equalization for amplifier/span combination!

- Precise characterization and custom gain flattening filter for each system design
- Results in nominal amplifier design



# Gain and Loss

What happens with manufacturing variations?

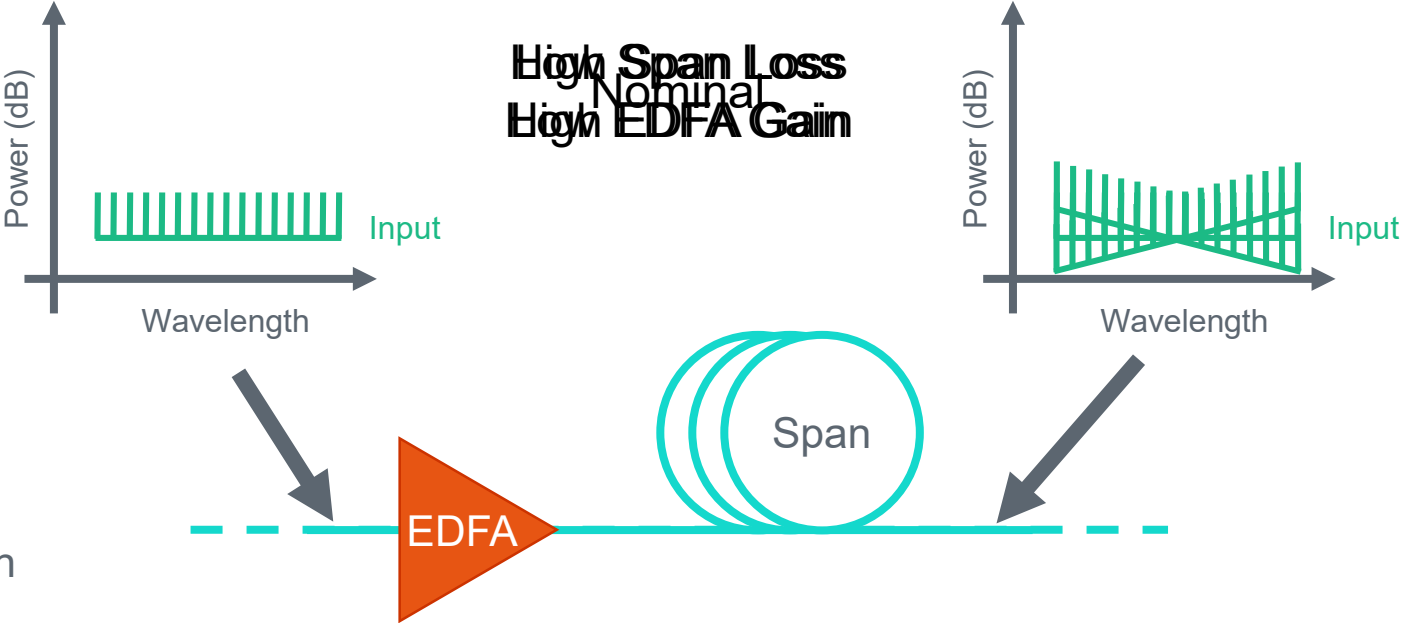
- Span loss is higher/lower than nominal
- EDFA gain is higher/lower than nominal

Repeaters run is constant pump power mode

- Output power set by pump power
- Nominal gain set by EDF length
  - Average inversion determines optical bandwidth

## Spectral Tilt

- Deviation from nominal gain and/or loss leads to a spectral tilt (first order, also some shape)



# Gain Management

## 1. Gain equalization per amplifier/span combination

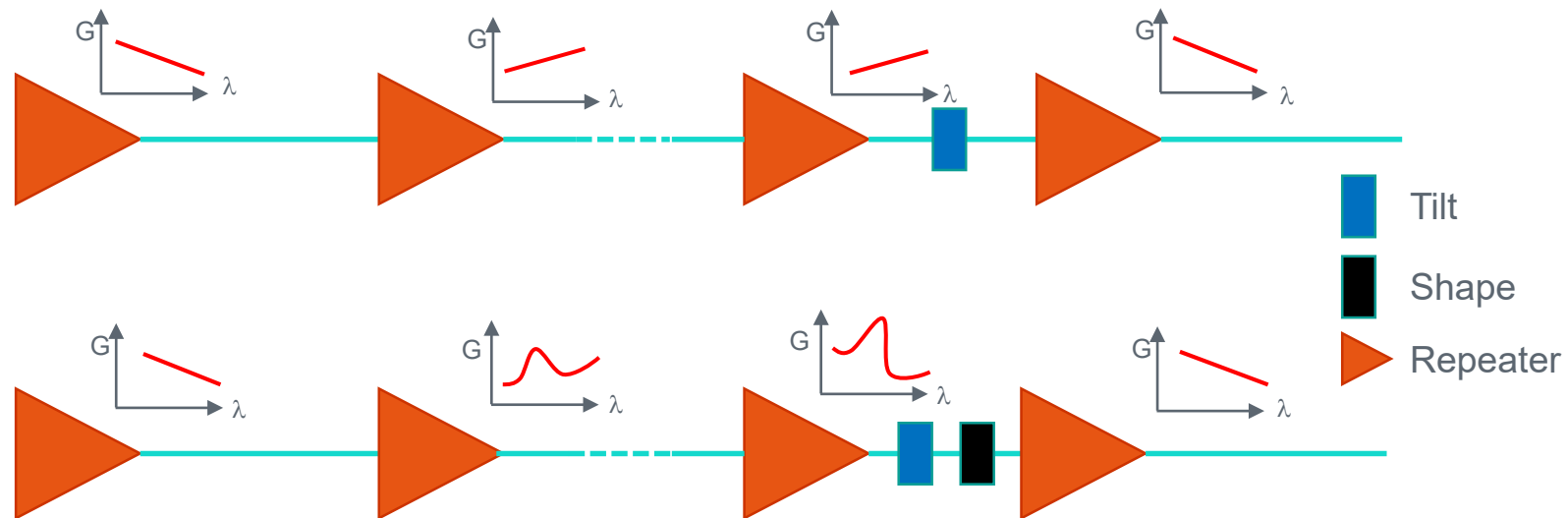
- Gain flattening filter (GFF) – Typically a Fiber Bragg Grating

## 2. Gain tilt equalization

- Adjustable (during system assembly) loss point (Loss Build Out – LBO) every several spans

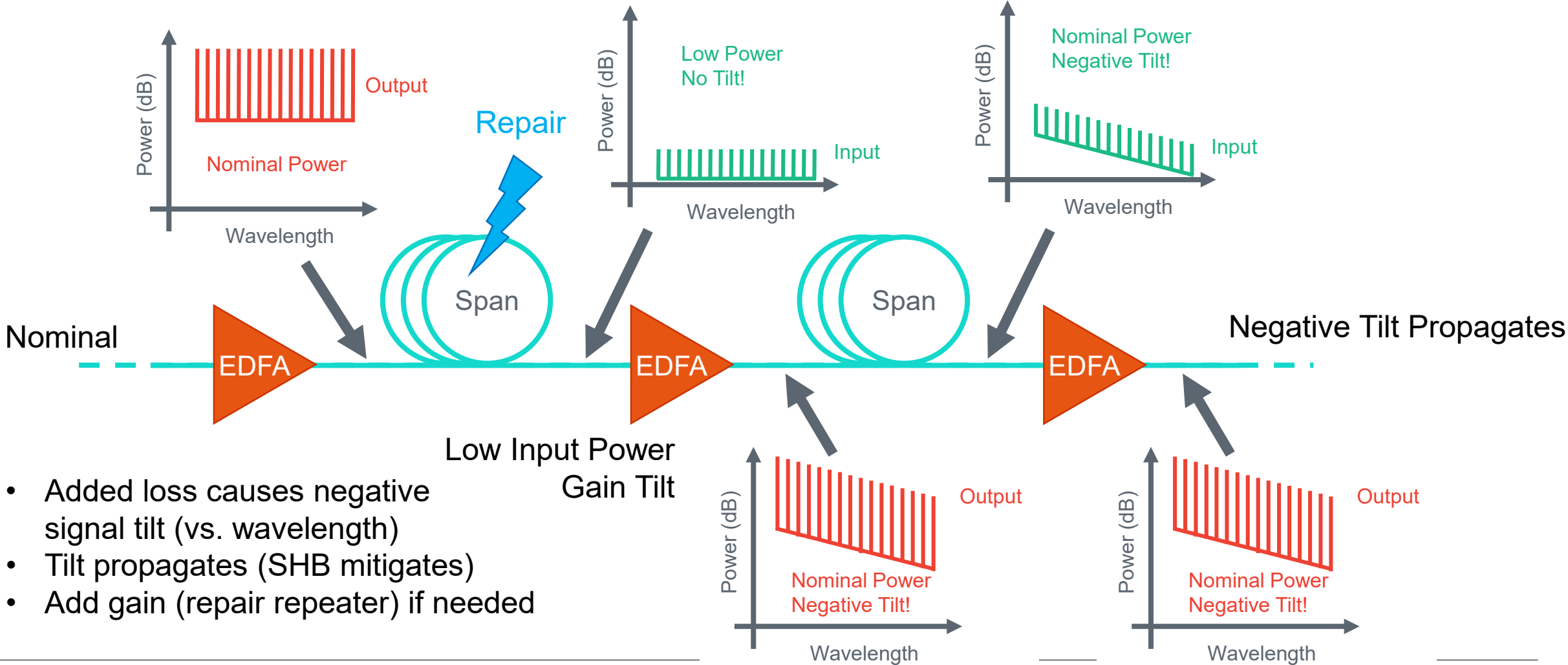
## 3. Second order gain shape correction to address systematic GFF shape error

- Shape Correction Unit (custom gain equalization filter)



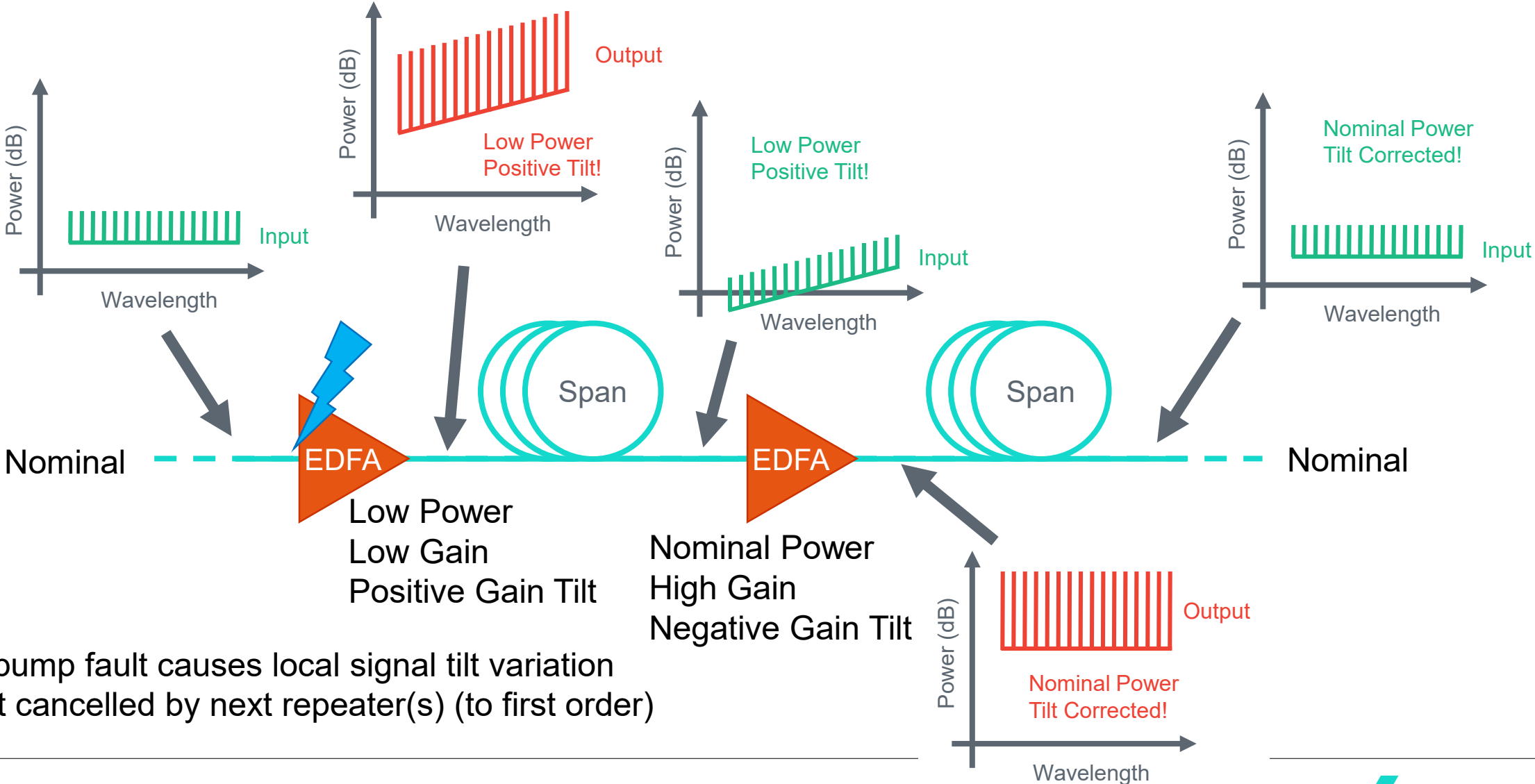
# Gain Management During System Life

# Loss Fault



- Added loss causes negative signal tilt (vs. wavelength)
- Tilt propagates (SHB mitigates)
- Add gain (repair repeater) if needed

# Pump Fault in a Chain of Repeaters



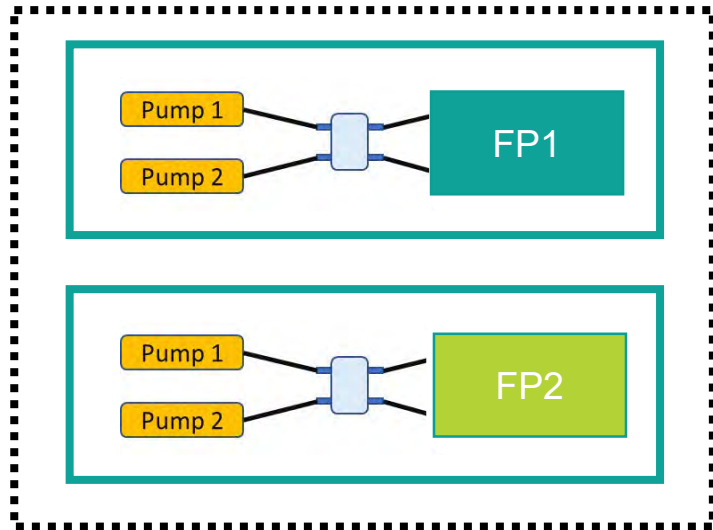
- A pump fault causes local signal tilt variation
- Tilt cancelled by next repeater(s) (to first order)

# Repeater Pump Manifold



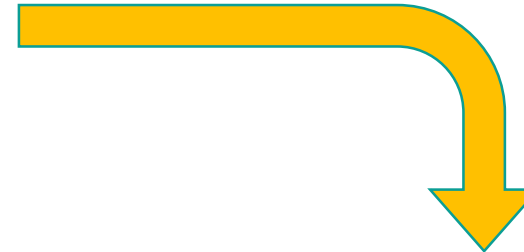
# Pump Sharing: Higher Reliability

2 FPs = 2 Sets of “2 pumping 2 Fibers”:

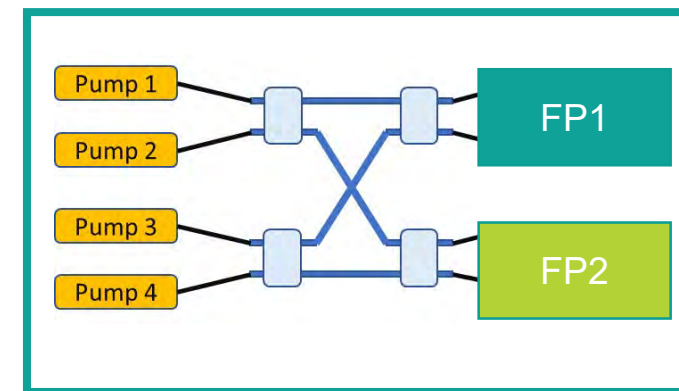


*Traditional:*

*“Fiber Pair Independence”  
(One pump-pair per FP)  
(2.6 FIT per FPs)*



2FP = 1 set of “4 pumping 4 Fibers”:



*New “Pump Sharing / Farming”*

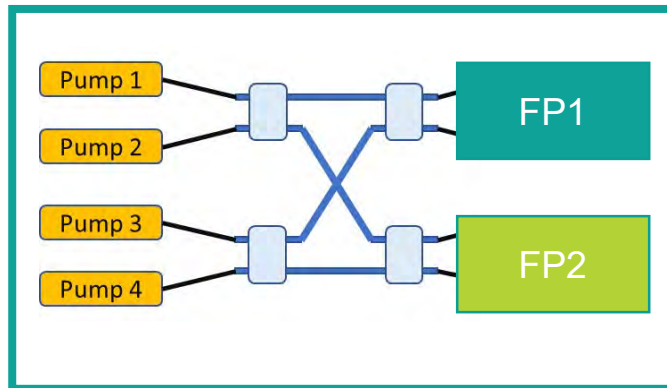
*(Power shared over 2 FPs)  
(0.001 FIT per FP)*

**Higher Reliability**

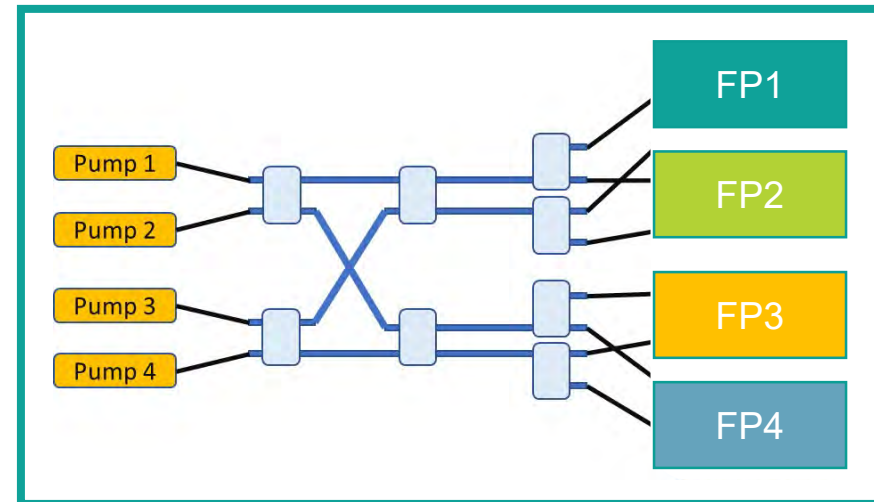
# Pump Sharing: SDM / More Fiber Pairs

*Pump Lasers are combined and shared in sets of four*

“4 pumping 4 Fibers”



“4 pumping 8 Fibers”:



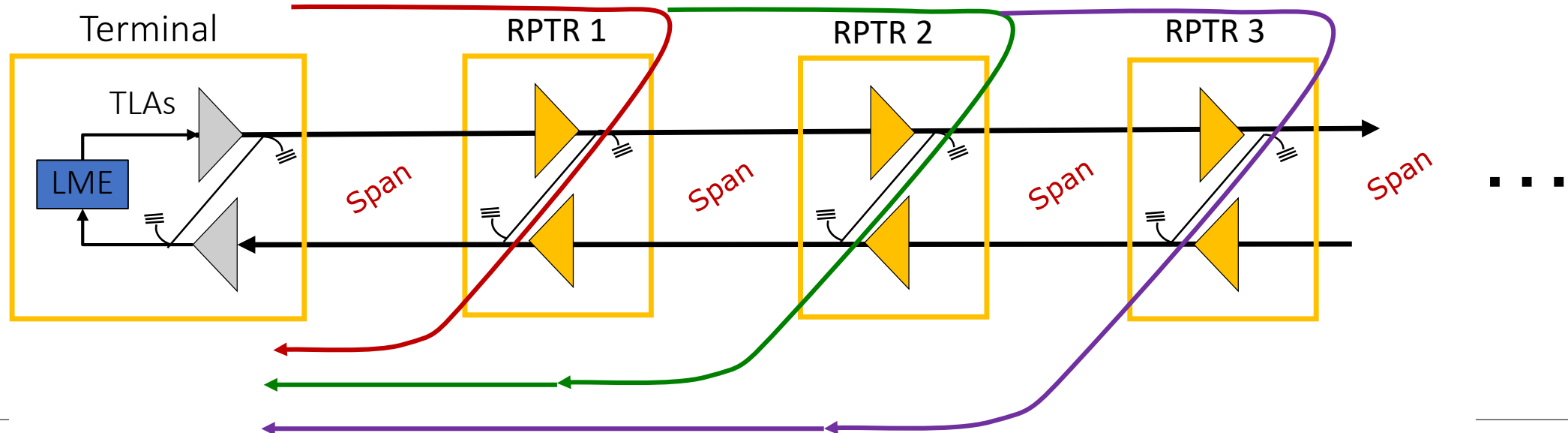
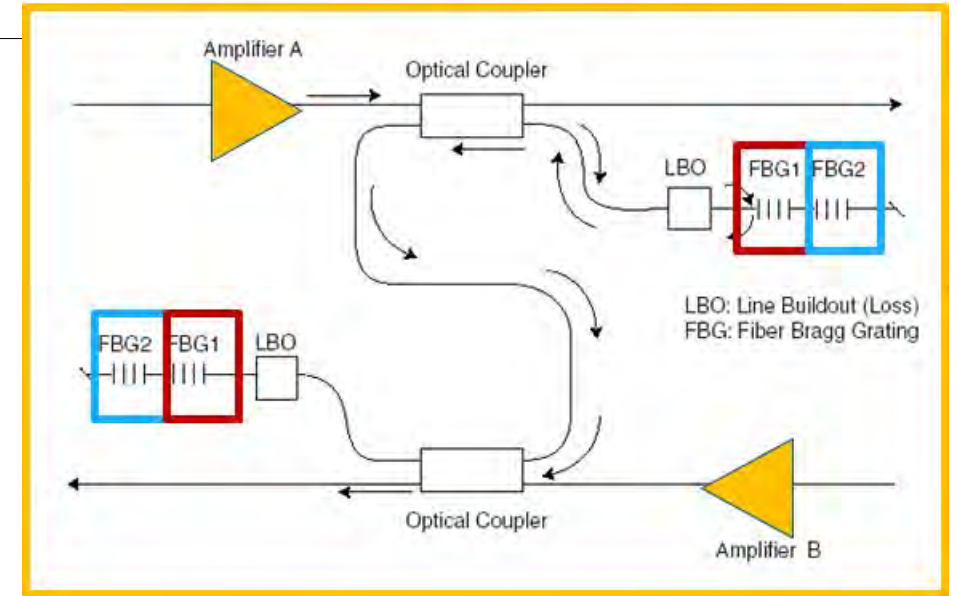
**Support for twice as many FPs, with higher reliability**

# Line Monitoring System

# Line Monitoring System

- Provides Undersea Monitoring and Fault Detection
- All optical principle, no active components in the repeaters
- Two operating modes: HLLB mode and COTDR mode

## High-Loss Loopback Circuit For one Amp-Pair



# In-Service Line Monitoring

## Line Monitoring System Signals

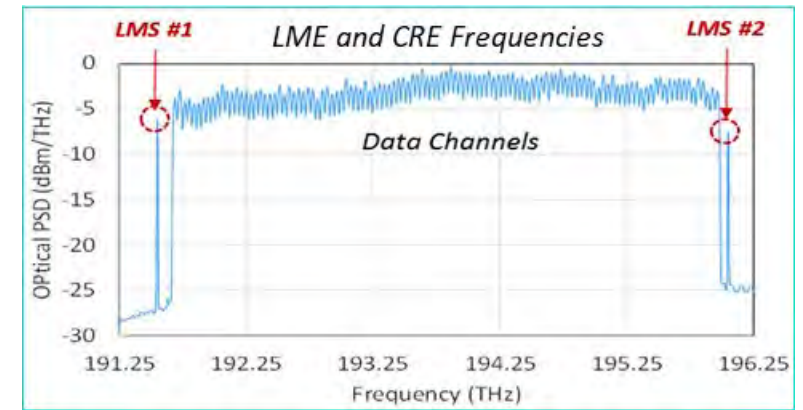
- LMS tones on the short and long wavelength side of the data transmission band

## Automated Signal Interpretation

- Automatic Signature Analysis detects changes in loop gain and extracts span loss and repeater output powers.
- Reported parameters include span length, span loss, repeater input and output power levels, and tilt

## Active Line Monitoring Systems are also in use

- Input and output power levels detected with photodiodes and reported to shore via command channel



LMP Source	MARS				
Amplifier Name	Span Loss (dB)	P <sub>IN</sub> (dBm)	P <sub>OUT</sub> (dBm)	Gain (dB)	Tilt (dB)
Plot Select	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
R01	7.6	9.8	19.8	10.1	-0.4
R02	9.6	10.2	19.7	9.5	-0.0
R03	9.7	10.0	19.8	9.7	-0.3
R04	9.7	10.1	19.6	9.5	-1.0
R05	9.8	9.8	19.7	9.9	-1.3
R06	9.6	10.1	20.2	10.0	-0.8
R07	9.8	10.3	19.4	9.1	-0.6
R08	9.3	10.1	19.4	9.4	-0.2
R09	9.2	10.2	19.0	8.8	0.2
R10	9.6	9.4	19.5	10.0	0.0
R11	9.7	9.7	19.7	9.9	0.2
R12	10.2	9.5	19.5	10.1	-0.0

Example RPT for One Traffic Direction

# Out-of-Service COTDR Measurements

## Rayleigh Scattering

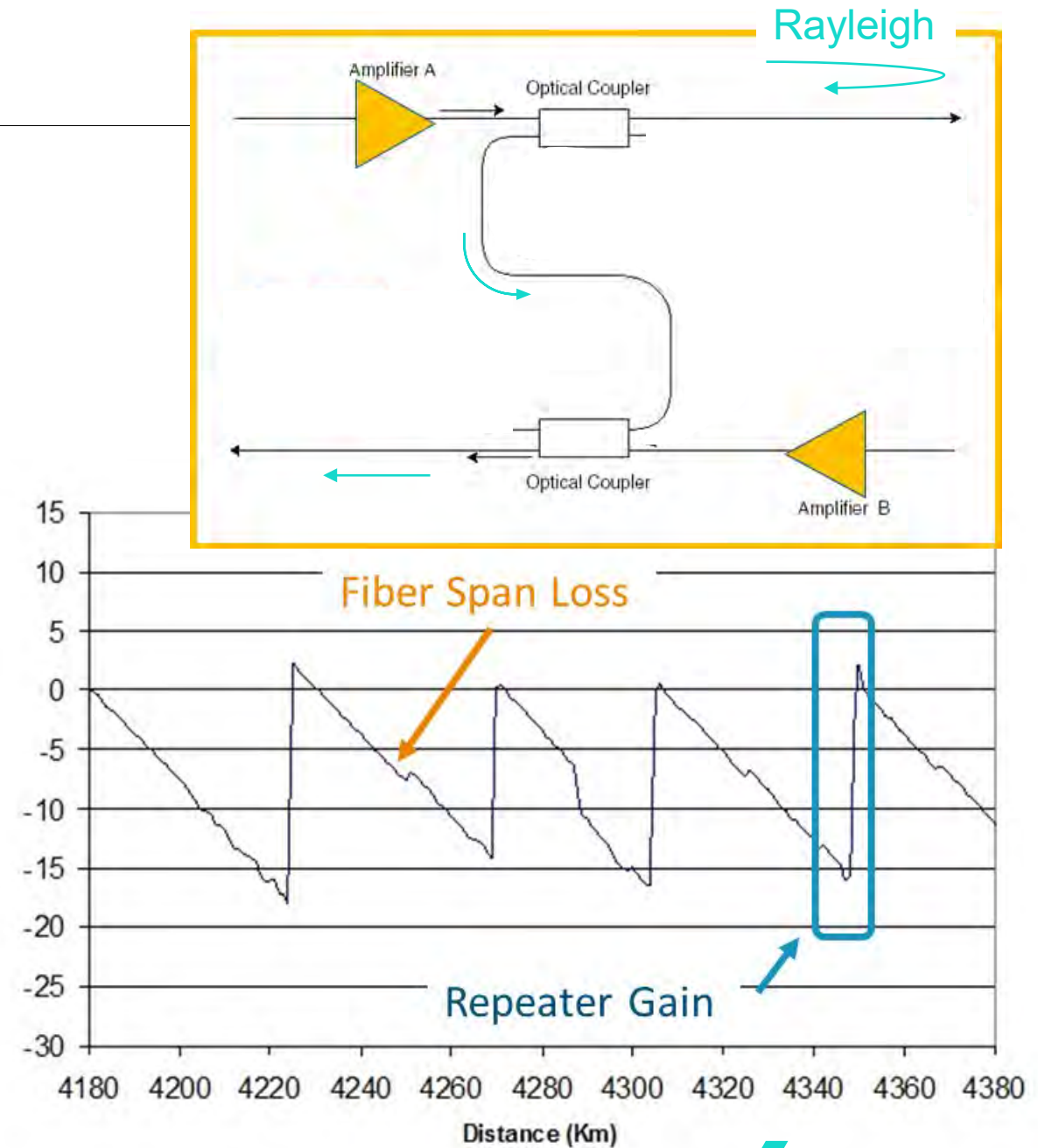
- Fiber reflects optical power back towards the transmitter (< -30 dB)

## Optical Time Domain Reflectometry (OTDR)

- Send pulse, look for reflected signal

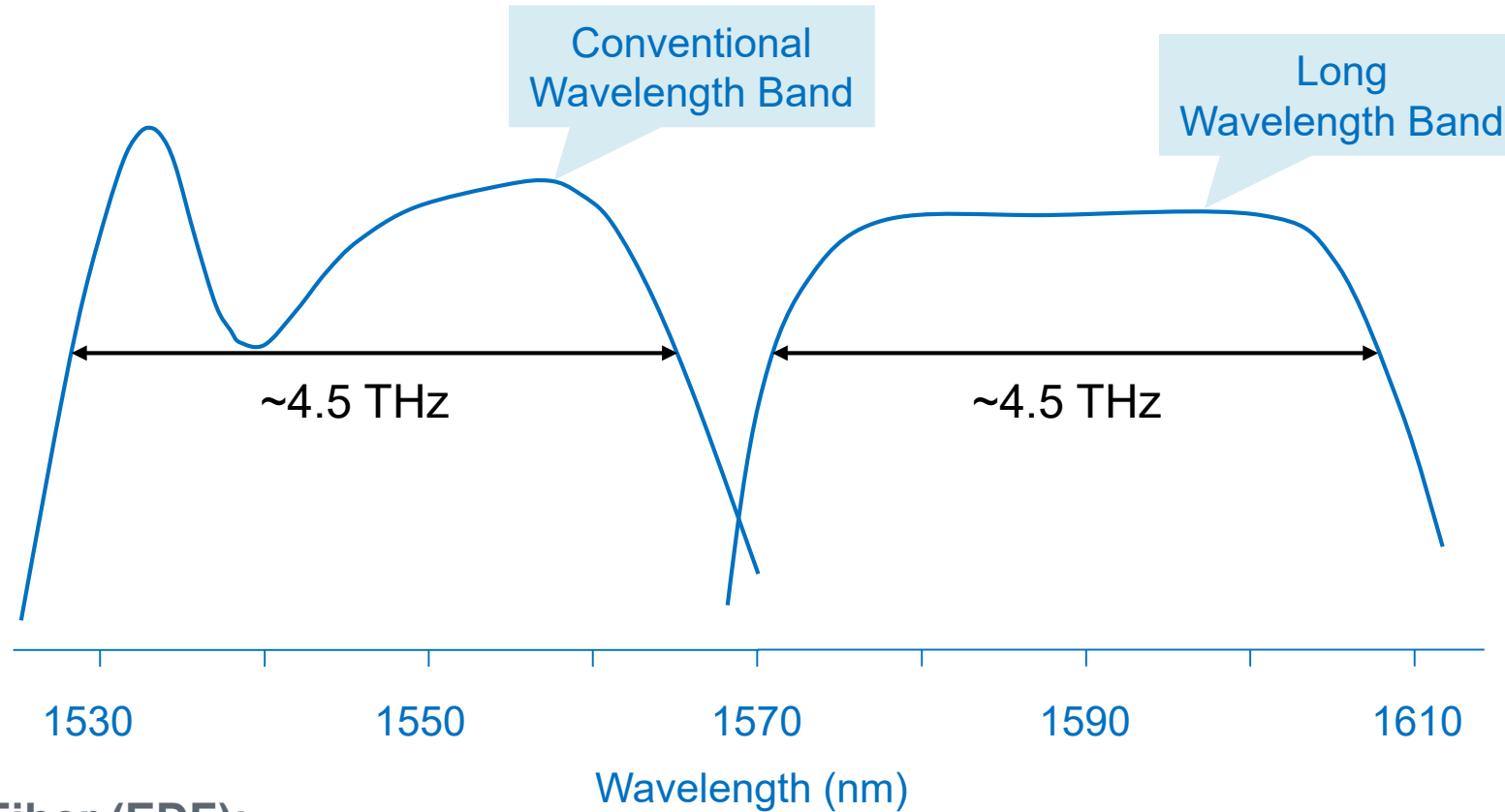
## Coherent (Correlation) OTDR (COTDR)

- Send pulse (pattern) on outbound path, look for reflection on inbound path through High-Loss Loopback
- Works over multiple spans for >10,000 km
- **Locate faults with <1km accuracy**





# C+L: Doubling Fiber Pair Bandwidth



## Erbium Doped Fiber (EDF):

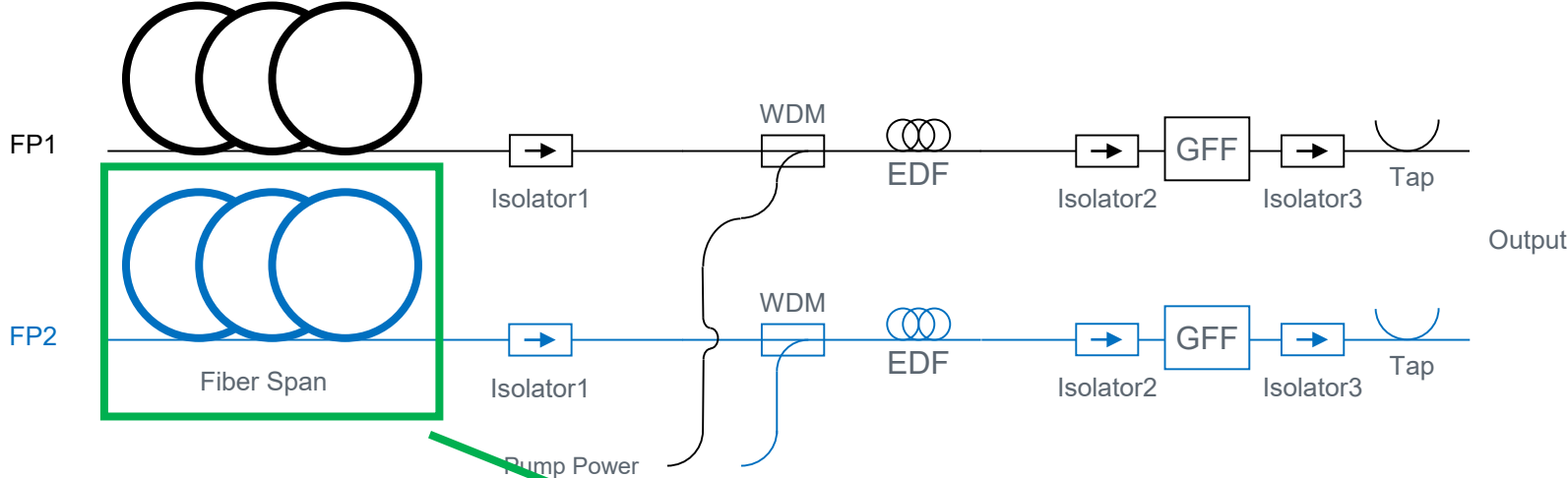
- Amplification in the C-band (1529 – 1565 nm)
- Amplification in the L-band (1570 – 1608 nm) (if no light in C-band)



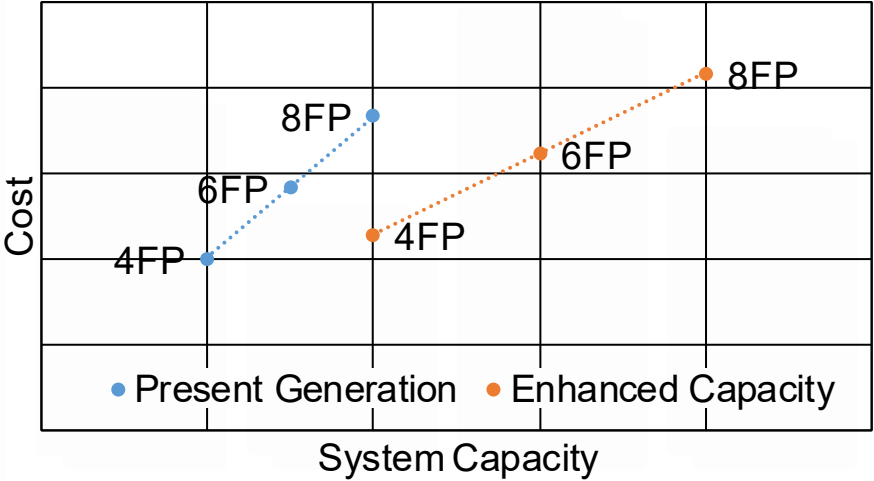
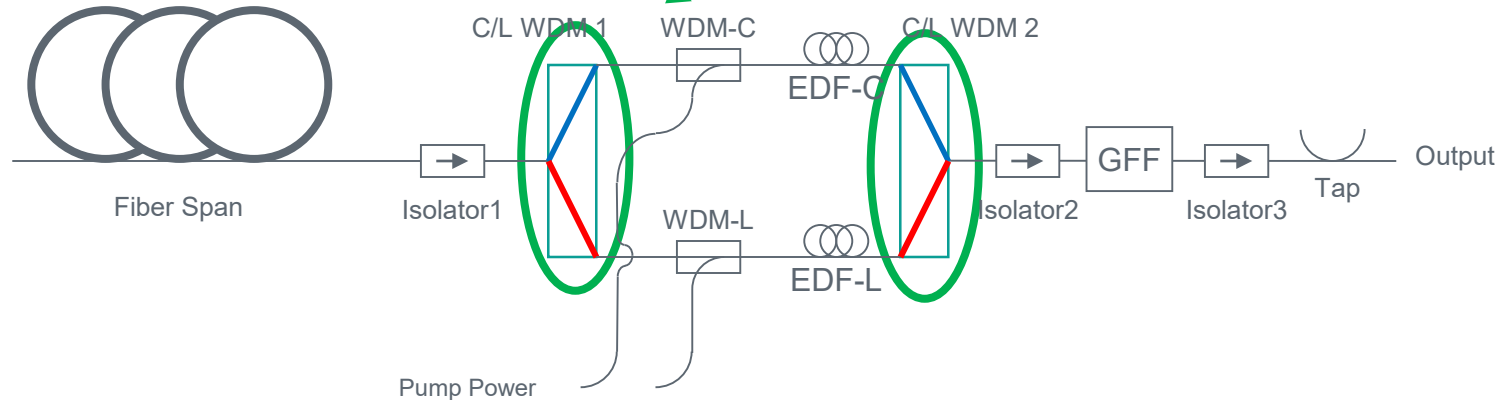
# C+L Architecture

- Nearly double the capacity per fiber pair
- Enables compact cable designs with fewer fiber pairs for the same capacity

2xC:



C+L:

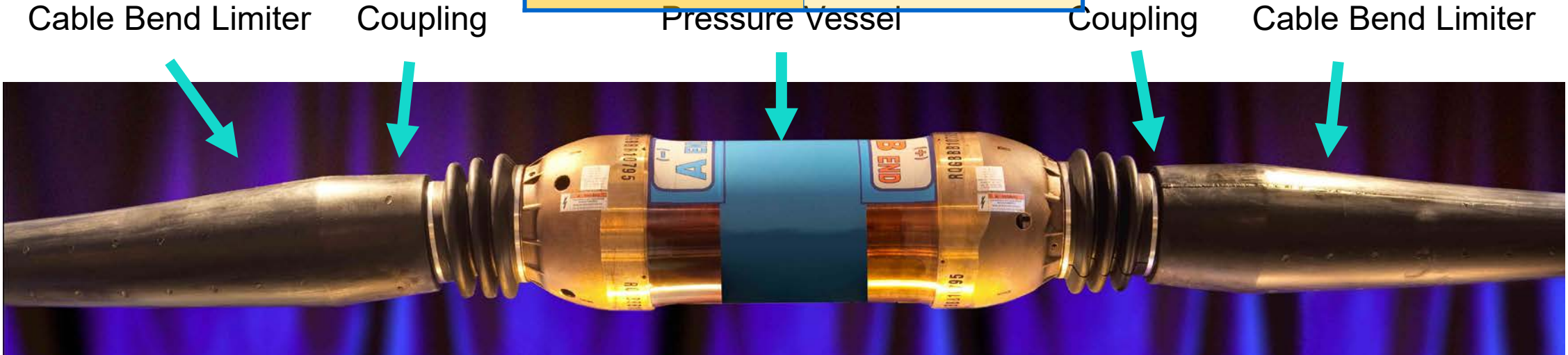
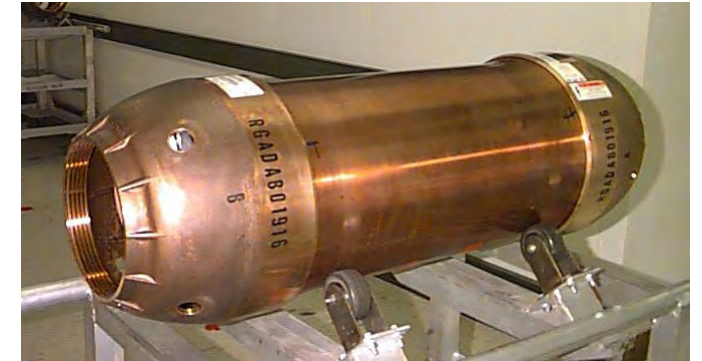


# Repeater Mechanical

# Pressure Vessel

- Cylindrical shape
- Material: BeCu  
(also Stainless Steel or Titanium)
- Good to 8000m

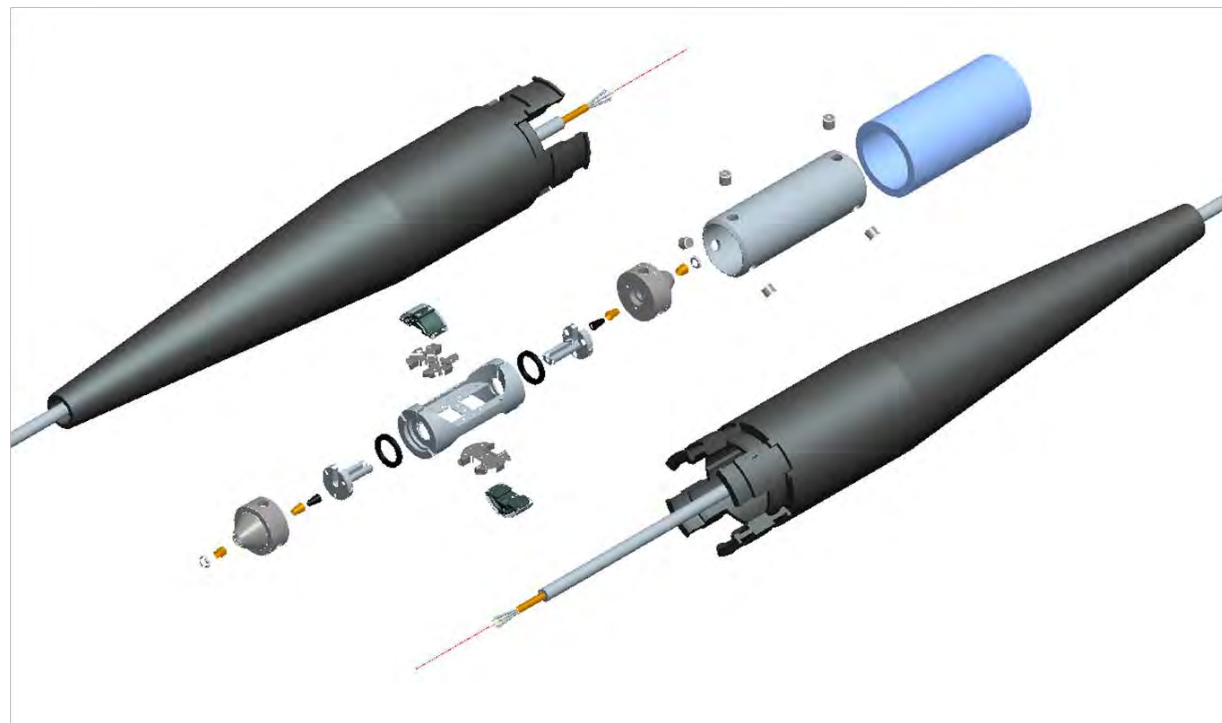
Feature	Nominal Value
Overall Length	498 cm (196 in.) w bend limiting boots
Diameter (largest)	33 cm (13 in)
Design Depth/Pressure	8000 m (~ 12000psi)
Approximate Weight	225 kg (493 lb)
Body with cones	



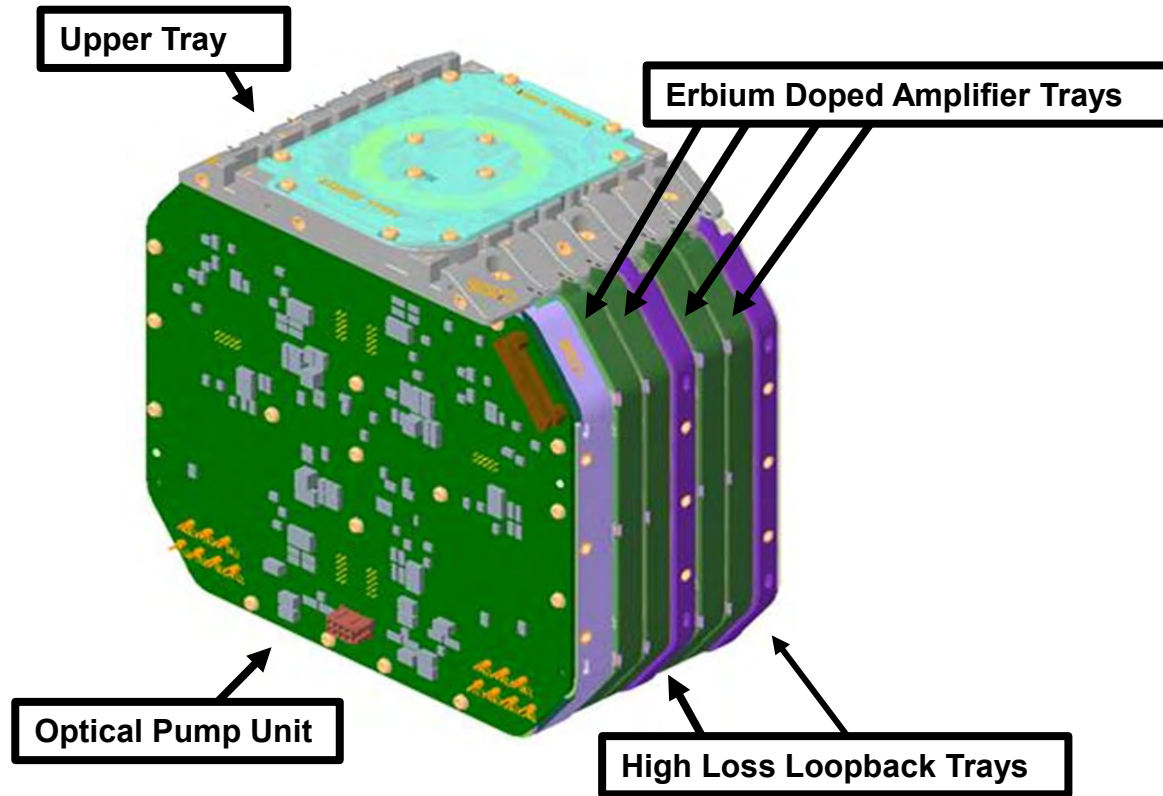
# Cable to Repeater Coupling



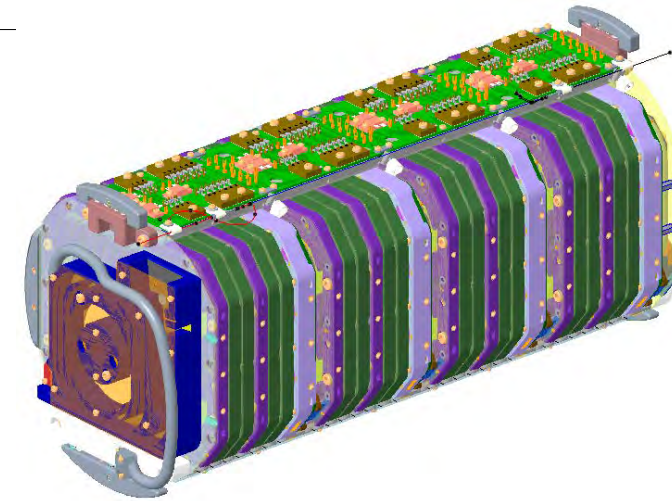
# Millennia Joint



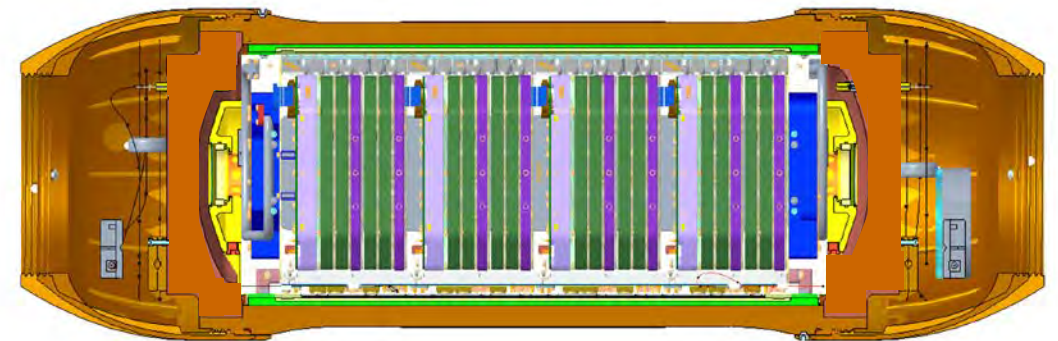
# Repeater Mechanical Design – 16 FP Repeater



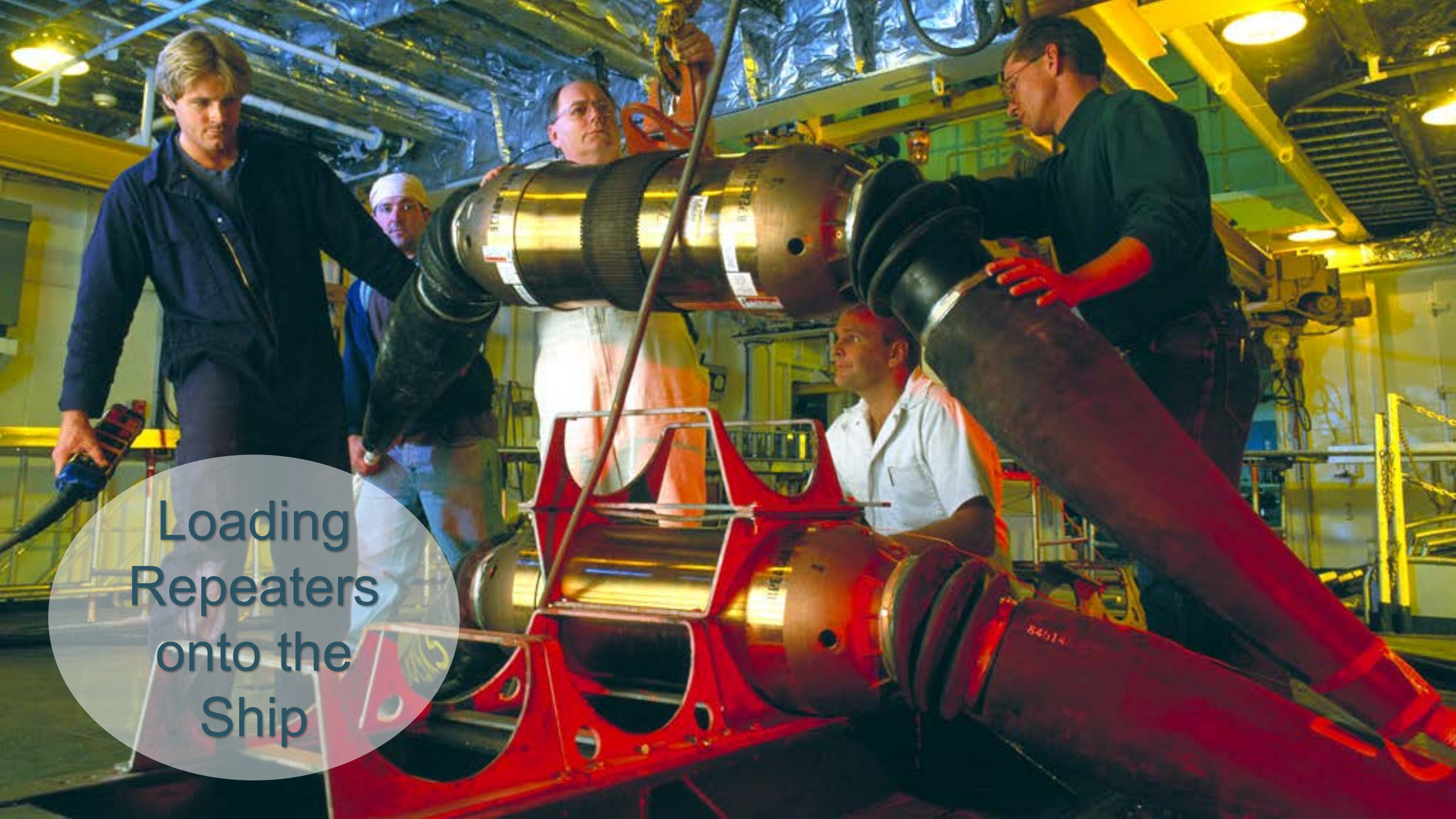
**Dual Amplifier Quad Supports 4 Fiber Pairs**



**Up to Four Dual Amp Quads in a Network**



**16 FP Repeater Network in Type 300 Repeater Housing**



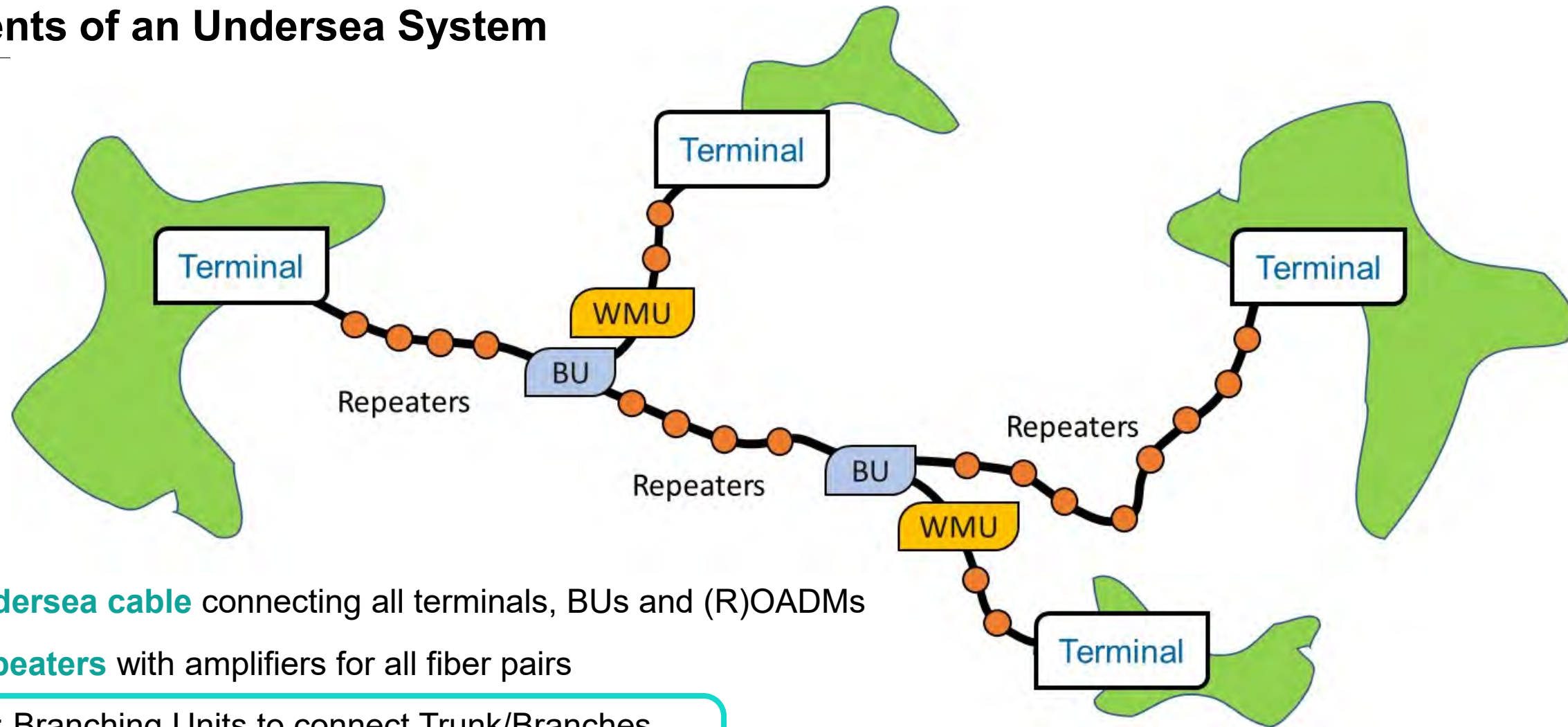
Loading  
Repeaters  
onto the  
Ship



## Repeaters on Board Ship Ready for Deployment



# Elements of an Undersea System



- **Undersea cable** connecting all terminals, BUs and (R)OADMs
- **Repeaters** with amplifiers for all fiber pairs
- **BU:** Branching Units to connect Trunk/Branches
- **WMU:** Wavelength Management Units – (R)OADM

# Branching Units

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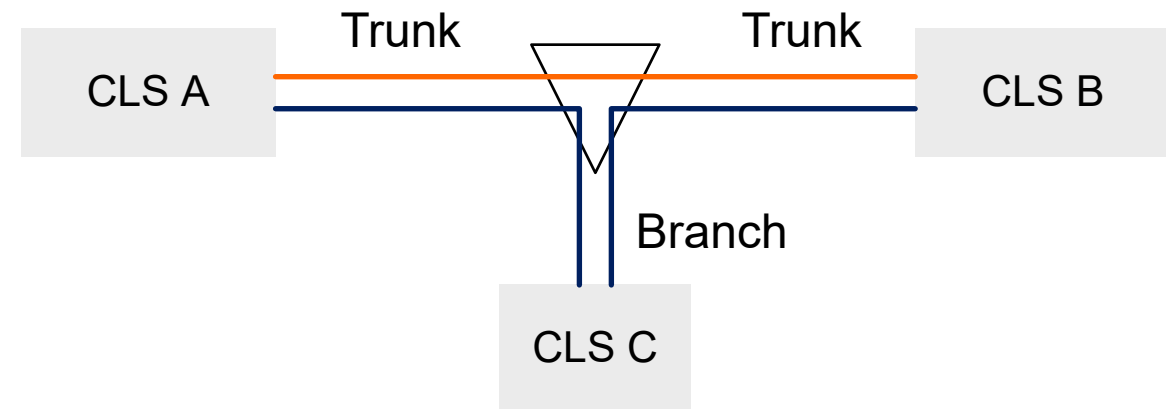
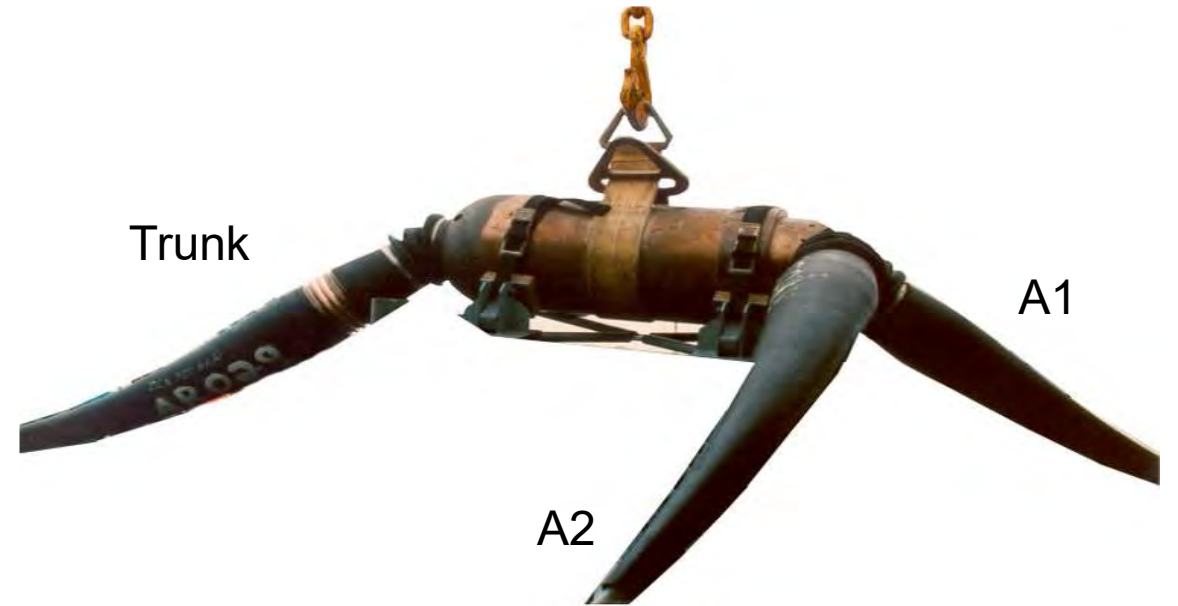


# Branching Unit – Fiber Routing

The branching unit (BU) enables connections other than simple point to point

## The Branching Unit

- A 3-port device: Trunk, A1 and A2
- Enables the creation of a branch of the main trunk
- Provides fiber routing and optical connectivity between 3 points
- Enables later network expansion

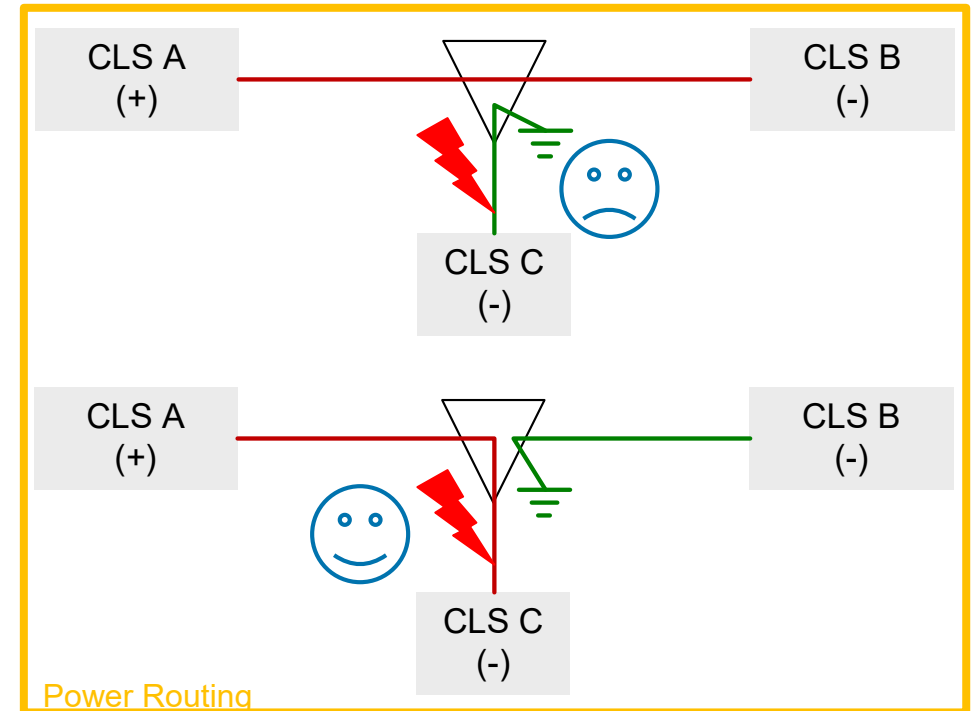


# Power Switched Branching Unit

The branching unit can also contain remote controlled high voltage relays to enable switching of the power path

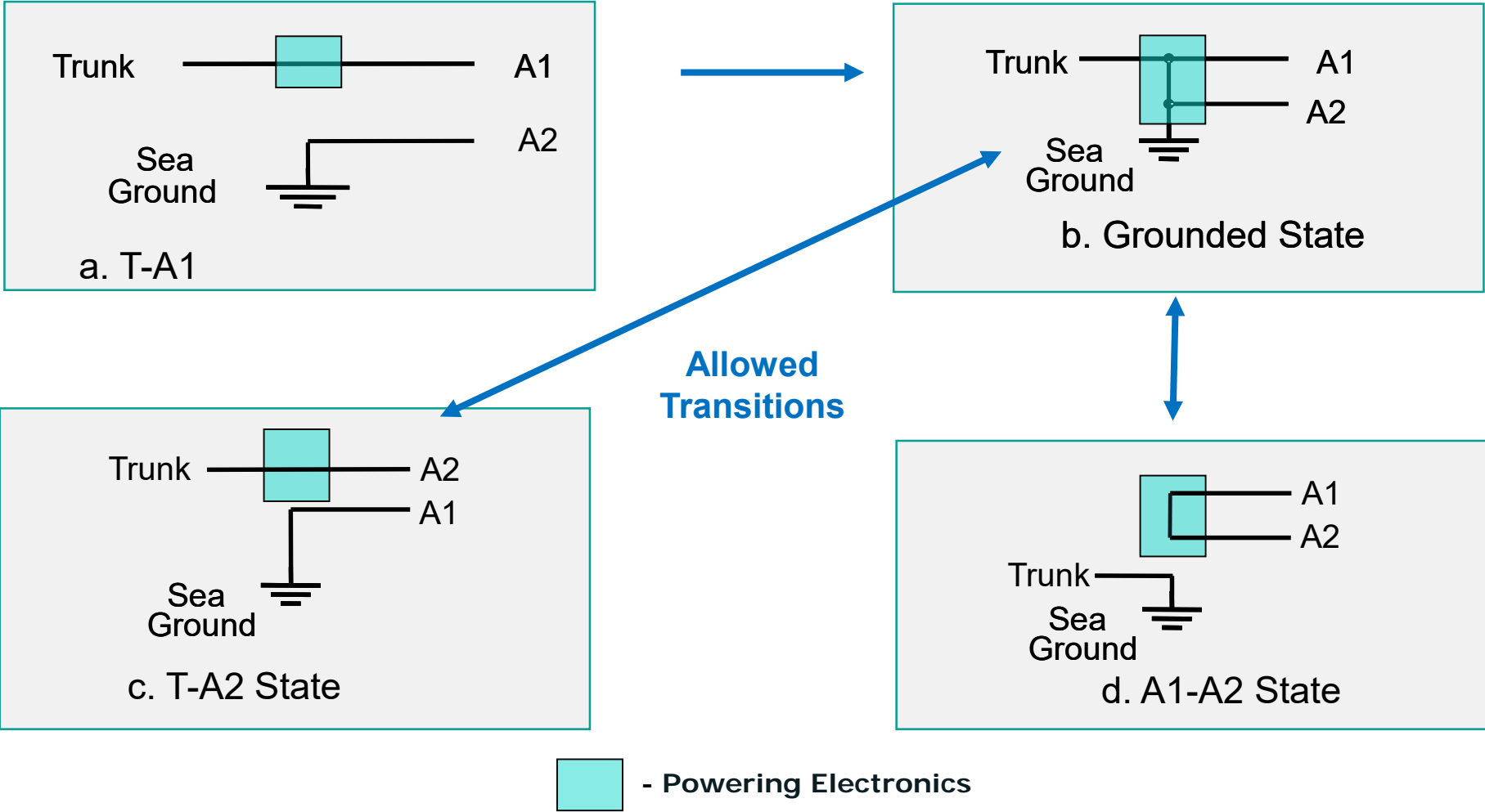
Cable Fault Recovery and Isolation:

- Recover from shunt faults (see also lectures by Katsuji Yamaguchi)
- Maintain traffic on unaffected segments during a ship repair
- Optical command control from shore

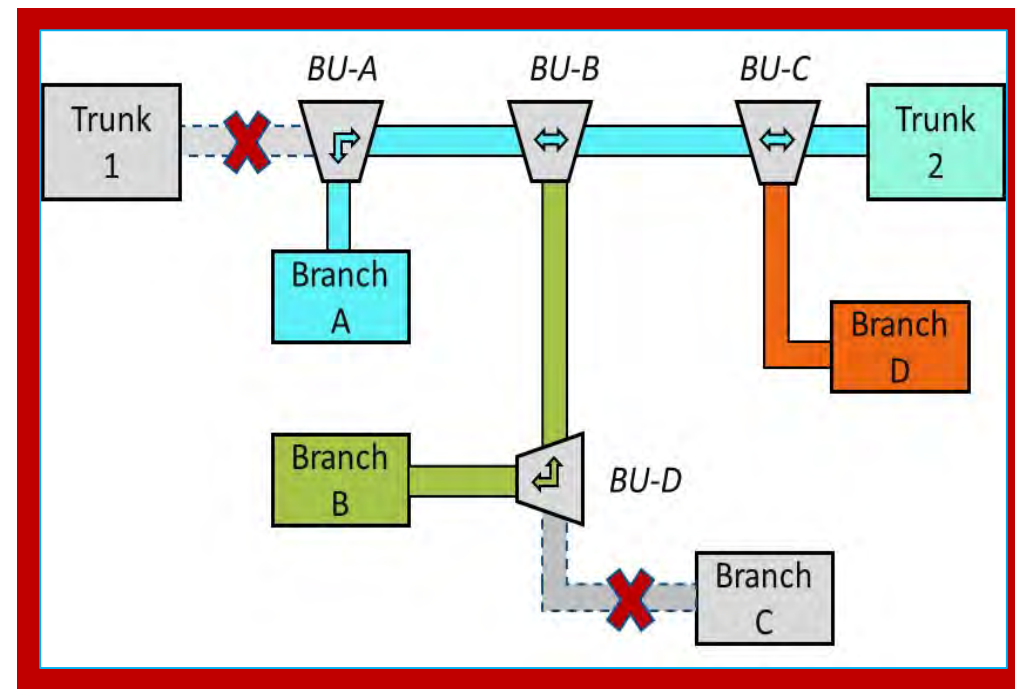
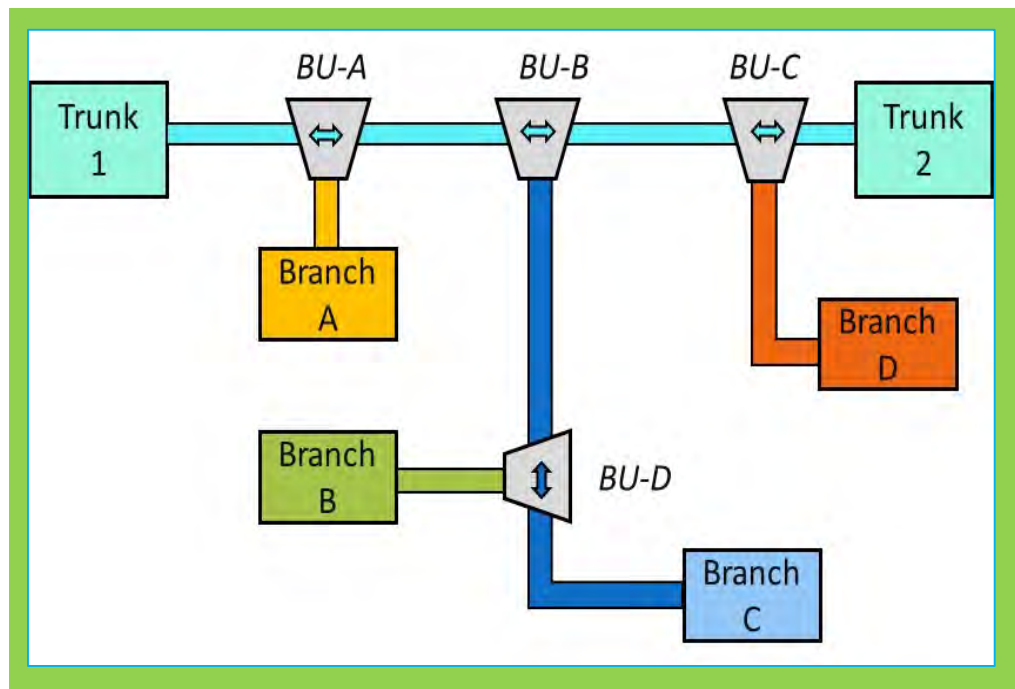


# Power Switching States in the eBU

Power Switching States for Normal System Operation



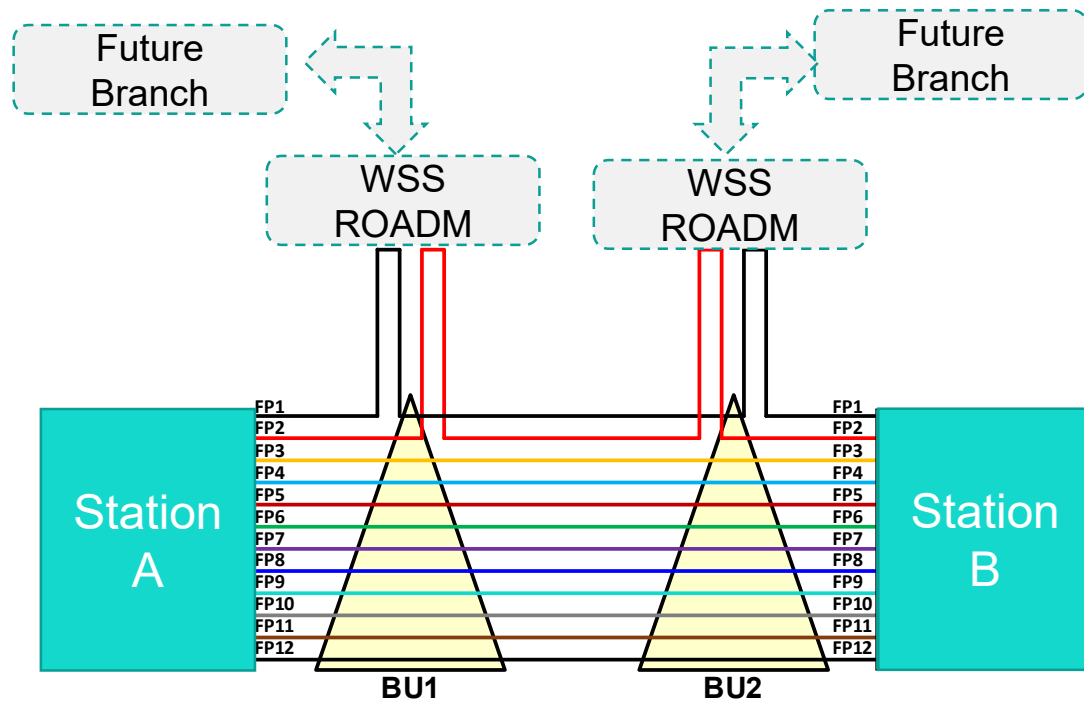
# Submarine System Powering with Branches



Before / After  
Dual Powering Fault

Powering submarine systems also requires creative architectures.

# Future Network Expansion



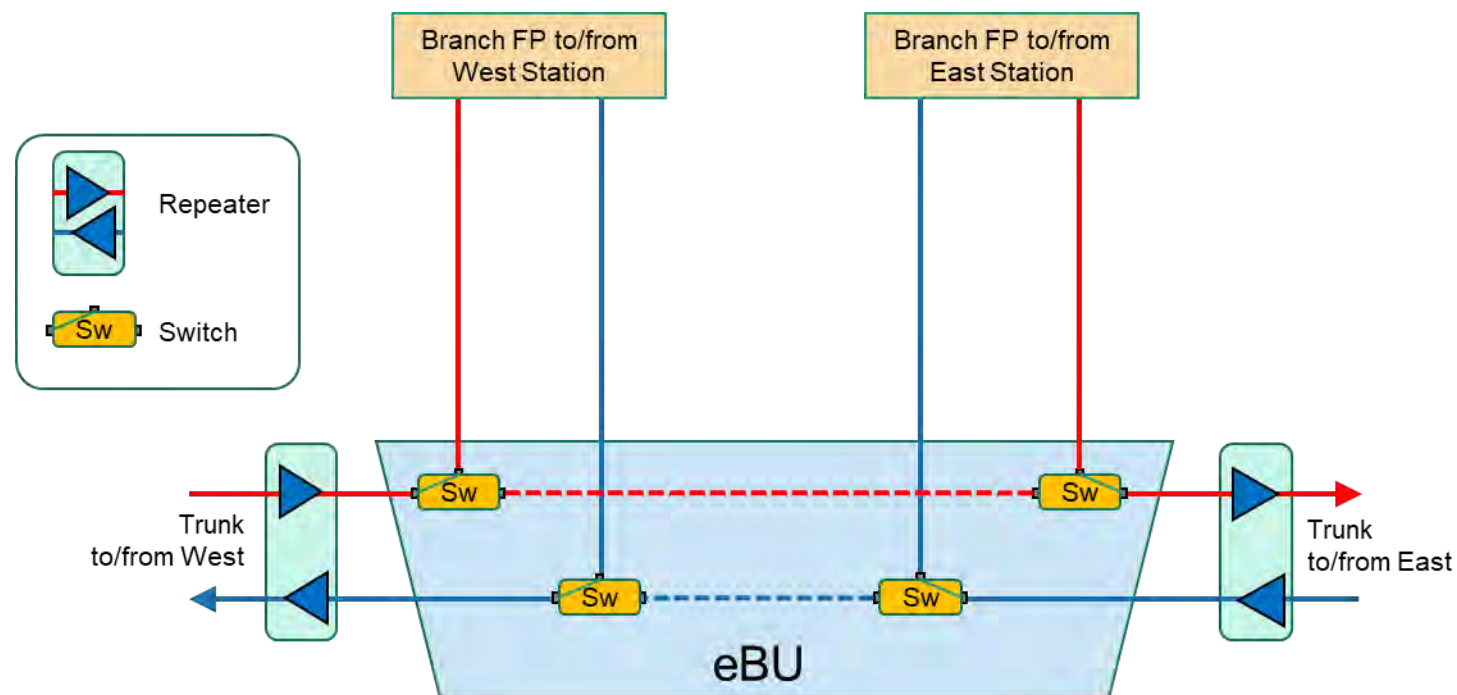
- BUs with stubs can be inserted into a cable to enable future connectivity without cutting into the trunk cable
- Any number of trunk FPs can be accessed for connection to a branch state
- Stubs can also support later addition of WSS ROADM or Dry ROADM.

# Branching Unit – Fiber Switching

Today's branching units also contain remote controlled optical switches for even more functionality

User configurable remote fiber switching allows

- Autonomous or/and manual fault recovery
- Isolating the branch for a repair or later network expansion
- Adding and/or re-routing traffic in a branch





# Cross-Cable Architectures

## Fiber Switched BUs can provide intra-cable connectivity.

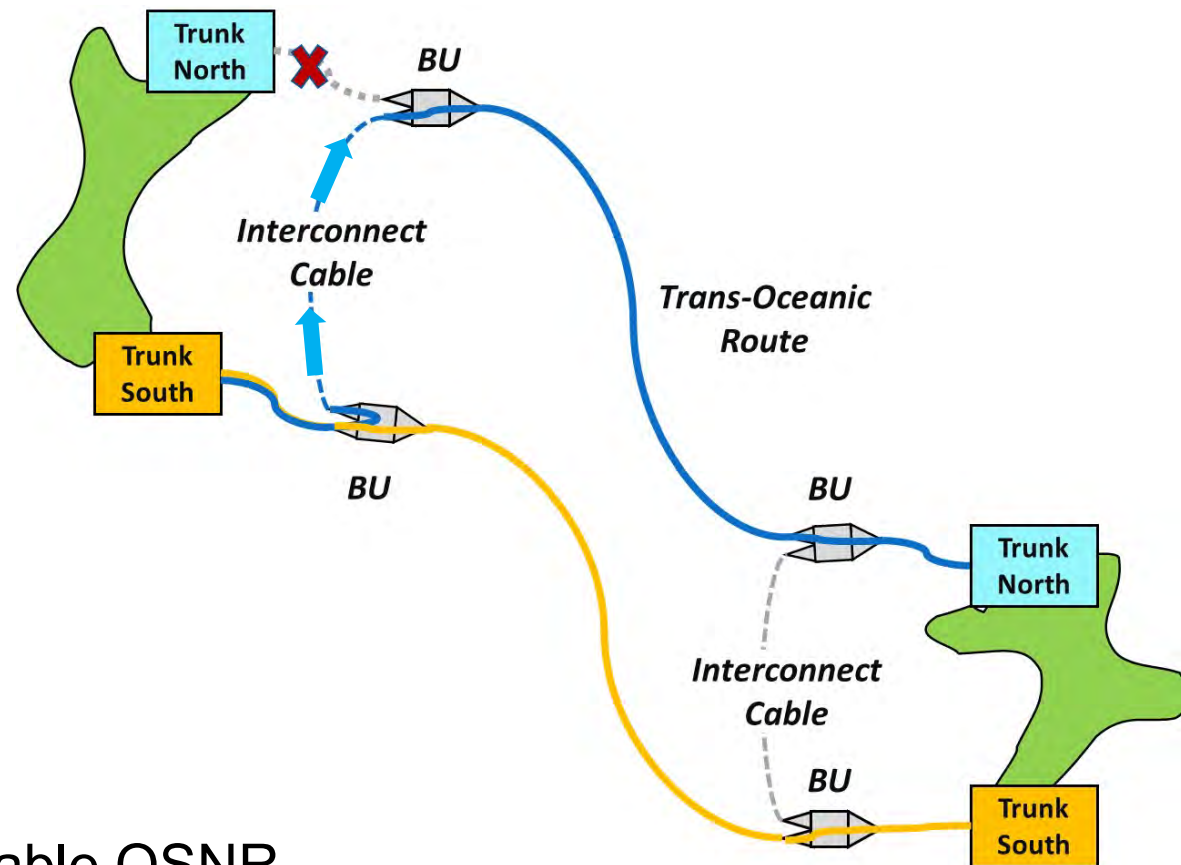
- Use for fault recovery, or for capacity routing flexibility.

## Increases overall network availability.

- Protect on a FP basis, or use ROADMs to prioritize spectrum.

## Increases path length:

- Could adjust channel data rates to match available OSNR.



# Why Only 3-Port BUs?

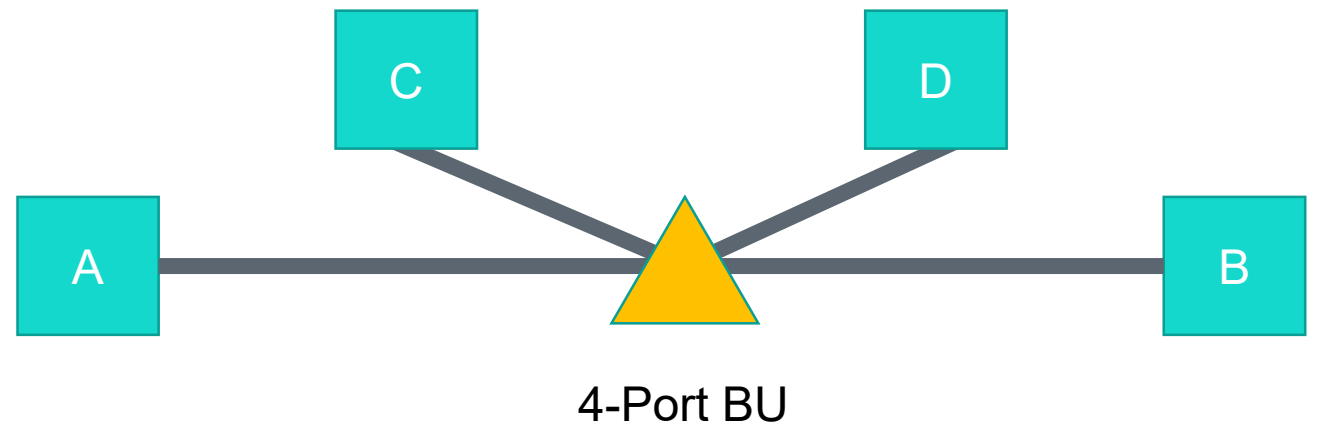
BU placement is typically optimized for overall cable length

- Lower cost
- Lower latency

There are additional marine considerations to best protect the BU

- Seafloor conditions

(4-Port BUs exist for special applications)

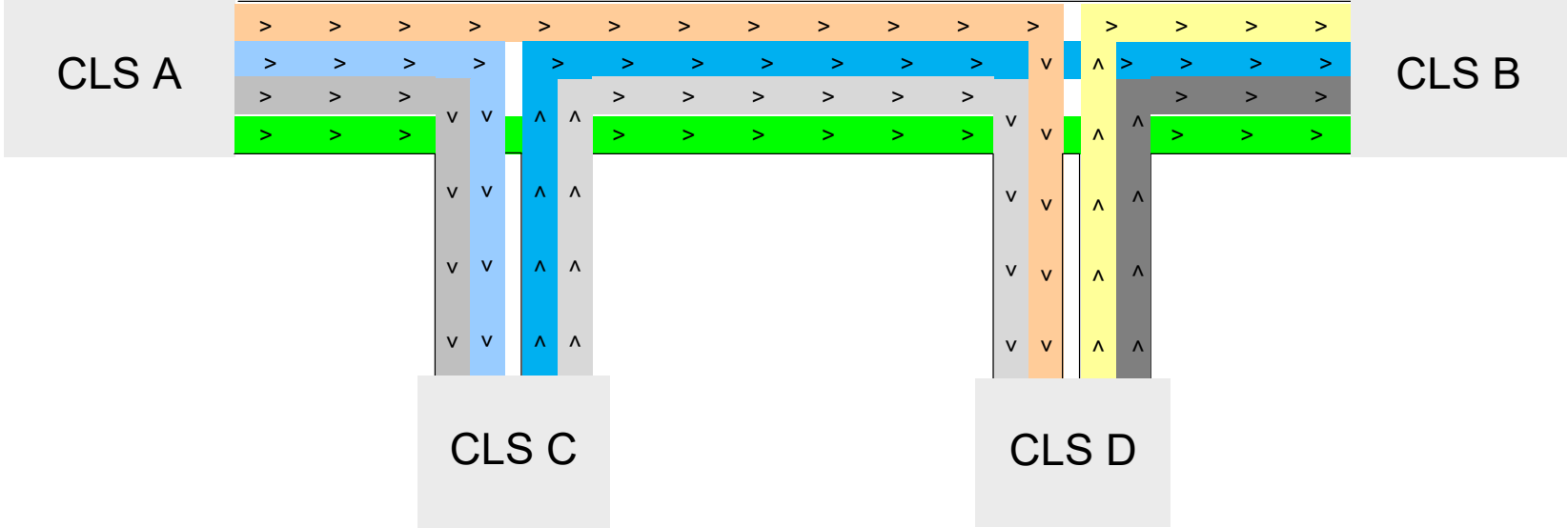


# Optical Add Drop Multiplexing

# Undersea Optical Add Drop Multiplexing (OADM)

## Enhanced Connectivity options

Multiple DLS on a single fiber pair



## Wavelength Re-use

Bandwidth on a trunk fiber pair can be used for multiple DLS

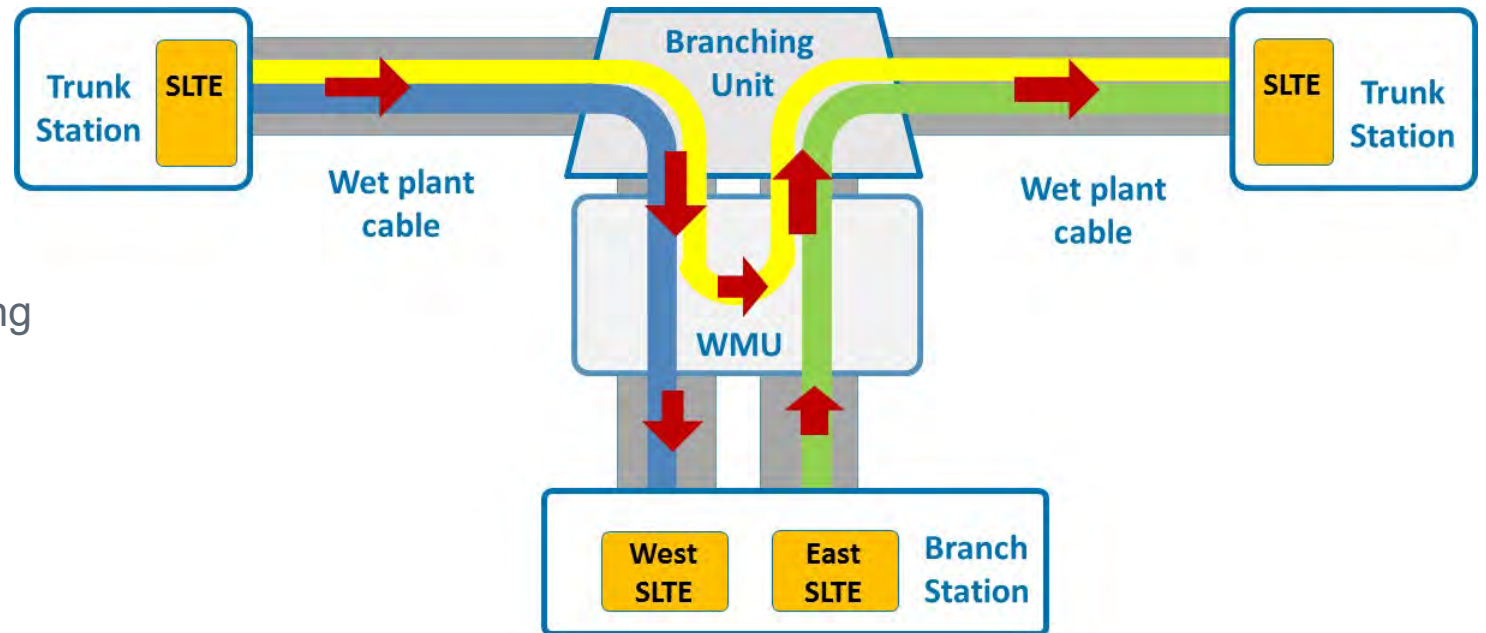
# Optical Add/Drop Multiplexing (OADM) Node

## Components in an OADM Node include:

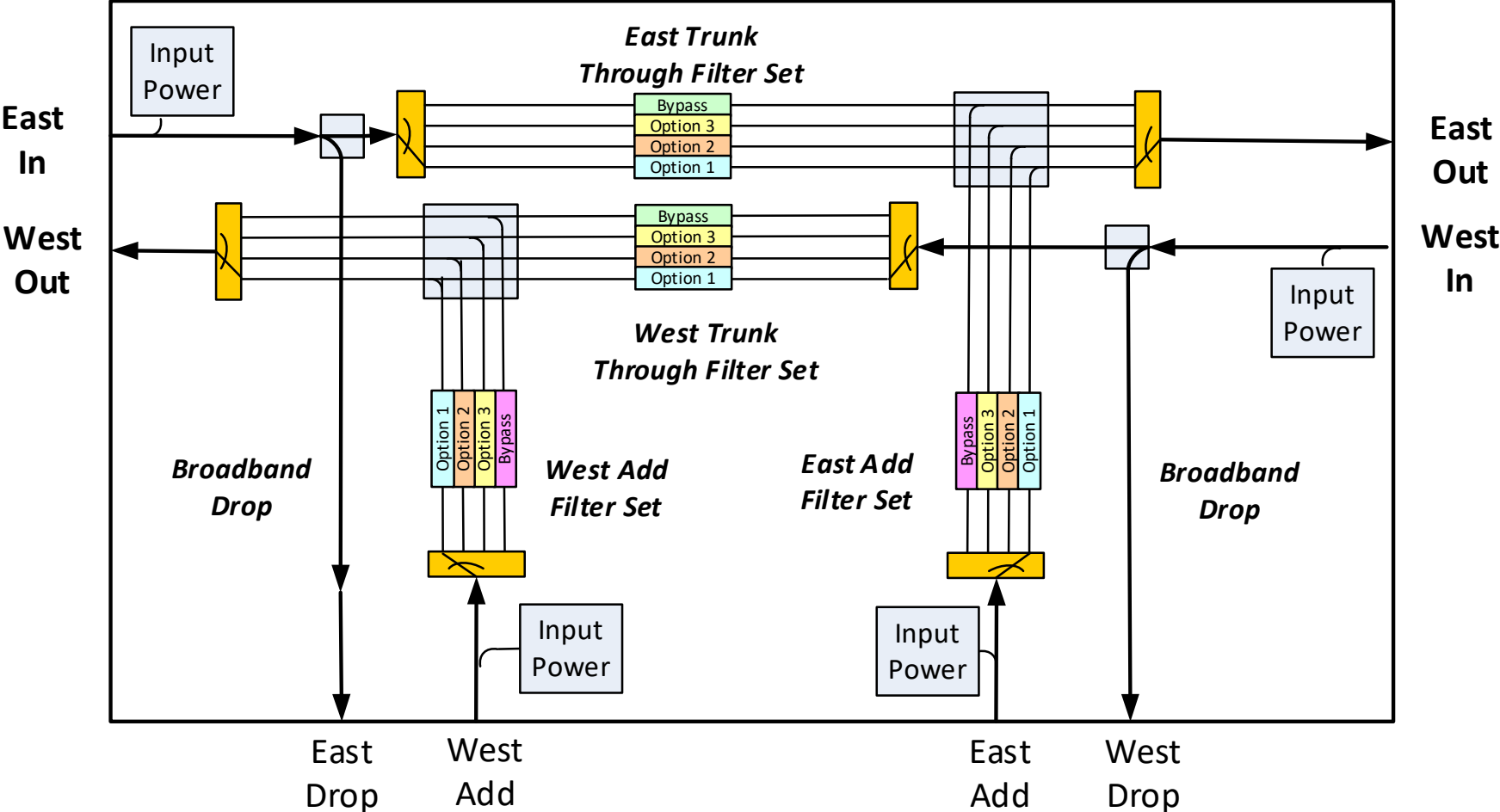
- Branching Unit
- OADM Unit:
  - Passive fixed filtering
  - Switchable filtering
  - Wavelength Selective Switch based filtering

## Modular OADM options:

- OADM unit can be deployed when the branch is landed
- Simplified sparing (universal spare for BU)
- Repair operation does not affect express fiber pairs



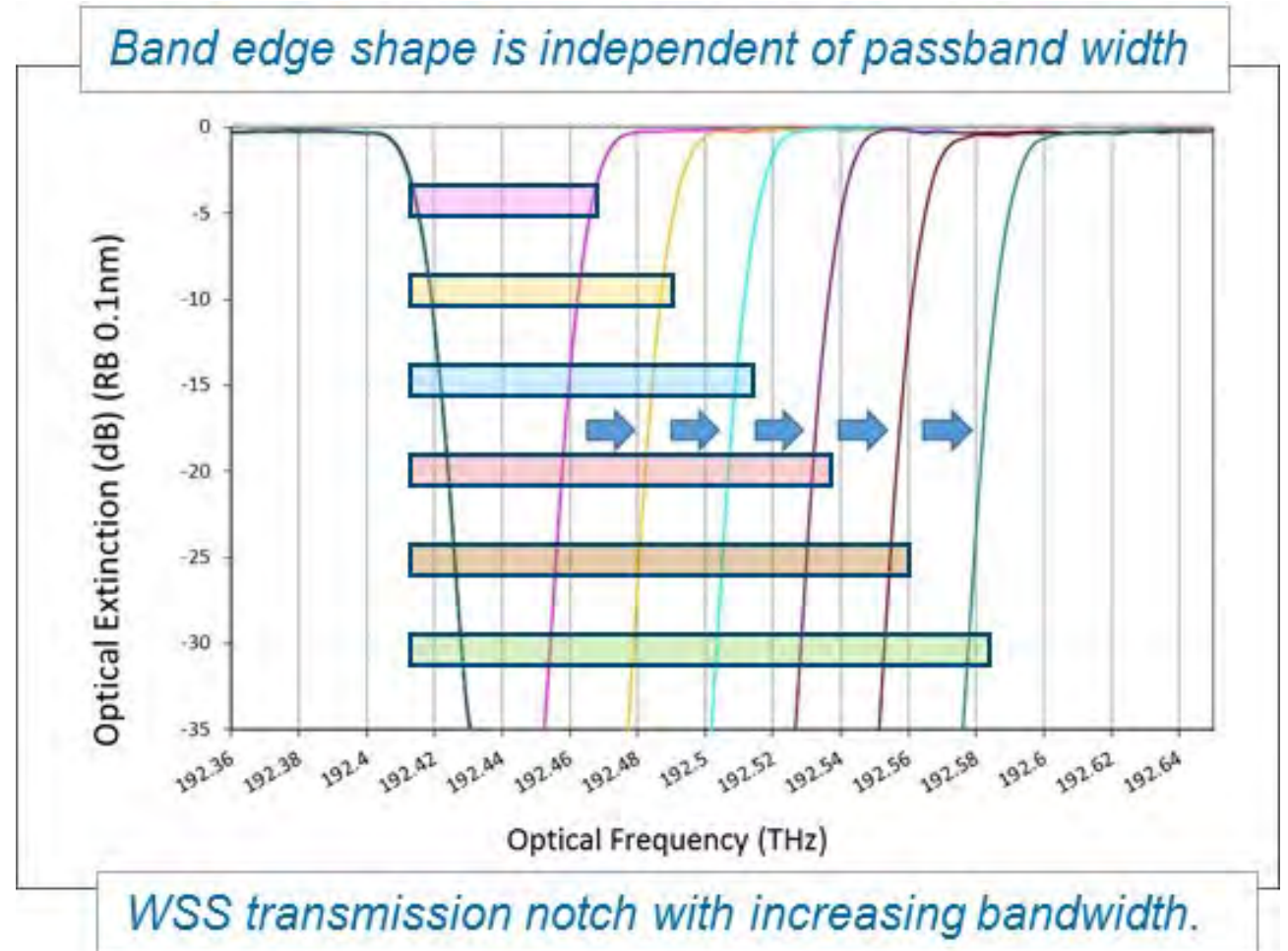
# Switched Filtering



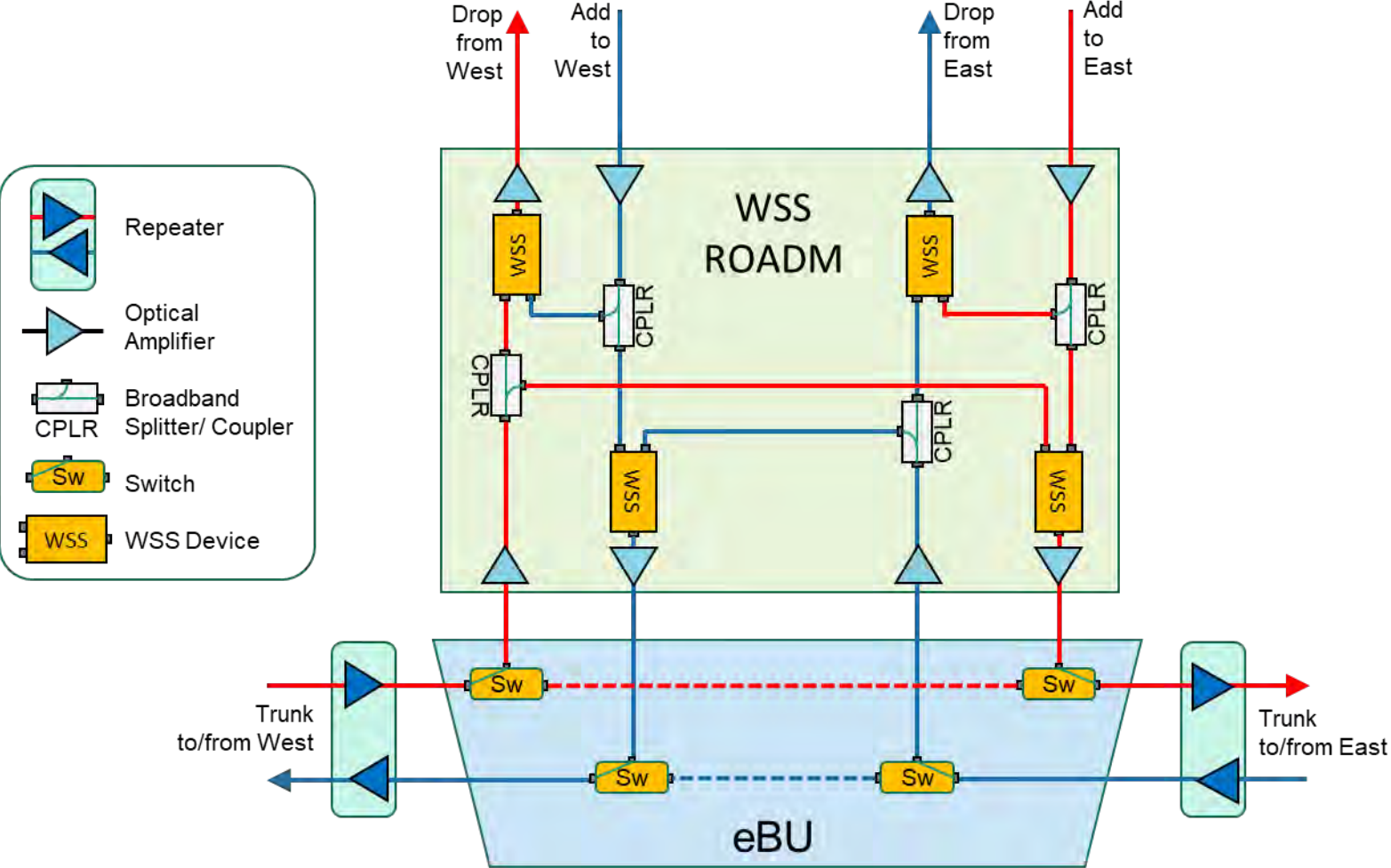
# Wavelength Selective Switch

The Wavelength Selective Switch (WSS) is a pixelated device that supports reconfigurable filtering

- Key specifications:
  - Grid-flexible channel plan with a fine granularity e.g. 6.25 GHz
  - Very steep filter edges
  - 30 dB transition in approximately 20 GHz



# Branching Node Example: PSBU + WSS ROADM



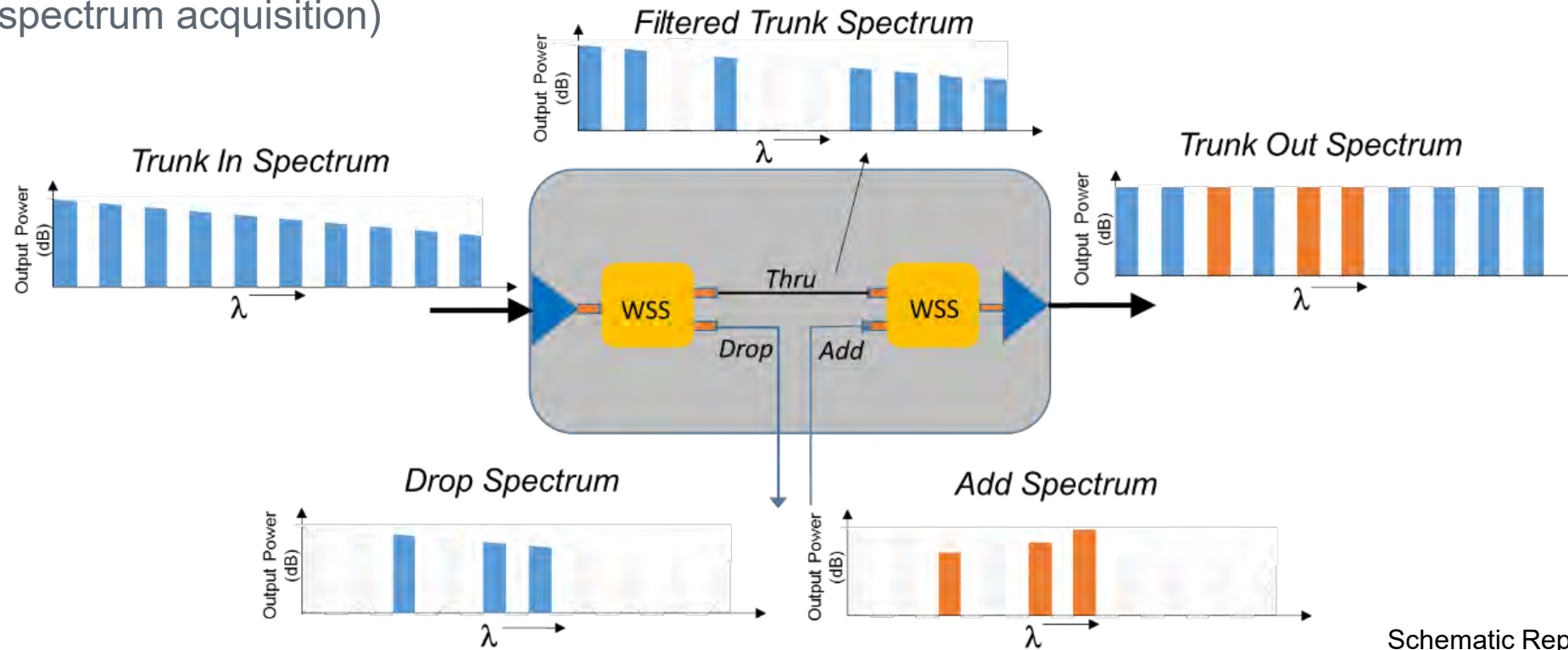
- Bi-directional Branch Access
- WSS Filtered Add/Drop
- Automatic bypass switching provided by eBU



# Reconfigurable Optical Add Drop Multiplexing

Wavelength Selective Switch based OADM nodes support

- In service, gridless capacity reallocation
- Inline dynamic gain equalization
- (Optical spectrum acquisition)



Schematic Representation

# System Reliability

# System Reliability

---

System Design Life is typically 25 years

Transmission affecting failures require ship intervention

- Costly
- Takes time

Design for reliability

- High reliability components
- Redundancy

Expected number of ship repairs due to intrinsic failures is in the range of 0-3 depending on system size and complexity



# Failures in Time

## Failure Rate

- A common measure for failure rate is FIT, defined as the number of failures in  $10^9$  device hours (114,046 years).
- Use average failure rate  $\lambda$
- Probability of failure is

$$P_{fail} = 1 - e^{-\lambda t_{system}}$$

where  $t_{system} = 25$  years

- Effective failure rate for redundant components ( $n=2$  for 1x1)

$$\lambda_{effective} = \frac{-\ln(1 - P_{fail}^n)}{t_{system}}$$

- Total FIT is the sum of all single points of failure (including effective FIT rate from redundancy)
  - Reliability:  $R = 1 - P_{fail}$

110 FIT means 2.4% will fail in 25 years

Failure rates for components of undersea repeaters		
Component type	FIT target (95% confidence) <sup>1</sup>	Field value (if available)
Pump Lasers		110 → 2.6
Discrete Optical Components	0.1–0.2	
Splices		0.01
Integrated Circuits	0.2	
Passive Electronics	0.01–0.2	
Power Electronics		0.15
<b>Total per Amplifier Pair<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>4.6</b>	
Repeater Mechanical Integrity	3	
<b>Total for a Repeater containing 4 Amplifier Pairs</b>	<b>21.4</b>	

<sup>1</sup>Confidence bound applies where acceleration of the key failure modes is possible.

<sup>2</sup>Taking laser redundancy into account.

From *Undersea Fiber Communication Systems* 2nd Edition  
by Jose Chesnoy (Editor), Academic Press ISBN: 978-0128042694

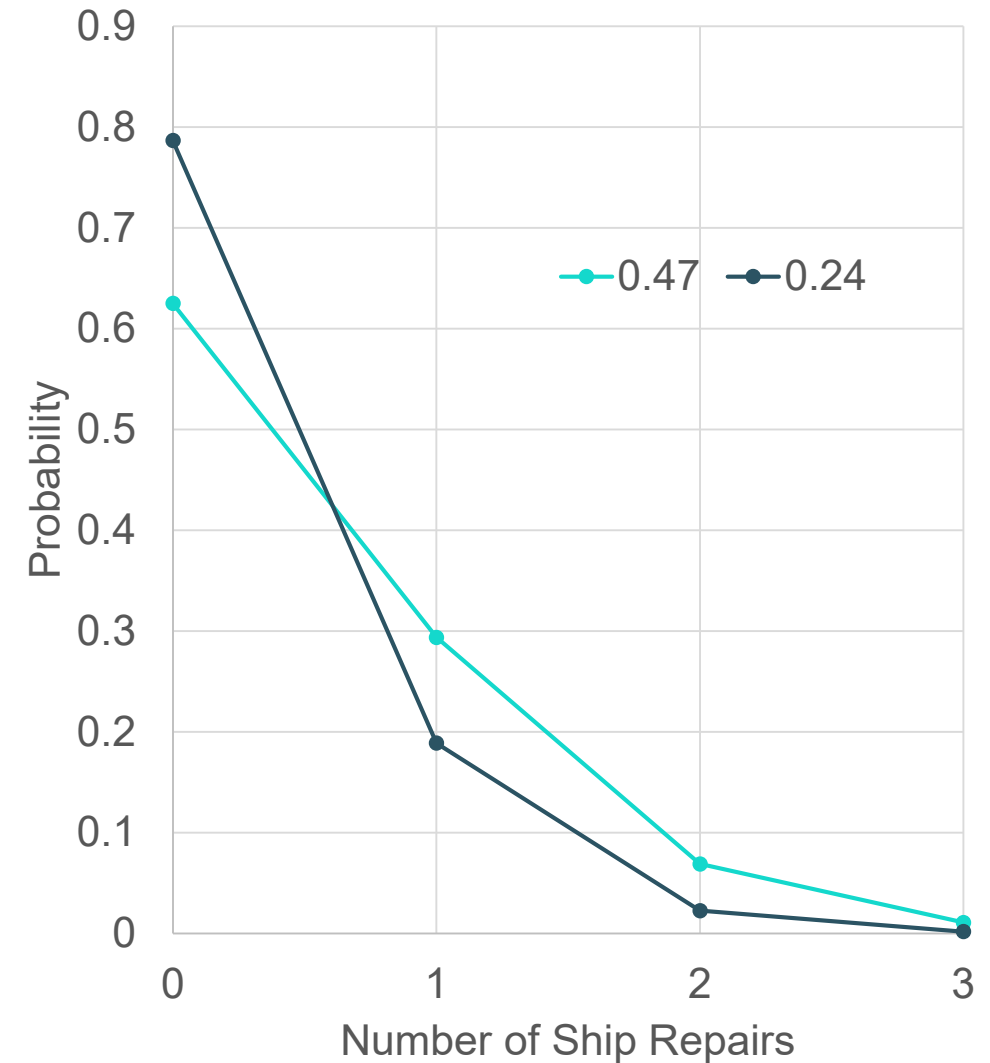
# Ship Repairs

- Failures are Poisson distributed.
- The expectation value of the distribution is the number of ship repairs.
- For Poisson the expectation value corresponds to the failure rate

## Example

- 100 Repeaters
- 4 Fiber Pairs
- 800 Pumps (110 FIT)
- 19 Pump failures in 25 years
- 4x4 pump redundancy: no repeater failure due to pump failure
- Repeater: 11 FIT
- Expected number of ship repairs in 25 years: 0.24

Example for Repeaters Only



# External Aggression

Majority of cable failures are due to external events:

- Ship anchors
- Earthquakes and mud slides
- Abrasion



Good reasons to armor or bury cable near shore.

# Summary

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- Cable
- Repeaters
  - Amplification and gain equalization
  - Self-healing of a chain of amplifiers; gain tilt
  - Pump manifold and reliability
  - Line Monitoring and High Loss Loopbacks (HLLBs)
  - L-band amplification
  - The pressure vessel
- Branching Units
  - Fiber routing and optical switches
  - Electrical reconfiguration – Recovering from shunt faults
- Wavelength Management Units: (Reconfigurable) Optical Add Drop Multiplexing
- System Reliability





**Thank You**



The background of the slide is an underwater scene with sunlight rays filtering through the water. A large, semi-transparent teal diamond shape is overlaid on the right side of the image.

# Fiber and Cable

## Lecture 2

Marsha Spalding

# Outline -- Cable

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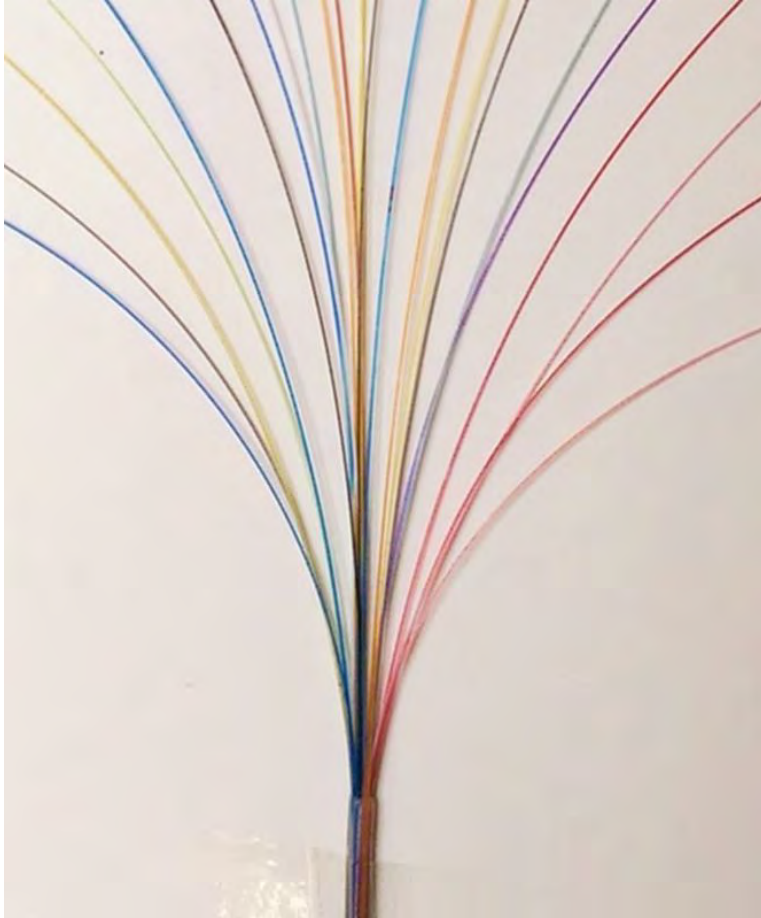
- Primary Cable Functions
- Foundations of Design
- Cable Types and Families
- Cable Characteristics and Handling
- Cable Qualification
- Cable Manufacture
- New Challenges



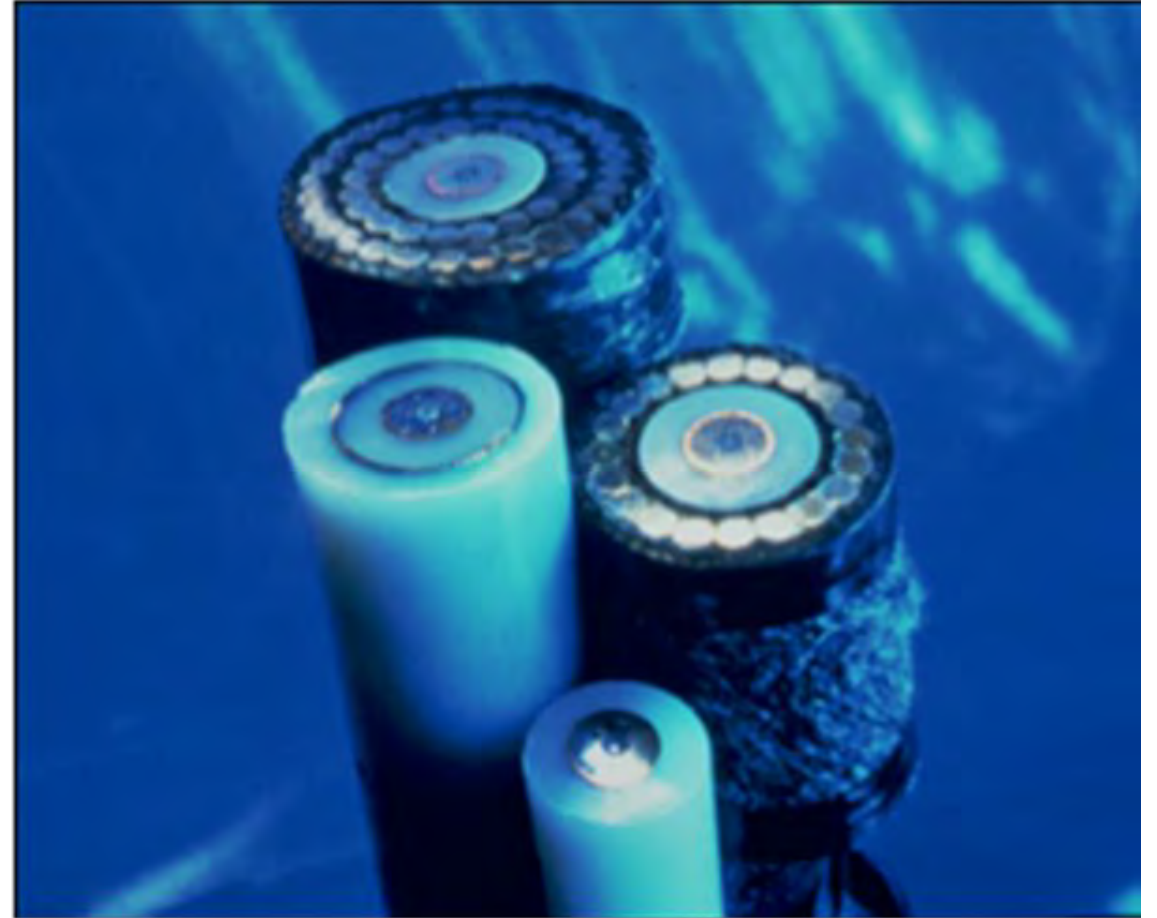
# Fiber and Cable Go Hand in Hand

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Optical Fiber is the **Heart** of the Cable System



Cable **Protects** the Fiber and **Carries Power**



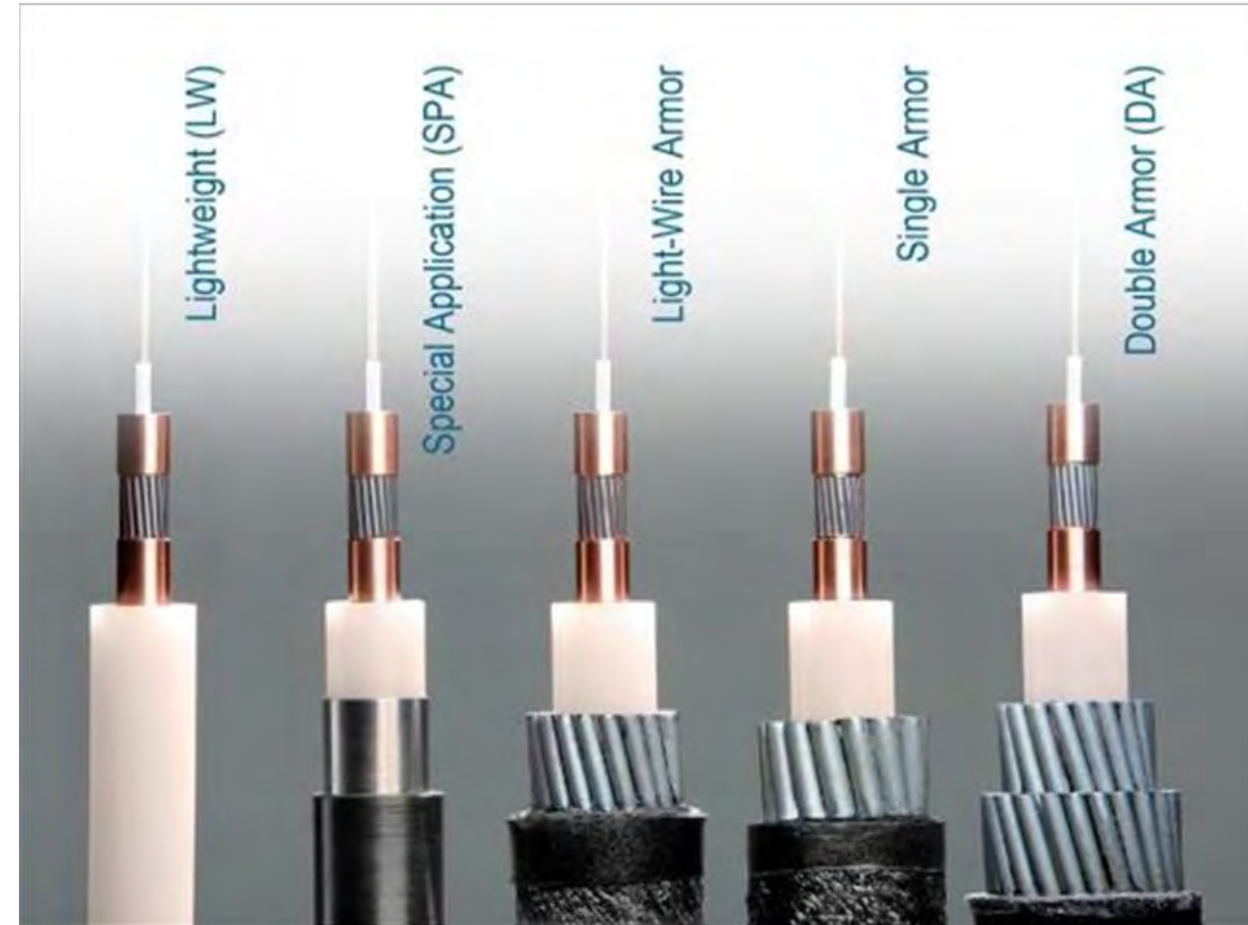
# High Level Functionality

**Fibers:** Benign environment for optical fibers

**Strength:** For deployment and recovery

**Electrical:** Power for repeaters and network elements

**Armoring:** Protection against external aggression

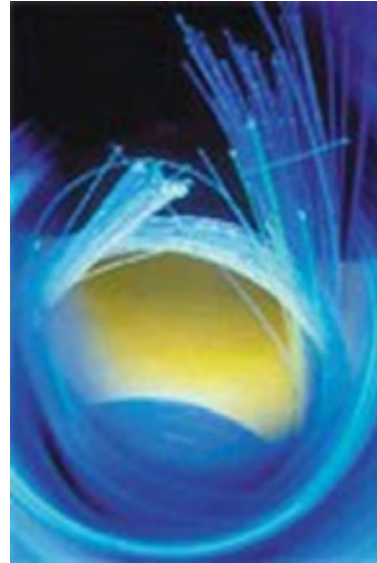


# Primary Cable Functions

## Protect the Fiber

Benign Environment against:

- Tensile stress
- Bending (cushion)
- Pressure
- Water diffusion
- Hydrogen penetration



Longevity:

- Abrasion Resistance
- Water penetration resistance (cable cut)

## Carry the Power

Powering:

- Low electrical resistance conductor
- Insulation from Sea Ground



# Foundations of Design

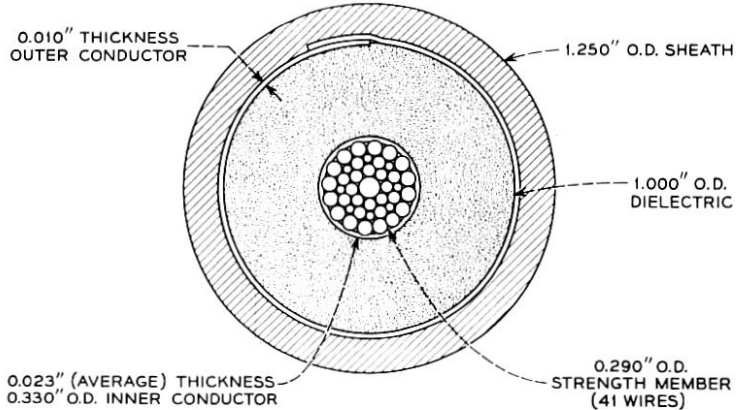
# Learning from our Forefathers



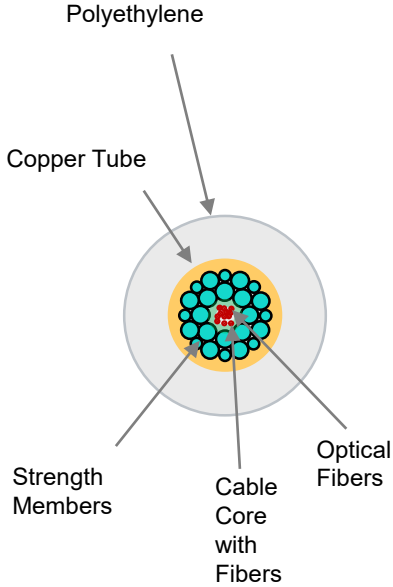
Telegraph

Coaxial

Optical



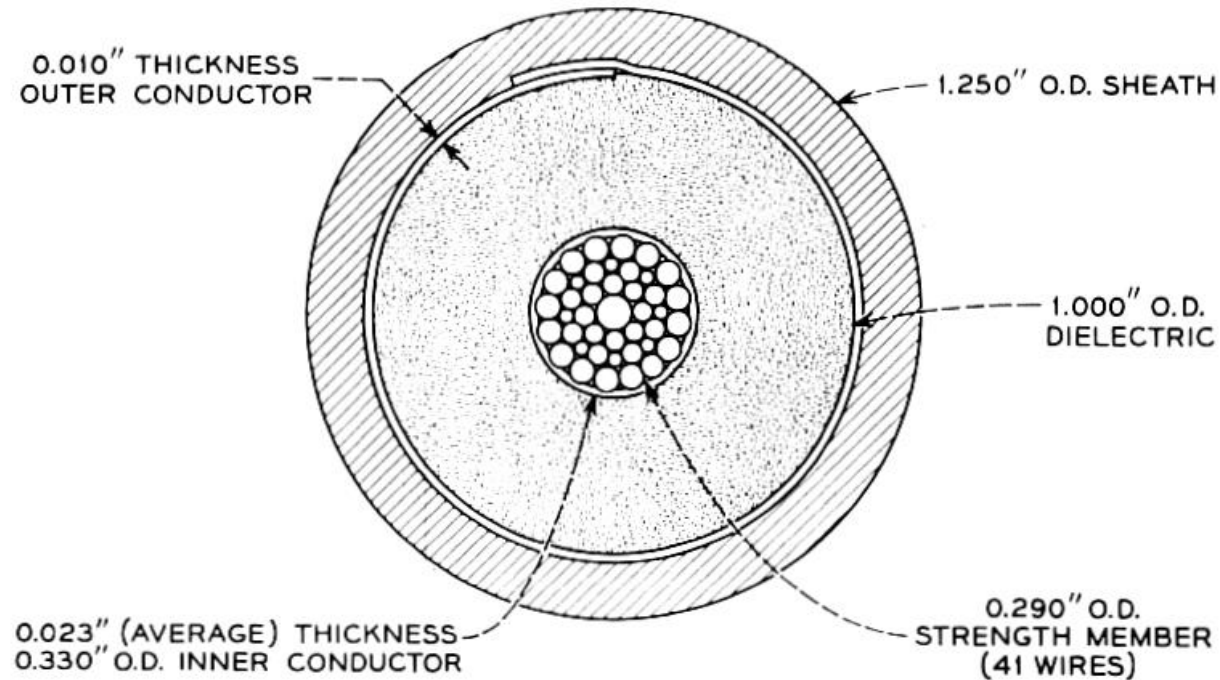
SD Coaxial Cable



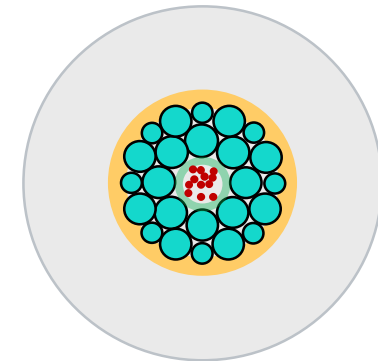
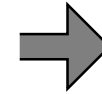
SL Optical Cable Concept

# Foundation of Design -- Steel Strand Wire Configuration

Interlocking Strength Members Resist External Pressure – Tried-and-True Cable Design



**SD Cable**



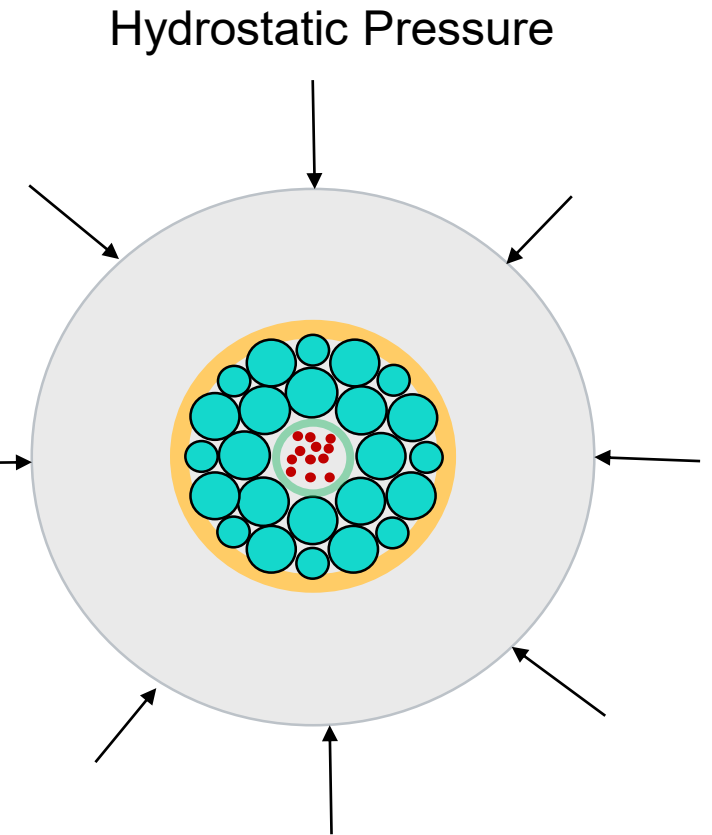
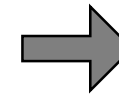
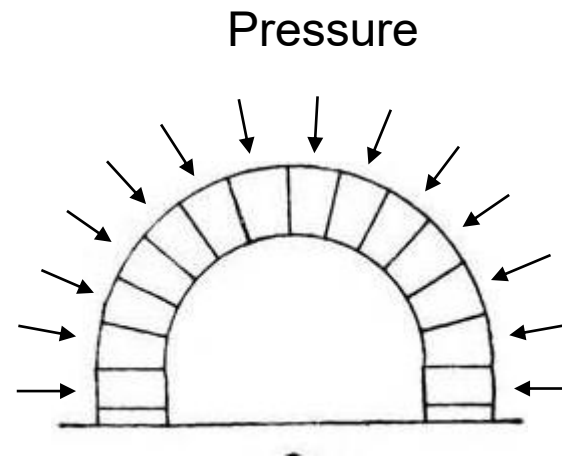
**SL Cable**

- Re-sized first two layers of SD interlocking steel wires



# Steel Strand Wire Approach

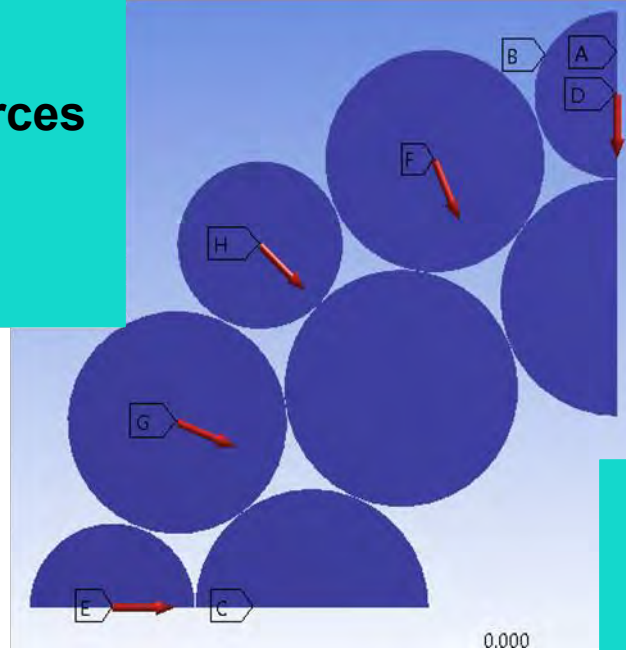
Interlocking Strength Members Resist External Pressure



# Steel Strand Wire Package Analysis

## Finite Element Modeling - Compressive Load on Strand Wire Package

**Compressive Radial Forces Studied**



**Strand Package Stability Confirmed**

# Functionality Satisfied -- Simply

## Loose Tube & Gel:\*

- ✓ Fiber cushion
- ✓ Prevents axial water penetration (cable cut)

## Steel Wires:

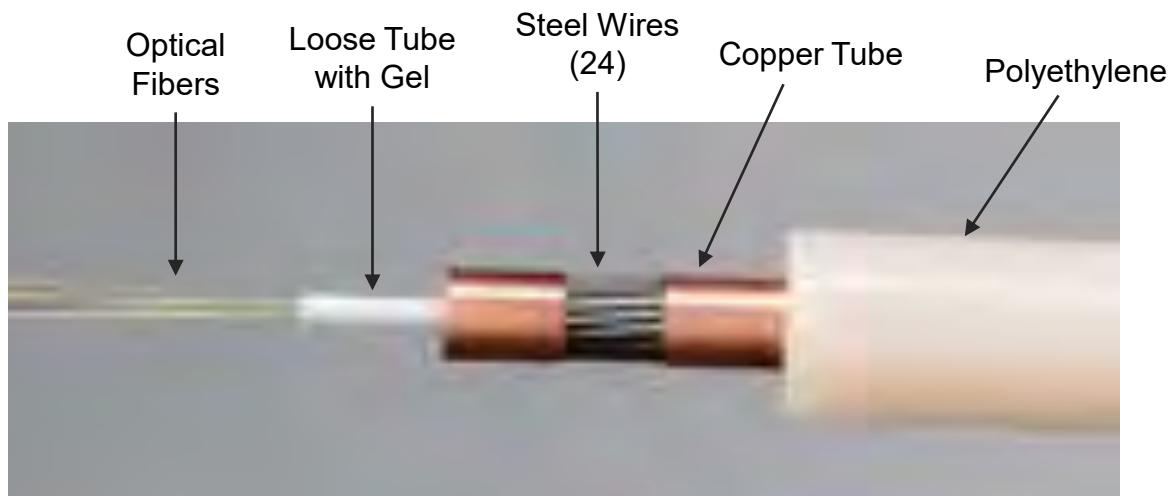
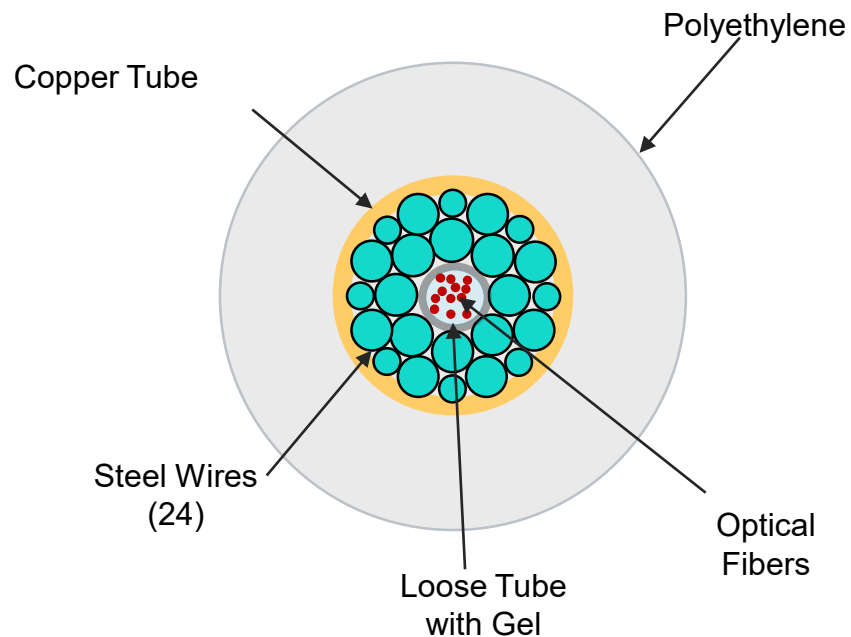
- ✓ Tensile strength
- ✓ Pressure resistance

## Copper Sheath:

- ✓ Electrical conduction
- ✓ Hermetic & H<sub>2</sub> barrier

## Polyethylene Jacket:

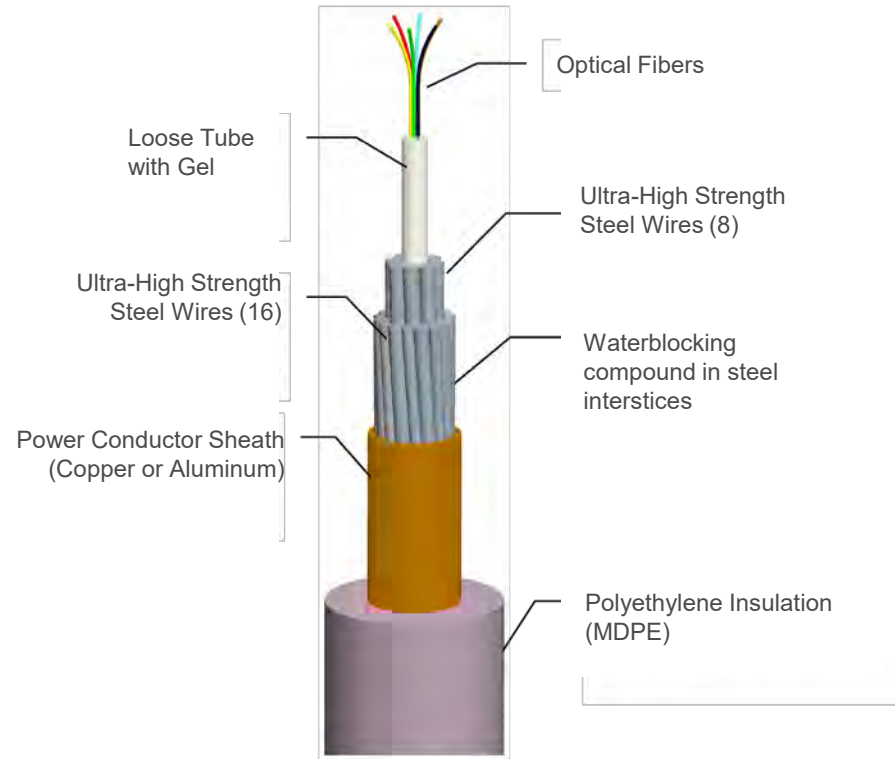
- ✓ Electrical insulation
- ✓ Abrasion protection



\* Original SL Cable used extruded tight buffer core that was changed to Loose Tube with  $A_{\text{eff}} \sim 65\mu\text{m}^2$  fibers

# Cable Types and Families

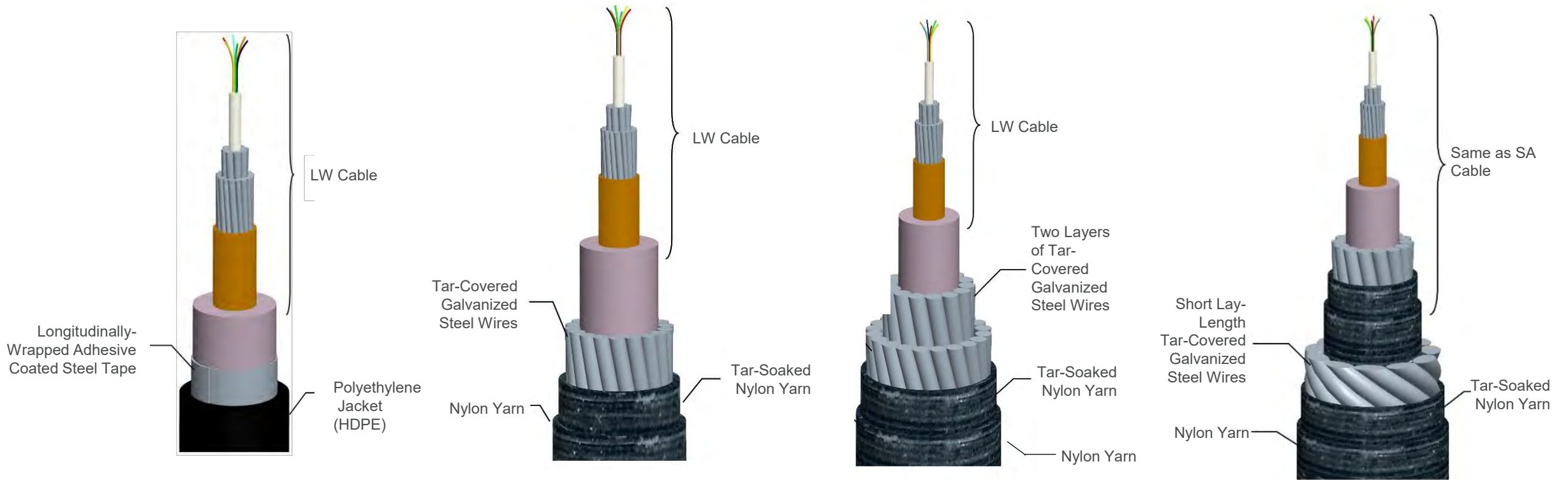
# LW Cable – Deep Water Use



LW Cable



# Protected Cables



**Special Applications Cable (SPA)**

**Light Wire Armor (LWA) and Single Armor (SA)**

**Double Armor – High Strength (DA) And Double Armor- High Abrasion (DA-HA)**

**Rock Armor (RA)**



*Increasing Level of Protection*

# Cable Type Applications



**Lightweight (LW)**

**Special Application (SPA)**

**Light-Wire Armor (LWA)**

**Single Armor (SA)**

**Double Armor (DA)**

**Rock Armor (RA)**

Type	Max Depth	Applications
LW	10,000m	Benign, sandy bottom. Deepwater deployment.
SPA	6,500m	Rough seabed. Risk of moderate abrasion and/or attack by marine life.
LWA	2,000m	Rocky terrain. Some risk of fishing damage. Used for burial in areas of decreased risk of external aggression. Shallow water deployment.
SA	1,500m	Rocky terrain. Moderate risk of fishing damage. Shallow water deployment.
DA	800m	Very rocky terrain. High risk of fishing damage. Pipeline crossings. Near shore deployment.
RA	200m	Extremely rocky terrain. Very high risk of fishing damage. High risk of abrasion. Risk of crushing.

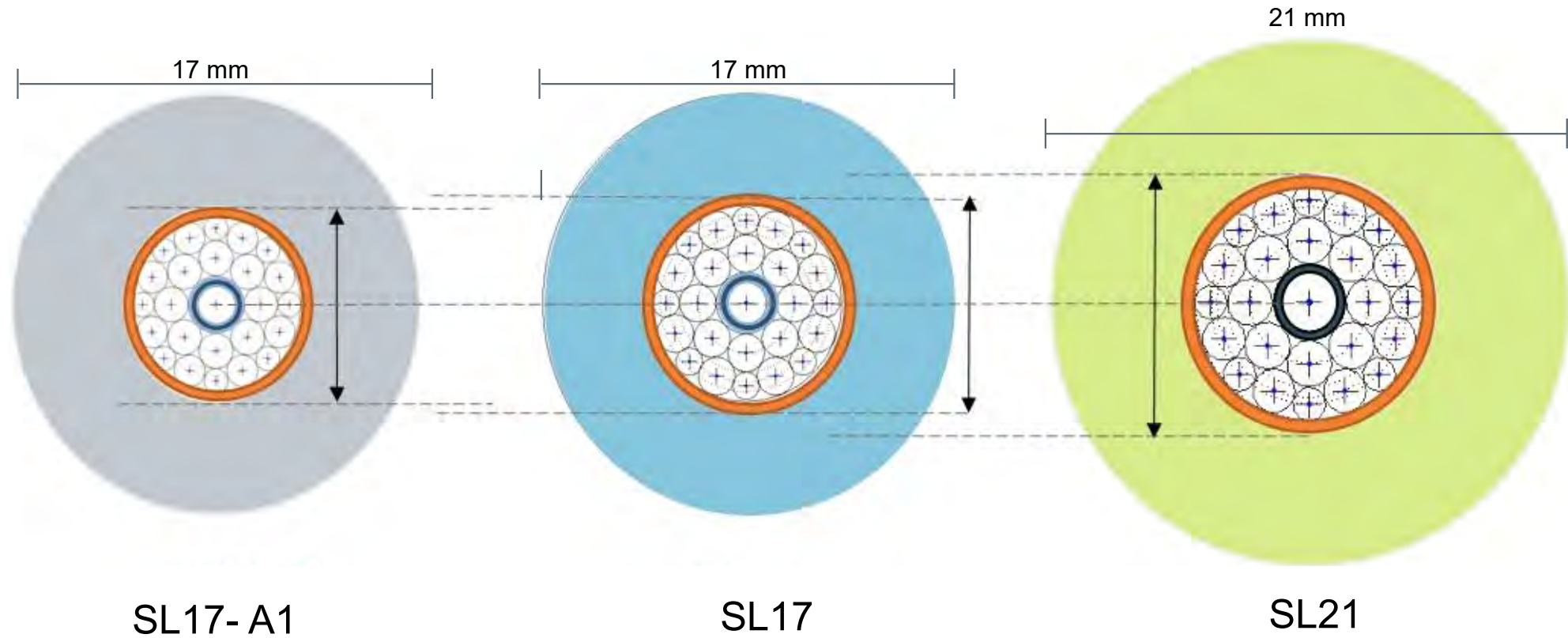
Additional cable types are qualified such as DA-HA (High Abrasion), Dynamic Riser Cable for platforms, etc.

# Armored Cables for Harsh, Shallow Areas





# Cable Families: SL17-A1, SL17 and SL21



14mm OD versions of SL17-A1 and SL17, named SL14-A1 and SL14, are qualified for lower voltage applications

# Cable Characteristics and Handling

# Cable Mechanical Properties: Tensile Strength Ratings

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## Industry Standard Cable Tensile Strength Ratings

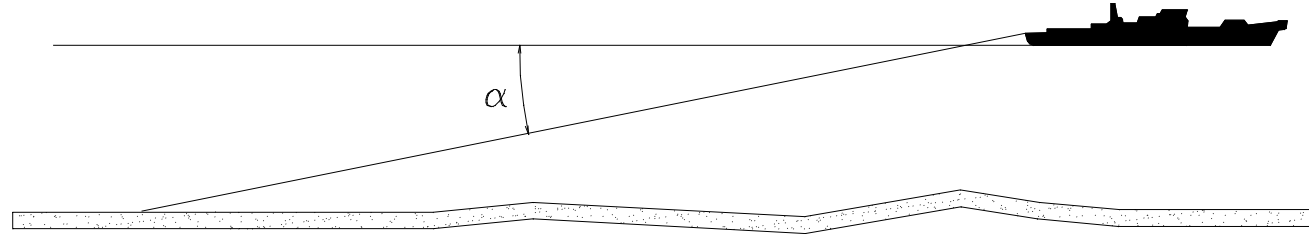
- Breaking Strength (Ultimate Tensile Strength, **UTS**)
  - Sufficiently larger than NTTS
  - Initial Strength-to-Weight Parameter → **Cable Modulus = UTS / Weight in Water**
- Nominal **Transient** Tensile Strength (**NTTS**)
  - Maximum allowable short-term cable tension (cumulative over ~ 1 hour)
- Nominal **Operating** Tensile Strength (**NOTS**)
  - Maximum allowable average operational tension for repair period (typically 48 hours)
- Nominal **Permanent** Tensile Strength (**NPTS**)
  - Maximum allowable permanent tension applied to cable on the seabed after installation

# Cable Mechanical Properties: Tensile Strength Ratings

Tensile Strength	LW		SPA		LWA		SA		DA		RA	
	SL17	SL21	SL17	SL21	SL17	SL21	SL17	SL21	SL17	SL21	SL17	SL21
<b>NTTS (kN)</b>	58	81	58	81	200	237	260	305	395	453	270	306
<b>NOTS (kN)</b>	41	57	41	57	140	168	185	216	280	324	190	217
<b>NPTS (kN)</b>	19	27	19	27	80	94	105	122	160	183	110	122

## Surface Laying – Critical Angle

Critical Angle “alpha” is the entry angle that the cable makes with the surface of the water.



Alpha is a function of the cable's hydrodynamic constant and the vessel's speed:

$$\alpha = \arccos \left( \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{H\pi}{V_s 180} \right)^4} - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{H\pi}{V_s 180} \right)^2 \right)$$

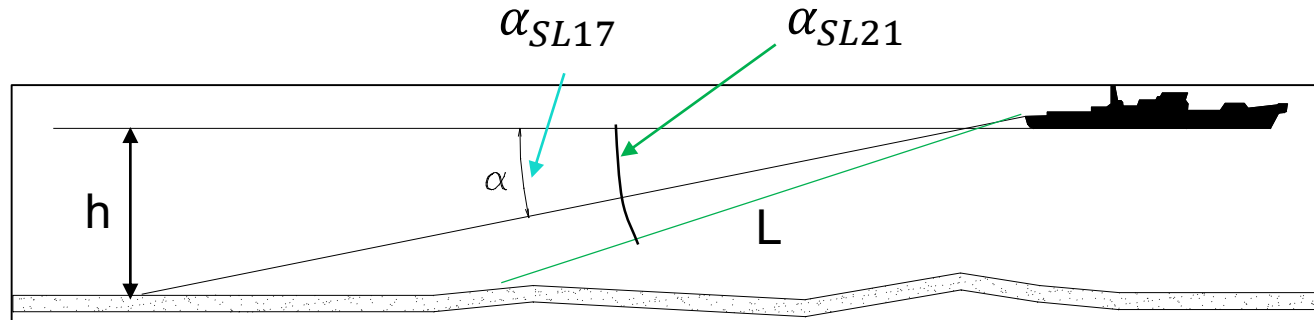
Hydrodynamic constant –  
Related to Cable Weight in  
Water, Cable Diameter, and  
Drag Coefficient

For critical angles less than 30°, alpha can be closely approximated:

$$\alpha = \frac{H}{V_s}$$

# Critical Angle – Calculation of Catenary Length during Lay

For the same vessel speed...



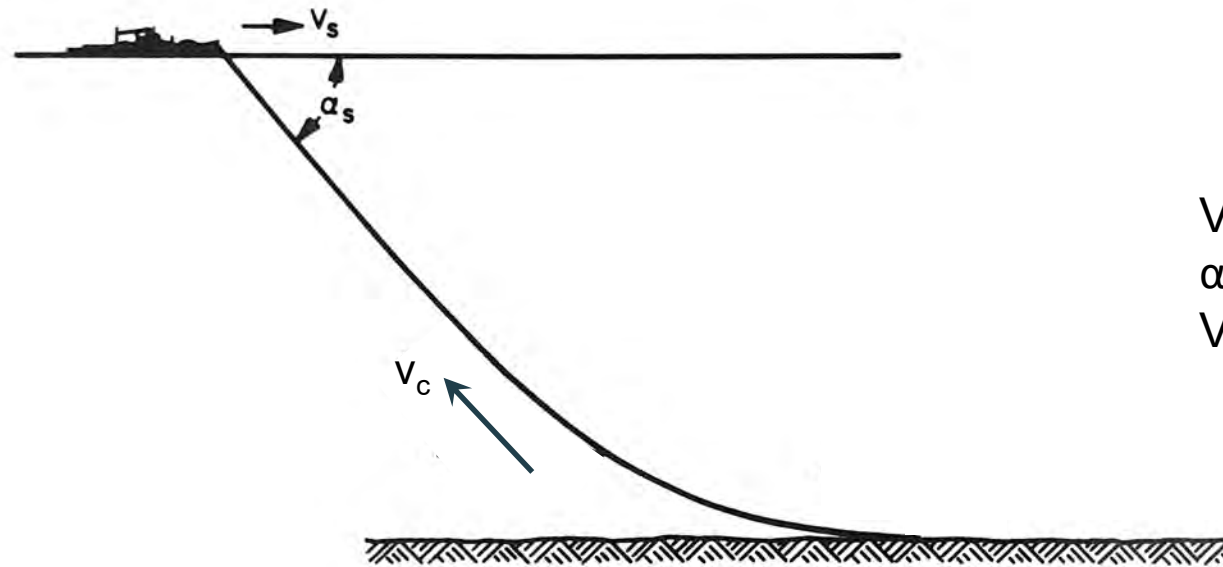
$$H = \left( \frac{180}{\pi} \right) \sqrt{\frac{2w}{(C_d \rho d)}}$$

$$L = \frac{h}{\sin \alpha}$$

LW Cable	H (degree-knots)	$\alpha$ (for 2 knots vessel speed)	L (m) (for 5000m water depth)	Lay Tension at ship (kN) (5000m water depth)
SL17	46	23°	12.8	18 (NTTS=58)
SL21	48	24°	12.3	24 (NTTS=81)

# Cable Recovery

Highest cable tension is during recovery (not laying) due to the downward drag force as the cable moves through the water



$V_s$  = ship speed  
 $\alpha_s$  = recovery angle  
 $V_c$  = recovery speed

**Recovery of an Undersea Cable**

# Cable Recovery

---

## □ Recovery Tension

- Proportional to **Water Depth** and **Cable Weight**
- Significantly affected by Recovery Conditions -  
**Recovery Speed, Recovery Angle, Sea Conditions**

$$\text{Recovery Tension @ Ship, } T_s = wh + T_{\text{bottom}} + T_{\text{wave-induced}}$$

*(For a surface-laid cable,  
without a repeater)*

From 5000m water depth:

SL17 LW Recovery Tension ~ 46 kN      (SL17 LW NTTS = 58 kN)

SL21 LW Recovery Tension ~ 62 kN      (SL21 LW NTTS = 81 kN)

*(For typical recovery  
conditions of 1 knot recovery  
speed, 75 degree lead angle,  
and 4m sea swell)*

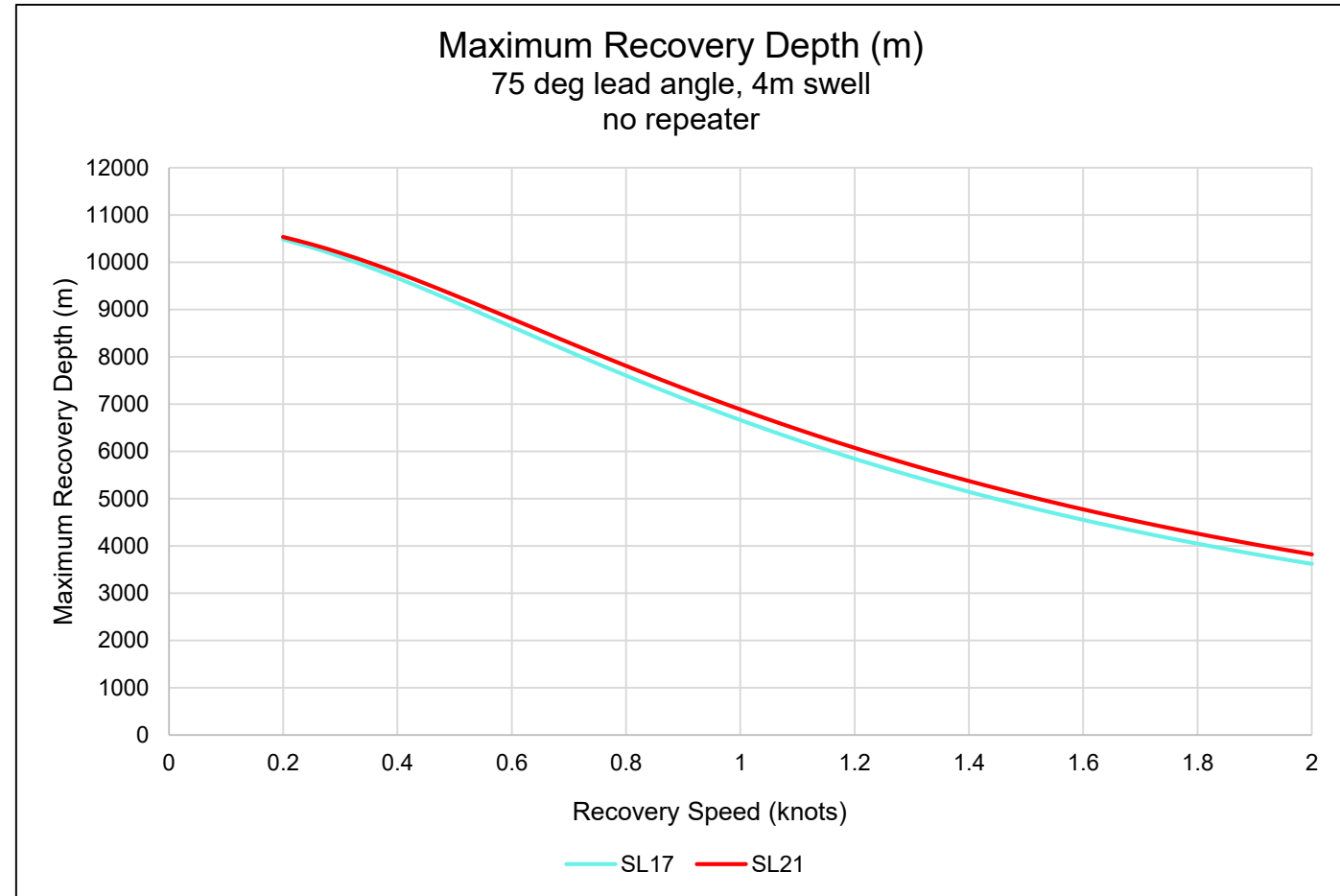


# Cable Recovery

## □ Recovery Depth Curves

For Maximum Recovery  
Depth Calculation,

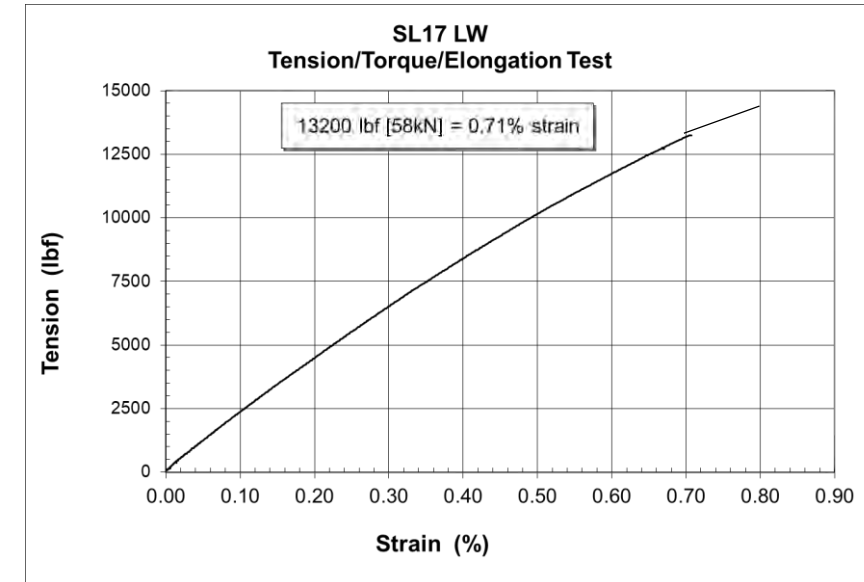
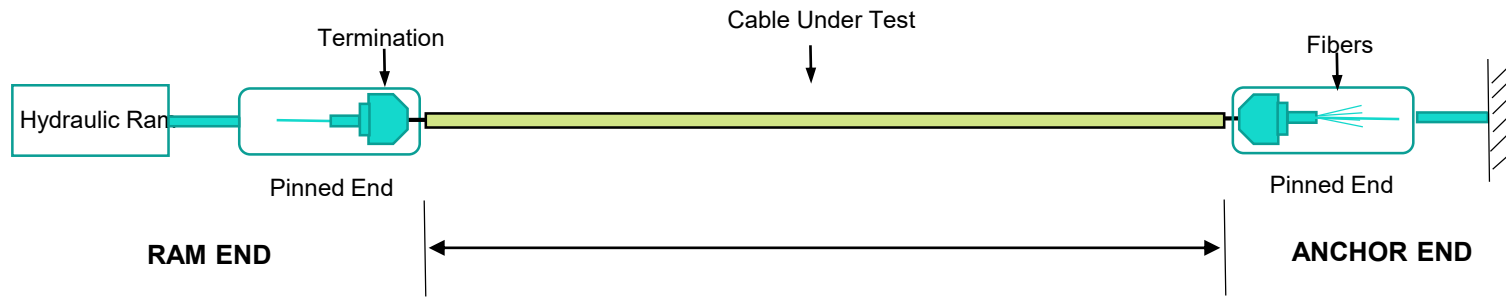
**NTTS** is set equal to **Ts**



# Cable Mechanical Properties: Tensile Strength Characterization

## Tensile Strength:

- ❑ Experimentally verified through Tensile Testing
  - Cable Tension vs. Cable Elongation Curve



- ❑ Highest Cable Tension levels are typically encountered during Recovery at Maximum Depth
  - Recovery operations aim not to exceed **Nominal Transient Tensile Strength (NTTS)**

SL17 LW

# Cable Qualification

# Qualification Test Program

Cable qualification program in conformance with ITU-T Recommendation G.976

SubCom Qualification Test	ITU-T G.976 (05/2014)	
	Reference Paragraph	Test Item
Cabled Fiber Optical Performance	8.2.1.1; 8.2.1.2	Transmission: Manufactured loss
Extended Range Temperature	8.2.1.3	Transmission: Temperature
Reverse Flexure with Temperature	8.2.1.3; 8.2.2.5	Transmission: Temperature Mechanical: Sheave
Reverse Bend	8.2.2.5	Mechanical: Sheave
Tension/Torque/Elongation	8.2.1.2; 8.2.2.1; 8.2.2.2	Transmission: Cabled fiber strain Mechanical: Tensile (fixed)
Tension/Torque/Rotation	8.2.1.2; 8.2.2.1; 8.2.2.2	Mechanical: Tensile (free)
Stopper Test	8.2.5.2	Operational: Stopper
Adhesion	8.2.5.1	Operational: Adhesion
Crush & Impact Test	8.2.3.1, 8.2.3.2	Operation: Installation Equipment
Water Ingress	8.3.4.1	Reliability: Water Ingress
HV & Insulation Resistance	8.3.4.2, 8.2.4.4	Reliability: HV & Insulation Resistance
Sea Trial*	8.2.5.3	Operation: Installation Equipment

\* Verification test

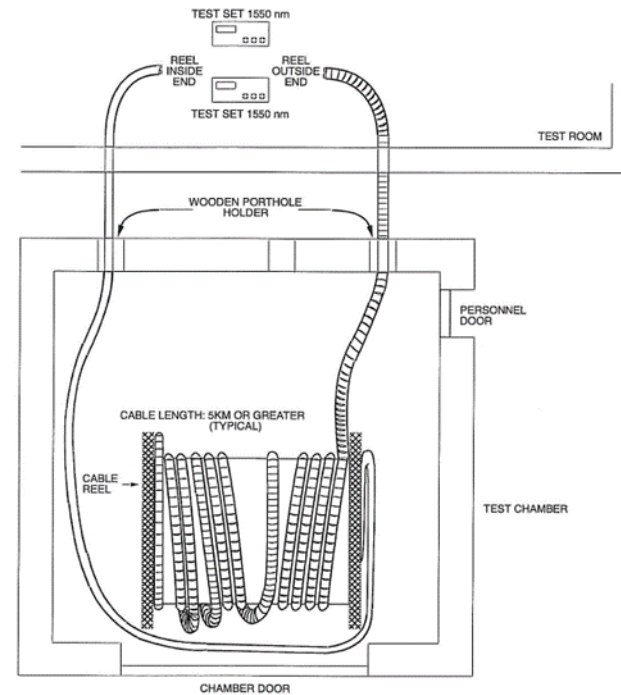
# Qualification Test Program

---

## ❑ Extended Range Temperature

**Sample:** 10-15km long cable on a reel, placed in an environmental temperature chamber

**Test Description:** Sample is subjected to a temperature profile ranging from -20 °C to +60 °C



# Qualification Test Program

## Reverse Flexure with Temperature

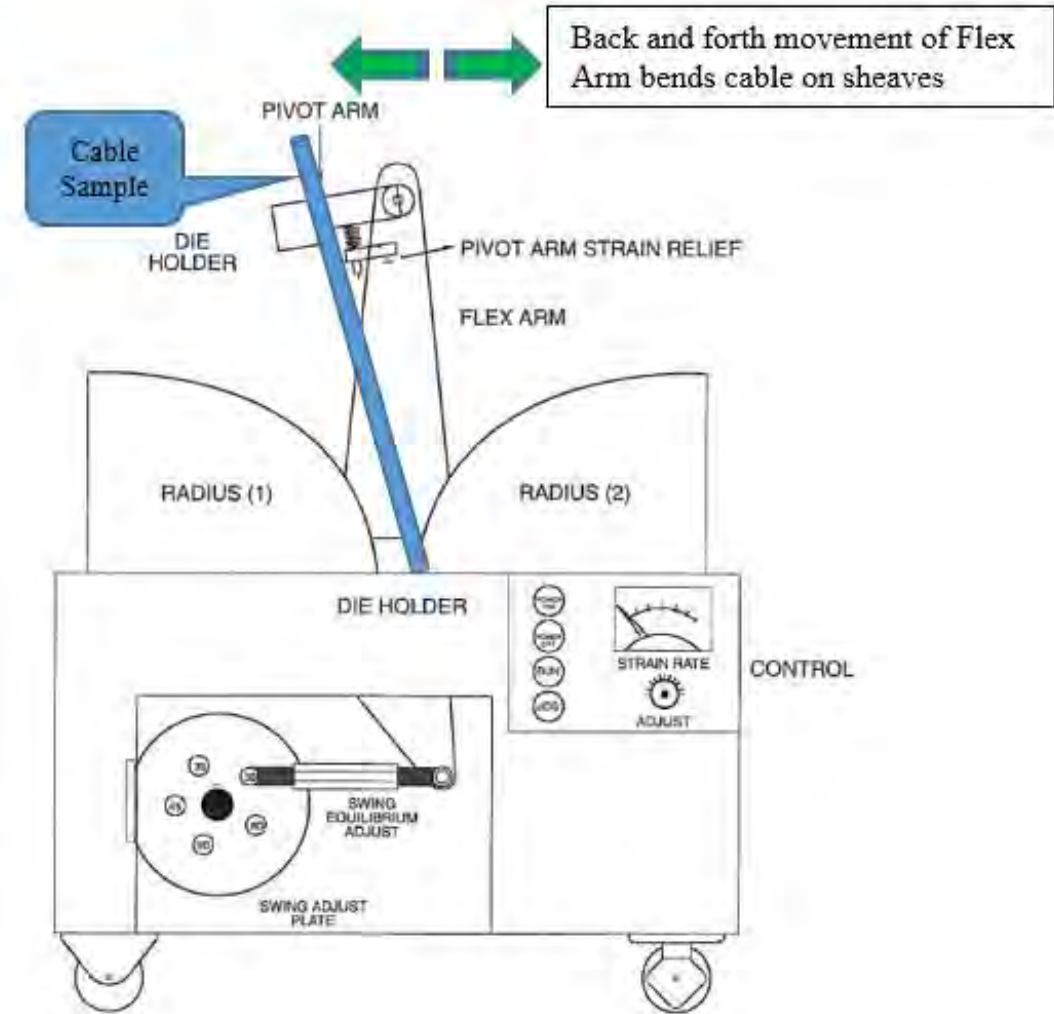
### Sample:

A  $\geq 100\text{m}$ -long cable sample, placed in an environmental temperature chamber and subjected to small radius bending

### Test Description:

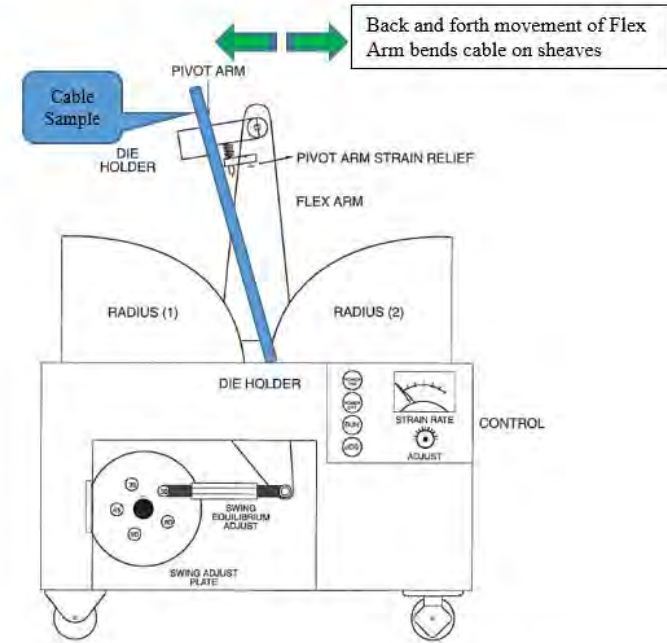
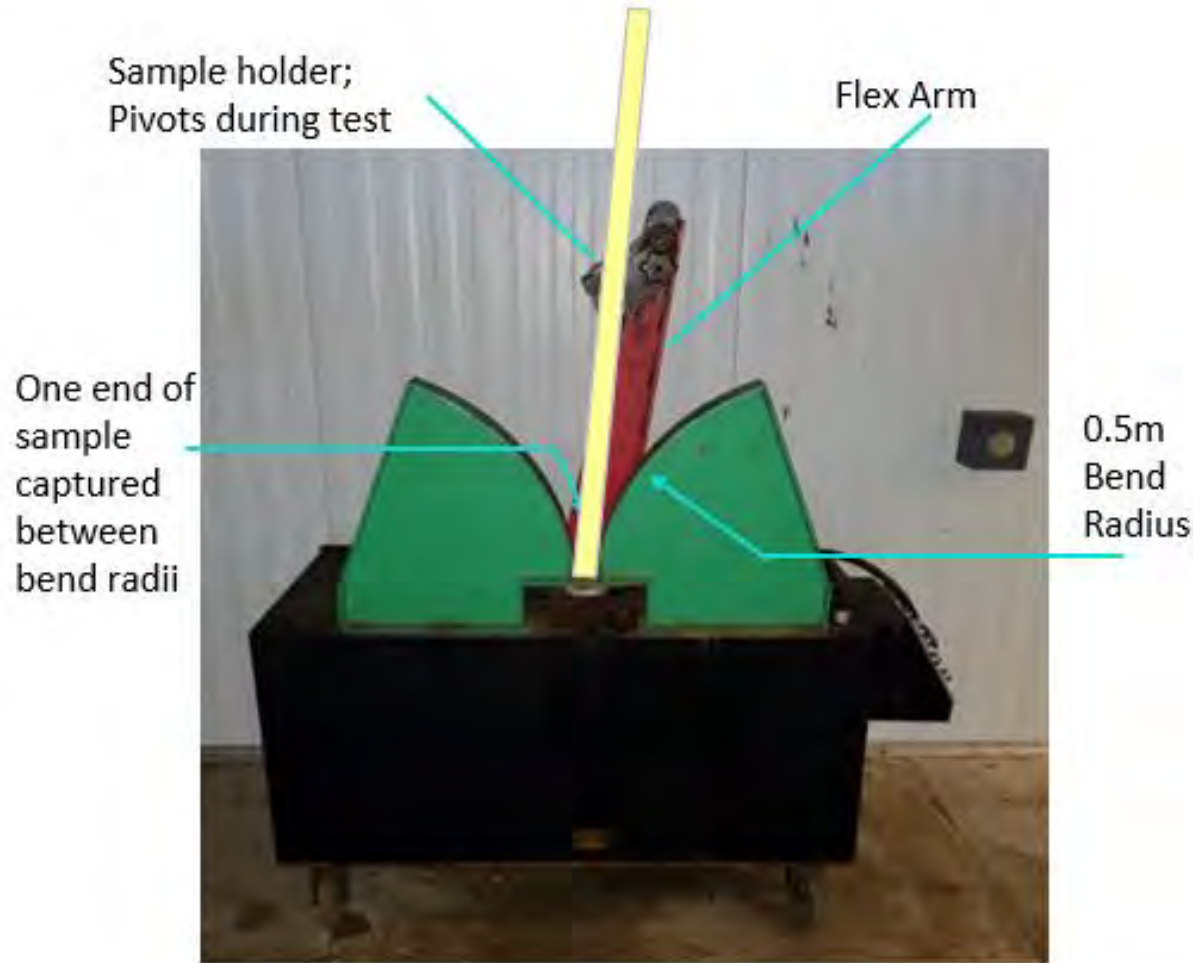
Sample is subjected to flexing while at temperatures ranging from  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $+60^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Simulates low-tension loading from the cable factory to the ship during very hot or very cold weather conditions



# Cable Mechanical Properties

## Reverse Flexure with Temperature



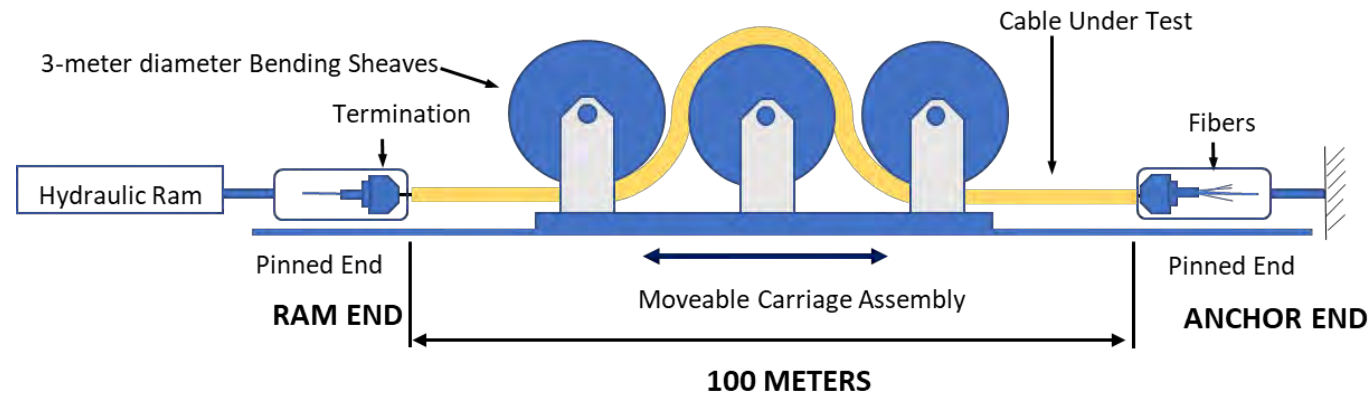
# Qualification Test Program

## ❑ Reverse Bend

**Sample:** 100m-long cable sample in a tensile bed.

### Test Description:

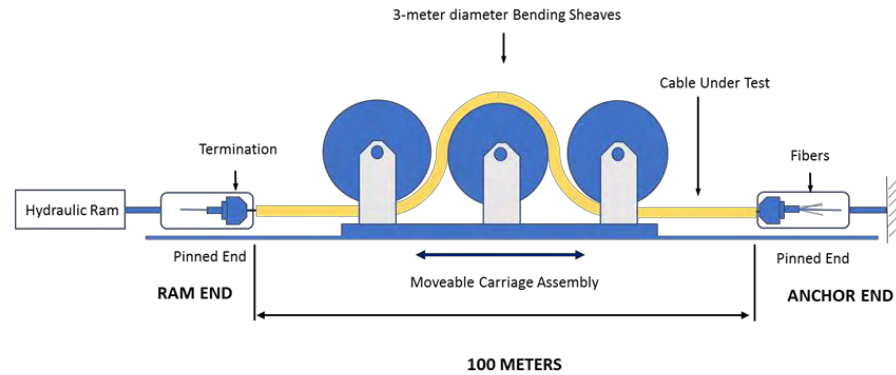
- The cable is routed through three 3m diameter sheaves attached to a moveable carriage.
- Tension applied up to NTTTS.
- Carriage traverses over a portion of the sample and impart cycles of reverse bends at different tension levels.





# Cable Mechanical Properties

## REVERSE BEND TEST



3-meter diameter sheaves

Moveable carriage traverses over a 70m portion of 100m long test specimen

100m test specimen

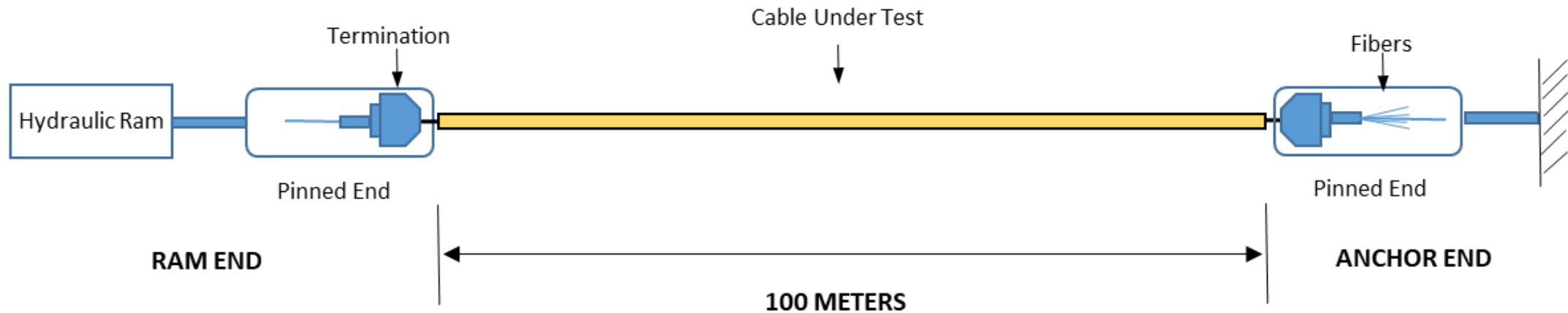
# Qualification Test Program

- Tension/Torque/Elongation

**Sample:** 100m long cable sample in a tensile bed.

## Test Description:

- Cable ends pinned against rotation.
- Tension applied incrementally to NTTS.
- Optical loss monitored, along with tension, torque and elongation.



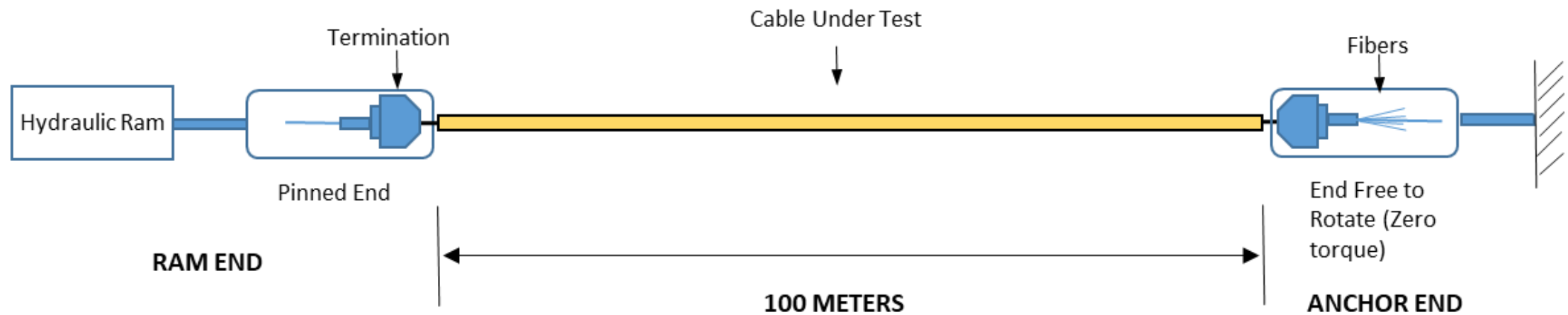
# Qualification Test Program

## □ Tension/Rotation/Elongation

**Sample:** 100m long cable sample in a tensile bed.

### Test Description:

- One cable end pinned against rotation, other end free to rotate.
- Tension applied incrementally to NTTs.
- Optical loss monitored, along with tension, rotation and elongation.



# Qualification Test Program

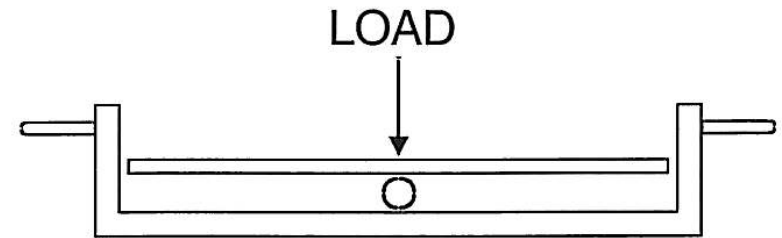
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## Crush

**Sample:** ~5m long cable sample

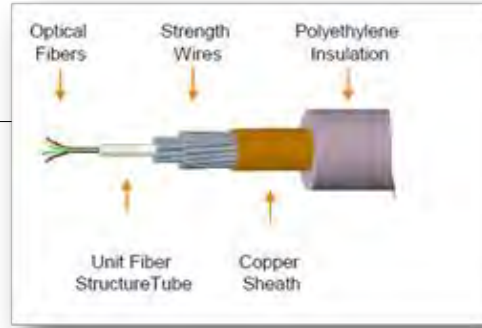
**Test Description:**

The sample is placed between two flat plates over a 10cm long section of the cable, and then loaded.



# Cable Manufacture

# Cable Manufacturing -- LW



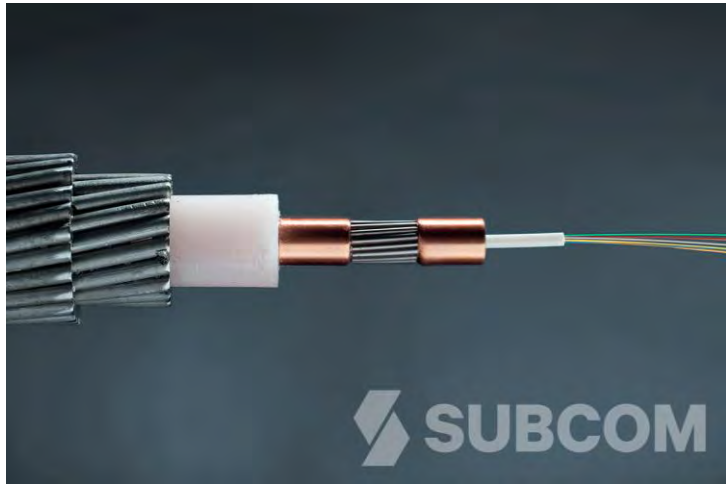
Loose Tube

Power Conductor

Polyethylene Extrusion



# Cable Manufacturing -- Armoring



LW Cable



# New Challenges

---

## Next Generation Cable:

- Improved Fiber Cushioning for New Fibers?
- Higher Voltage Capability?
- More Economical & Efficient Power Conduction?
- New Insulating Material?
- Quicker Jointing Process?
- ???

*How will you progress  
Subsea Communications?*







**Thank You**

# Optical Transmission – Lecture 2

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## Propagation impairments

# Do you speak dB (deciBels) ?

- We often express ratios in dB (logarithmic) scale

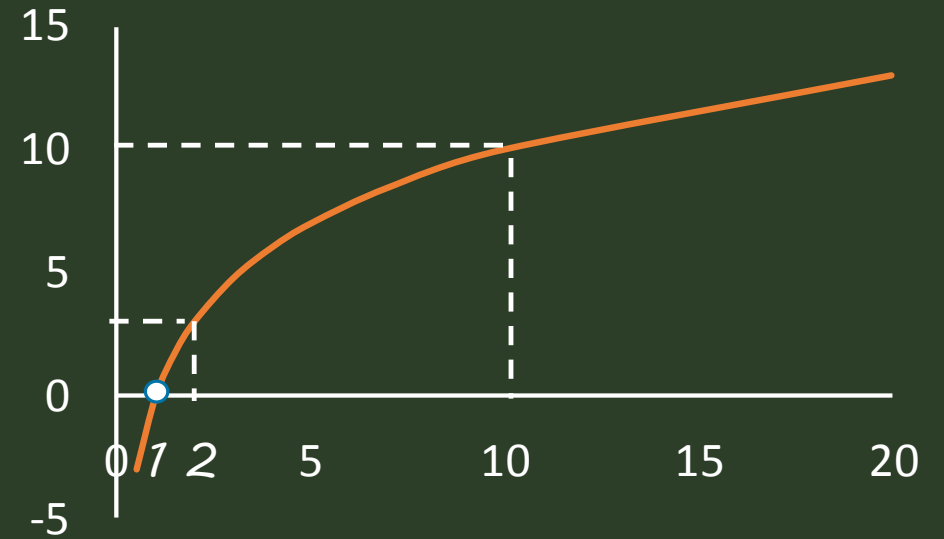
$$X = A/B \quad \rightarrow \quad \underline{X_{dB} = 10 \log_{10}(X)}$$

- $1x \leftrightarrow 0dB$ ,  $2x \leftrightarrow 3dB$ ,  $10x \leftrightarrow 10dB$

- Product of ratios = sum in dB

$$10 \log_{10}(X_1 * X_2) = X_{1,dB} + X_{2,dB}$$

$X_{dB}$



X

# Do you speak dB ?

- We often express ratios in dB (logarithmic) scale

$$X=A/B \quad \rightarrow \quad \underline{X_{dB} = 10 \log_{10} (X)}$$

- $1 \leftrightarrow 0\text{dB}$ ,  $2 \leftrightarrow 3\text{dB}$ ,  $10 \leftrightarrow 10\text{dB}$

- Product of ratios = sum in dB

$$10 \log_{10}(X_1 * X_2) = X_{1,dB} + X_{2,dB}$$

$$10 \log_{10}(X_1 / X_2) = X_{1,dB} - X_{2,dB}$$

- We also express powers in dBm  
= Ratio of the power « per mW »

$$\underline{P_{dBm} = 10 * \log_{10} \left( \frac{P_{Watt}}{10^{-3} Watt} \right)}$$


- Product of power  $P_1$  by ratio  $X$

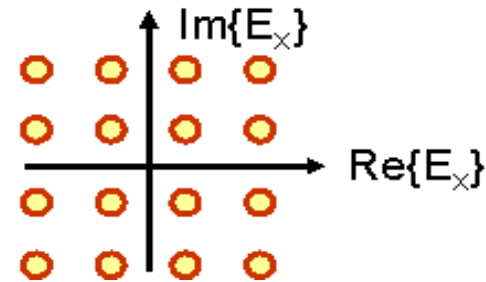
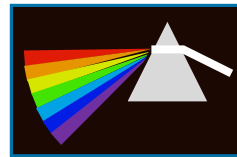
$$P_{2,dBm} = P_{1,dBm} + X_{dB}$$

- ! We can sum Watts, not dBm

# Back to Lecture 1

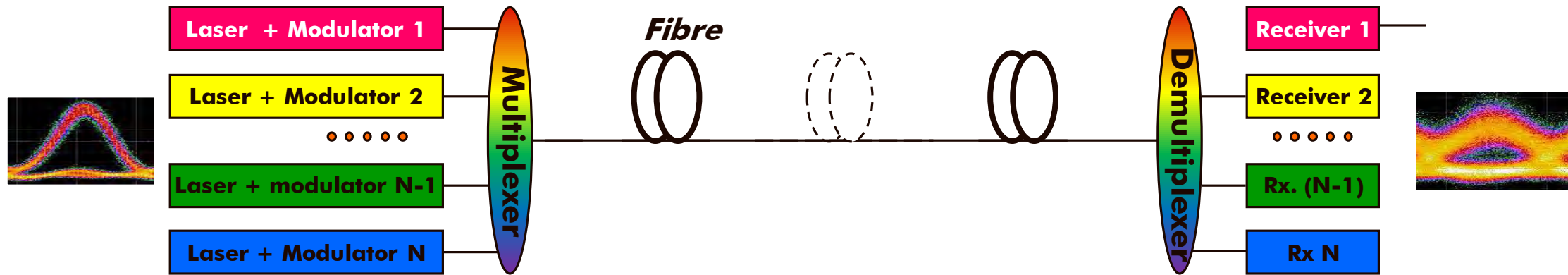
Spectral efficiency


$$Capacity = Nb_{spatial\ modes} * Nb_{wavelengths} * Nb_{polars} * Nb_{bit/symbol} * \frac{Symbol\ Rate}{Overhead(FEC, signaling)}$$



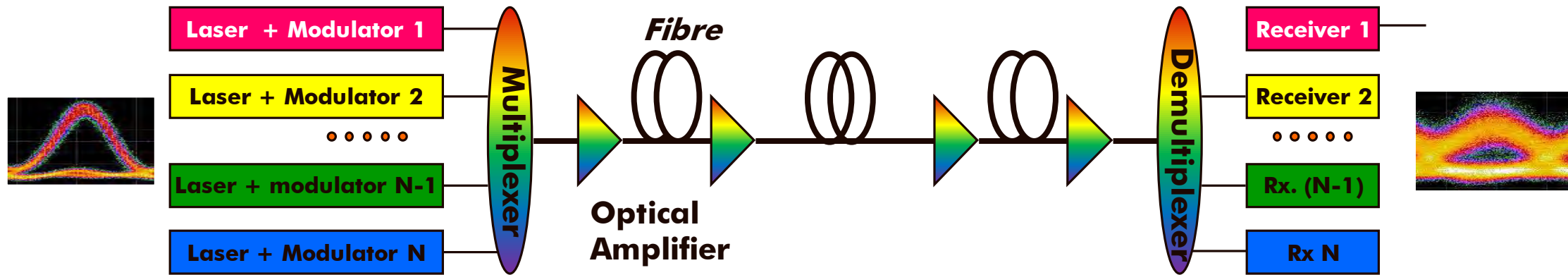
- Software-defined “Coherent” transceivers
  - Linear receiver assisted by high rate **Digital Signal Processing** enables mitigation of line impairments...
  - and **adaptation of bit-rate** (modulation) to **Quality of Transmission** (distance, signal to noise ratio)

# One transmission line, multiple sources of signal impairments



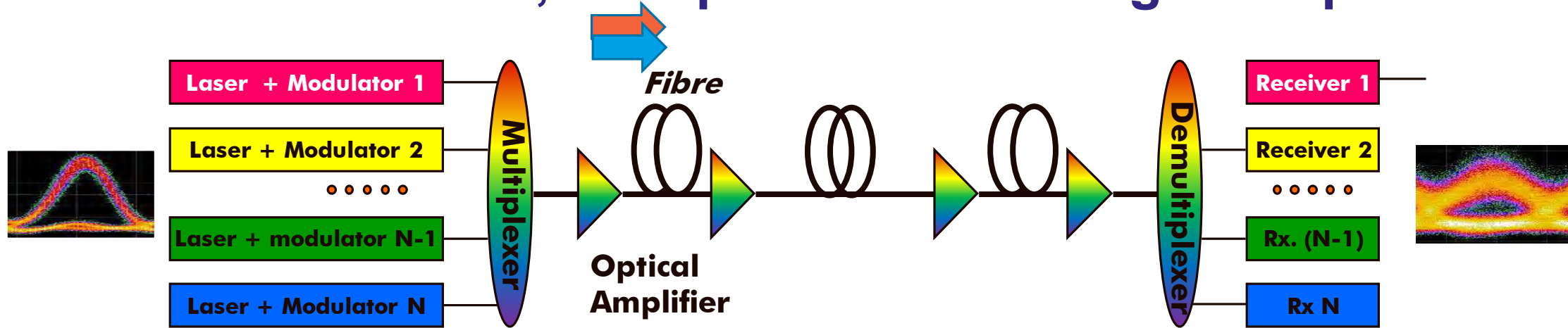
Physical effect	Impact	Mitigation	Limitations
Attenuation	Undetectable Signal		

# One transmission line, multiple sources of signal impairments



Physical effect	Impact	Mitigation	Limitations
Attenuation	Undetectable Signal	Optical amplification	Amplifier noise, $SNR_{ASE}$

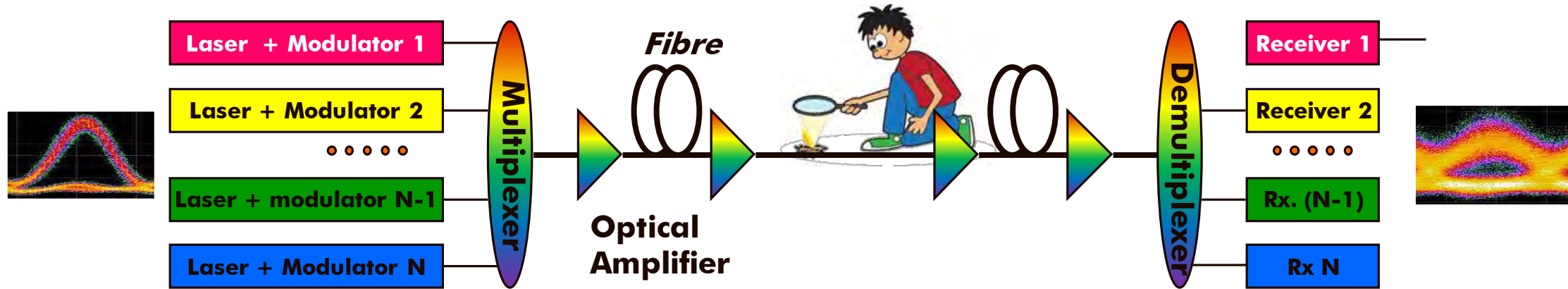
# One transmission line, multiple sources of signal impairments



Physical effect	Impact	Mitigation	Limitations
Attenuation	Undetectable Signal	Optical amplification	Amplifier noise, $SNR_{ASE}$
Chromatic Dispersion Frequency dep. Speed	Pulse broadening	Inline optical Electronic Dispersion compensation	Imperfect compensation

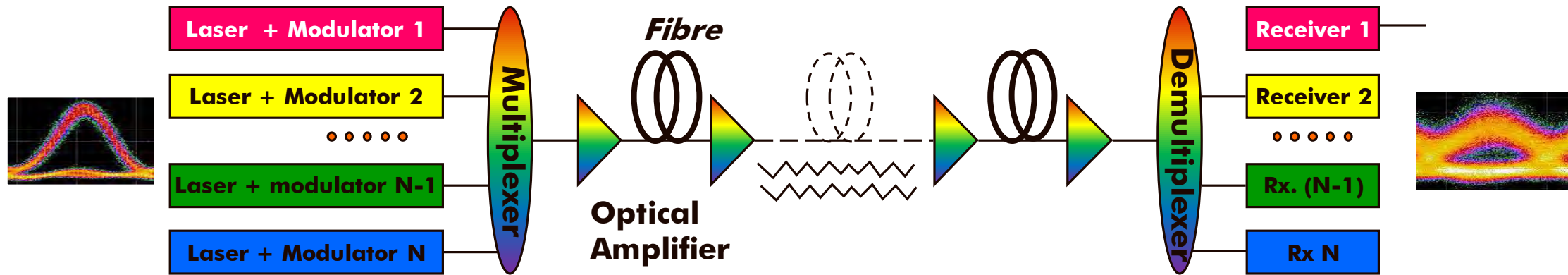


# One transmission line, multiple sources of signal impairments



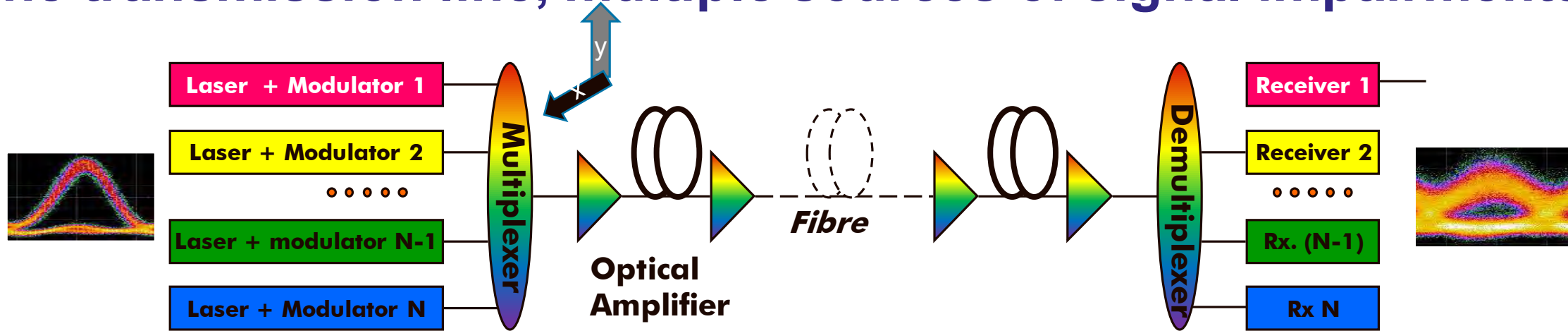
Physical effect	Impact	Mitigation	Limitations, metrics
Attenuation	Undetectable Signal	Optical amplification	Amplifier noise, $SNR_{ASE}$
Chromatic Dispersion Frequency dep. Speed	Pulse broadening	Inline optical Electronic Dispersion compensation	Imperfect compensation
Kerr effect ( power $\rightarrow$ phase)	Power-dep. Distortions	Dispersion-management, electronic mitigation	Repeater count & power

# One transmission line, multiple sources of signal impairments



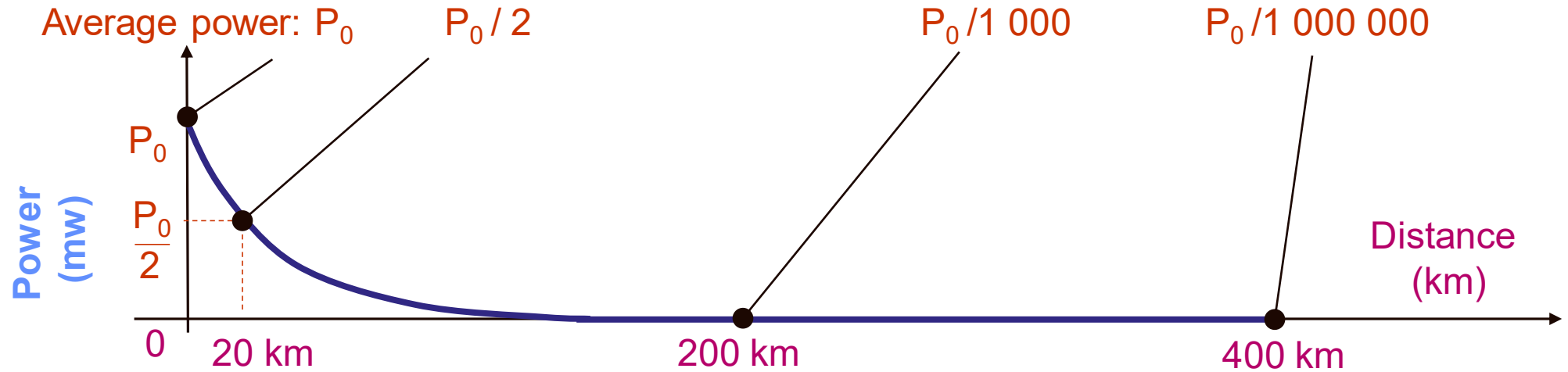
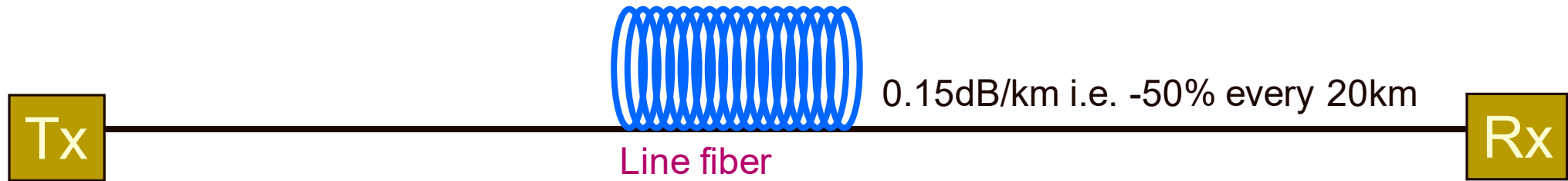
Physical effect	Impact	Mitigation	Limitations
Attenuation	Undetectable Signal	Optical amplification	Amplifier noise, $SNR_{ASE}$
Chromatic Dispersion Frequency dep. Speed	Pulse broadening	Inline optical Electronic Dispersion compensation	Imperfect compensation
Kerr effect ( power $\rightarrow$ phase)	Power-dep. distortions	Dispersion-management, electronic mitigation	Repeater count & power
GAWBS: acoustic waves	Phase & polar shifts	Temperature = 0 K ...	Length, Effective area

# One transmission line, multiple sources of signal impairments



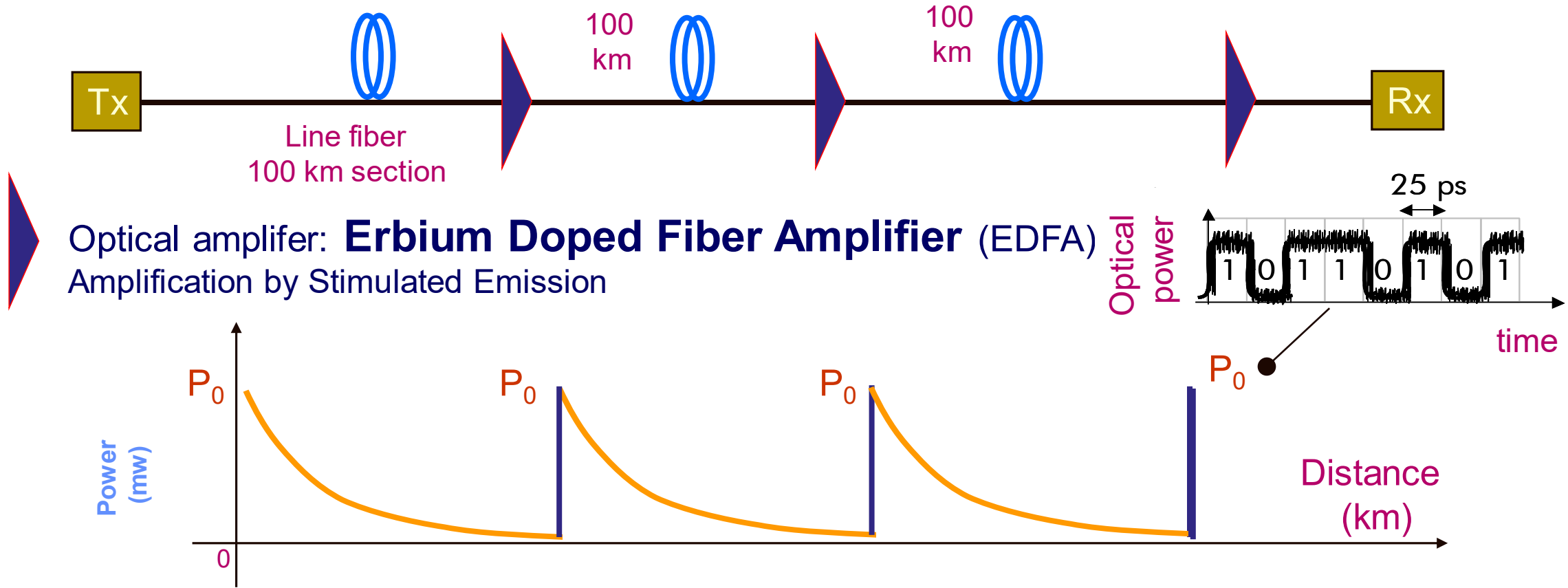
Physical effect	Impact	Mitigation	Limitations
Attenuation	Undetectable Signal	Optical amplification	Amplifier noise, $SNR_{ASE}$
Chromatic Dispersion Frequency dep. Speed	Pulse broadening	Inline optical Electronic Dispersion compensation	Imperfect compensation (ASIC)
Kerr effect ( power $\rightarrow$ phase)	Power-dep. distortions	Dispersion-management, electronic mitigation	Repeater count & power
GAWBS: acoustic waves	Phase & polar shifts		Length, Effective area
PMD (polar. dep. speed)	Time-varying distortions	Electronic mitigation	ASIC implementation

# Impact of fiber attenuation



**Fiber attenuation is low (0.15dB/km) but not enough to reach 1000 km**

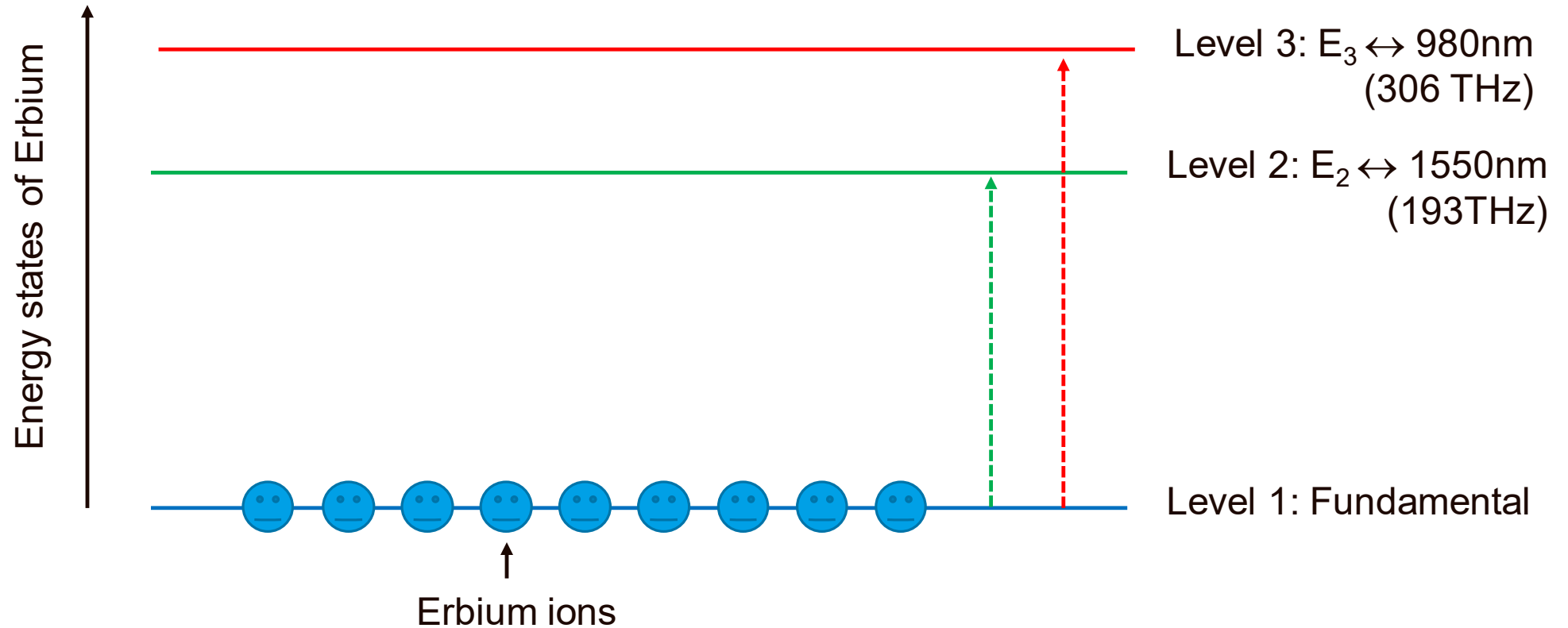
# From optical amplification to amplifier noise



Limitation: **Amplified Spontaneous Emission (ASE)**

# Principles of optical amplification

$$\text{Energy of a photon: } \frac{h \cdot c}{\lambda} = h\nu$$

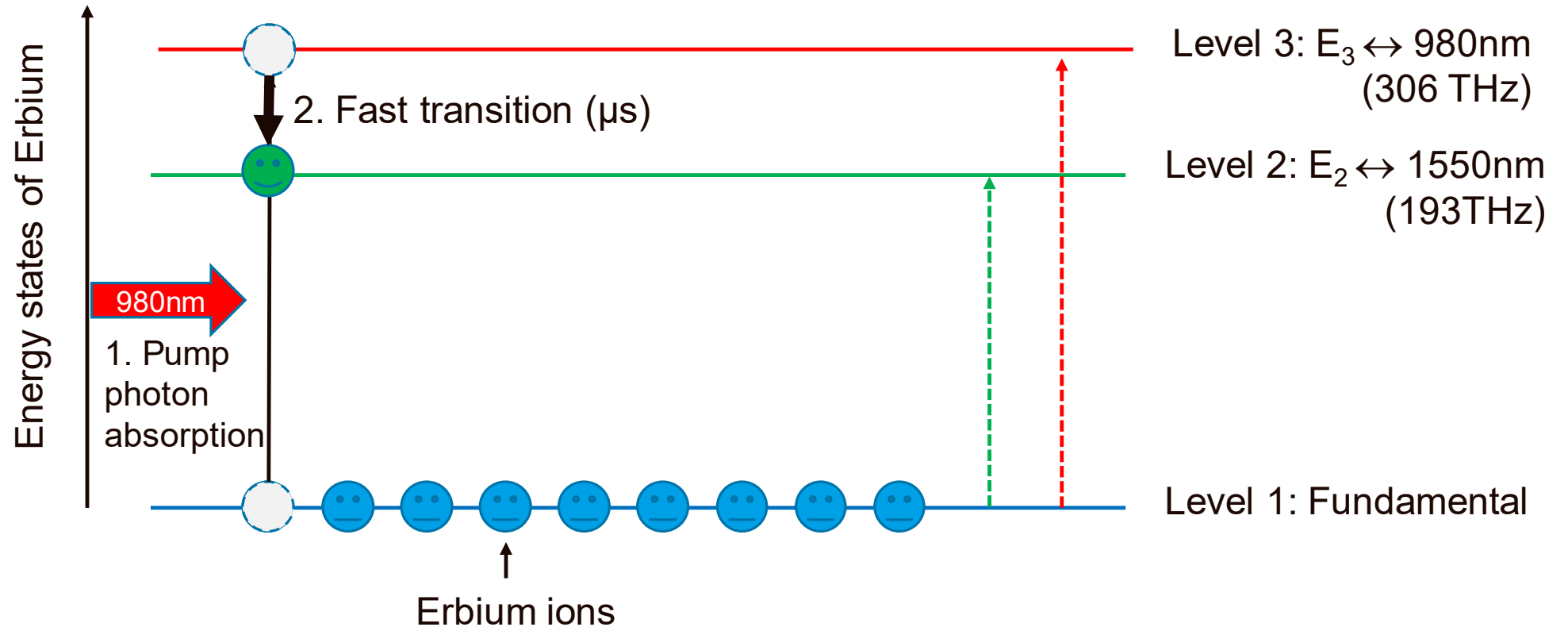


All Erbium ions in the fundamental state

# Principles of optical amplification

## Optical pumping

$$\text{Energy of a photon: } \frac{h \cdot c}{\lambda} = h\nu$$

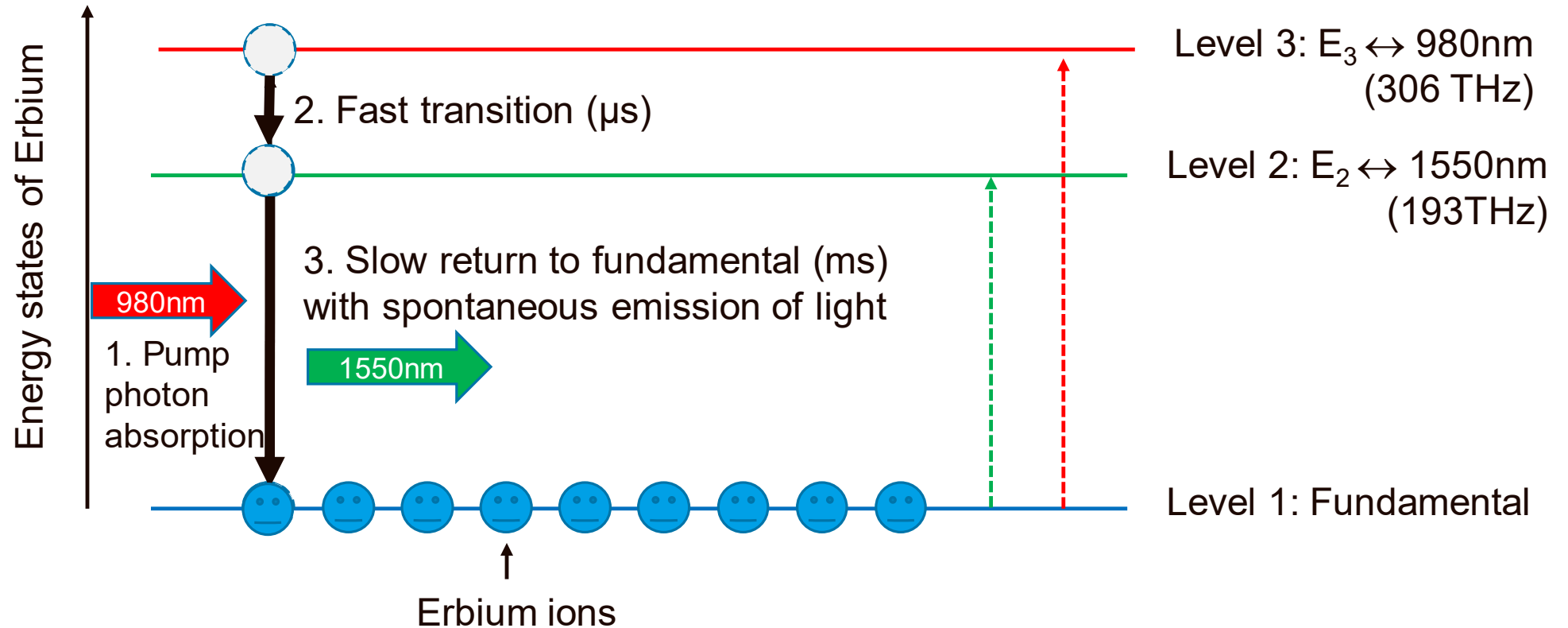


Pump photons transfer Erbium ions into an excited state

# Principles of optical amplification

## Optical pumping

$$\text{Energy of a photon: } \frac{h \cdot c}{\lambda} = h\nu$$

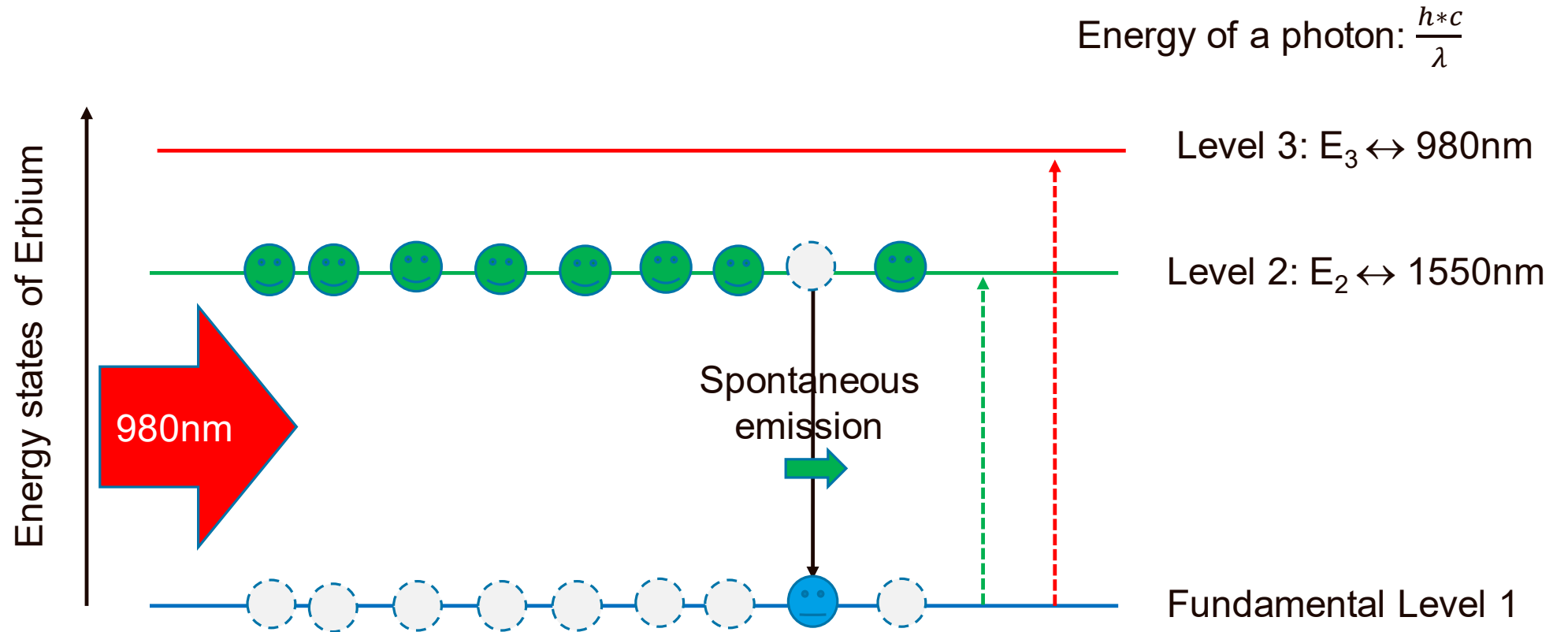


Pump photons transfer Erbium ions into an excited state



# Principles of optical amplification

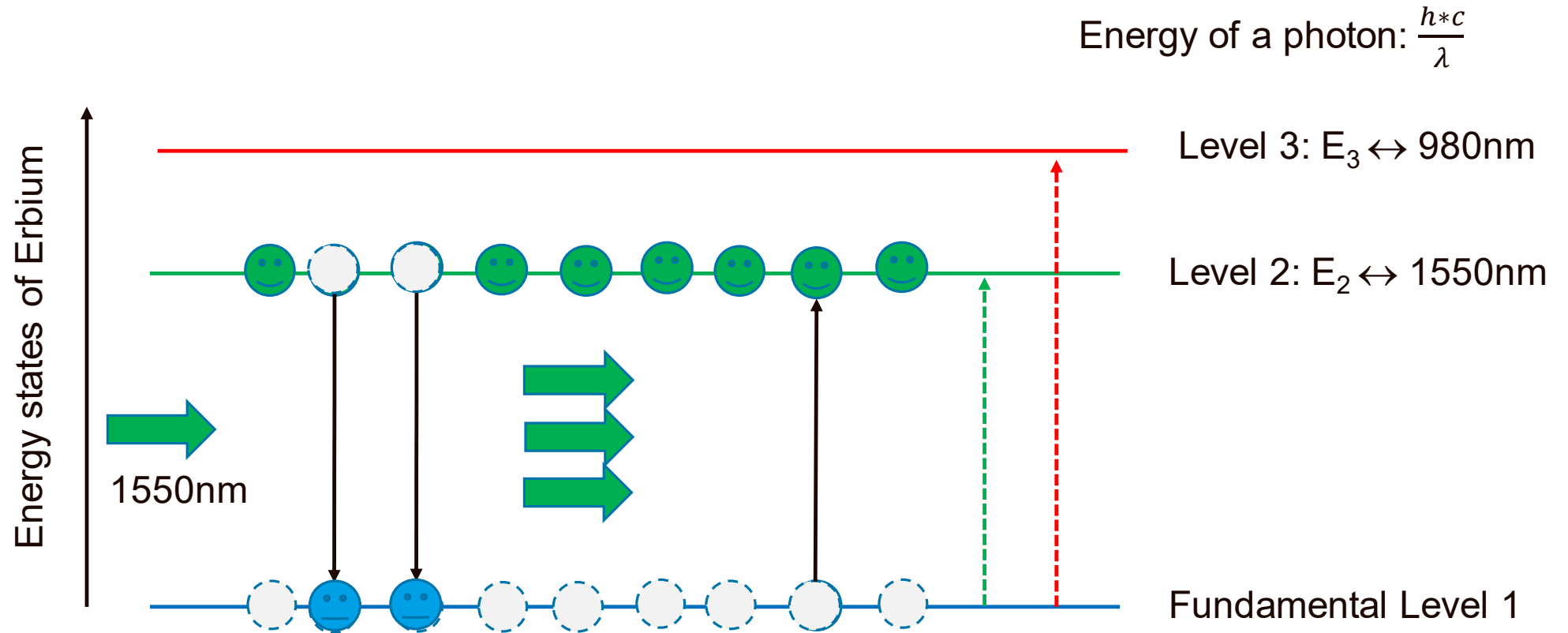
## Population inversion



**Strong pump power** : almost all ions in **level 2**  
Ready for signal amplification !

# Principles of optical amplification

Incoming signal photons in presence of **population inversion**

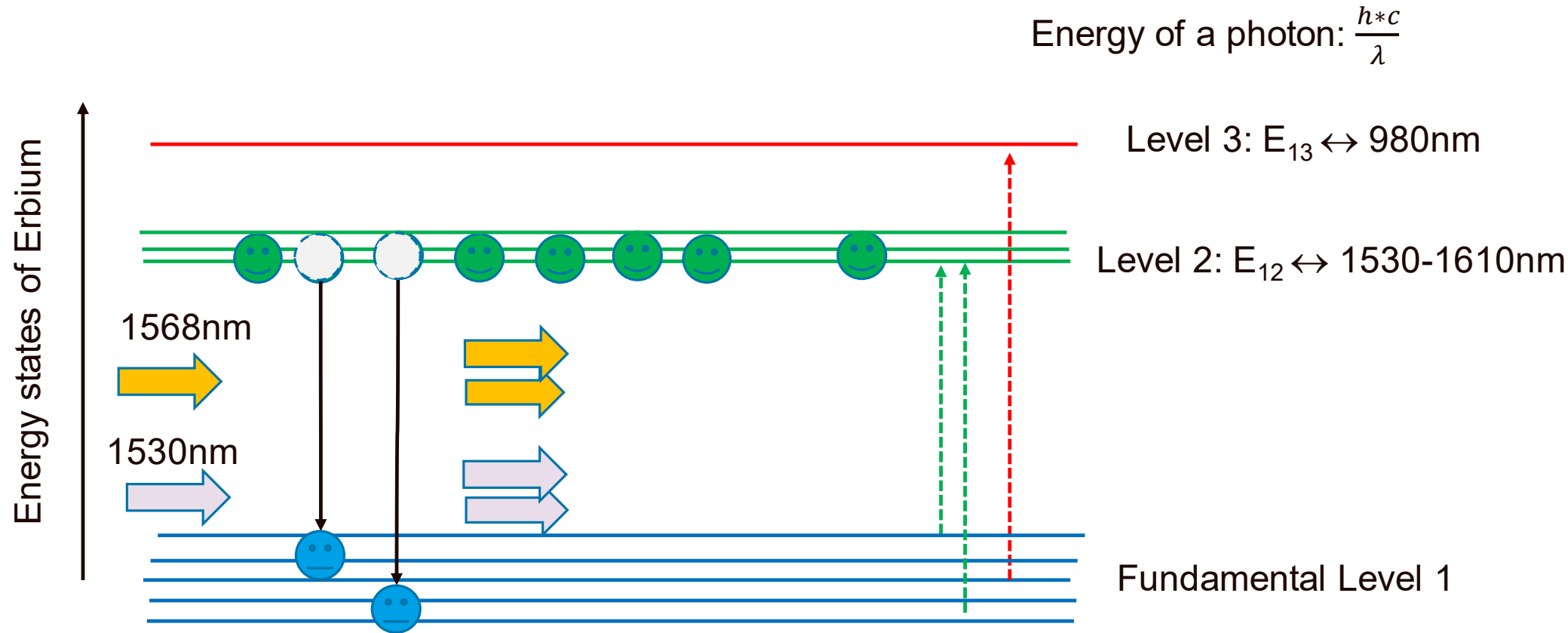


Competition between stimulated (+spontaneous) emission and absorption

**Population inversion** → **Amplification** (+ spontaneous emission noise)

# Principles of optical amplification with EDFA

## Wideband amplification

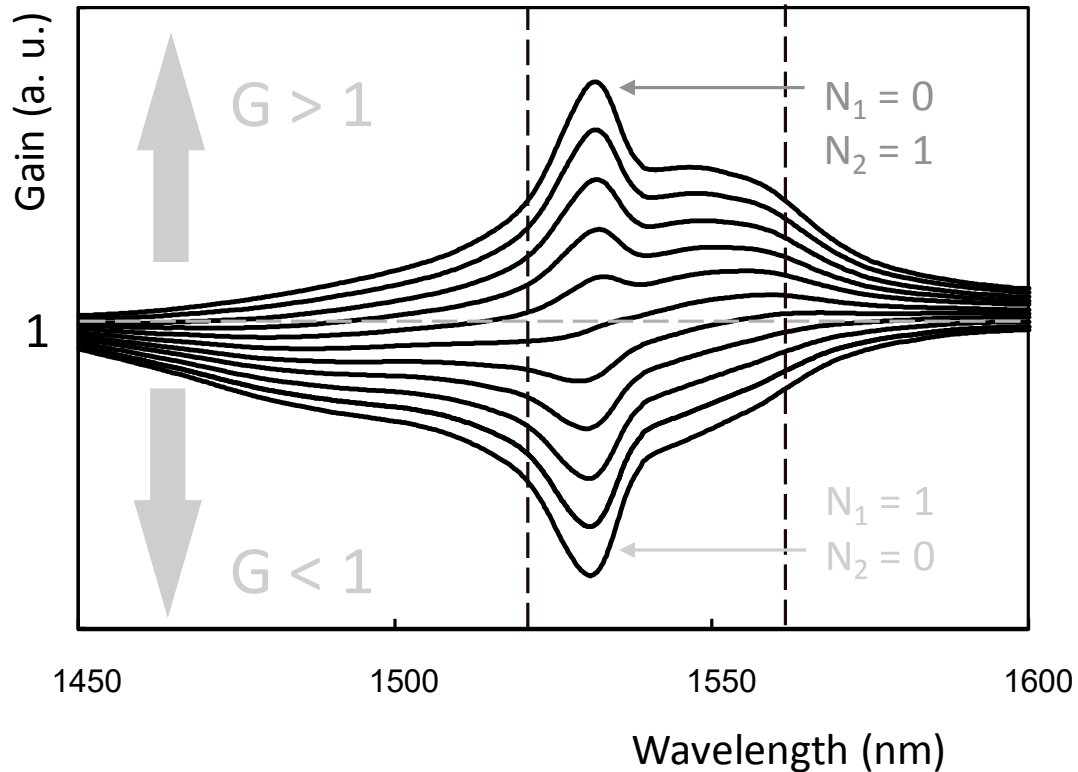


Stark effect: myriad of sublevels → amplification over wide range of wavelengths

# Gain and population inversion

$$G(\lambda_s) = \sigma_e(\lambda_s)\overline{N}_2 - \sigma_a(\lambda_s)\overline{N}_1$$

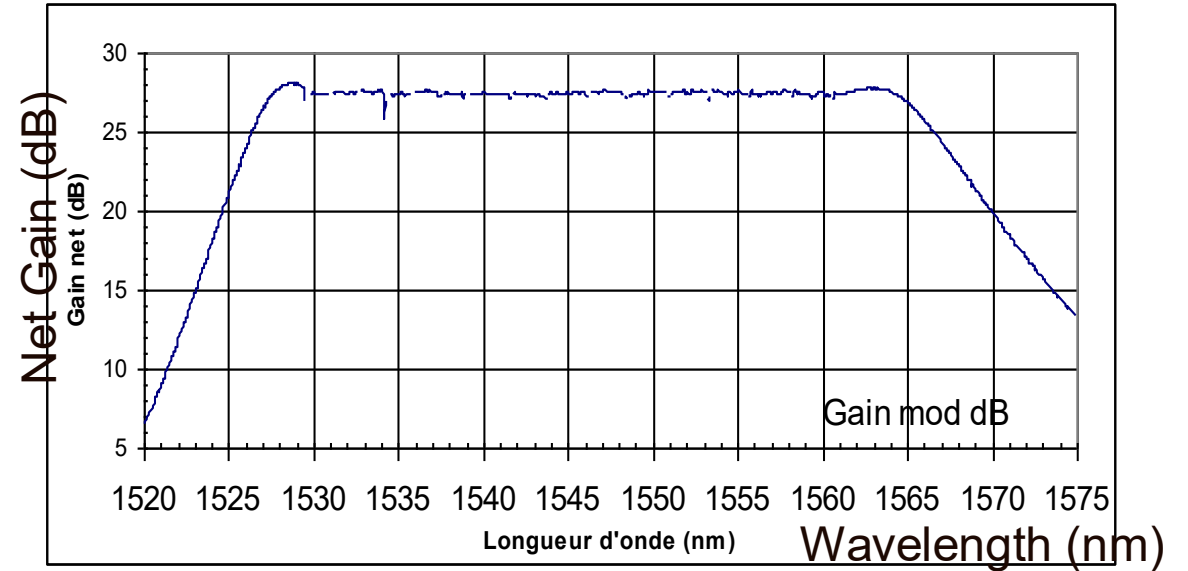
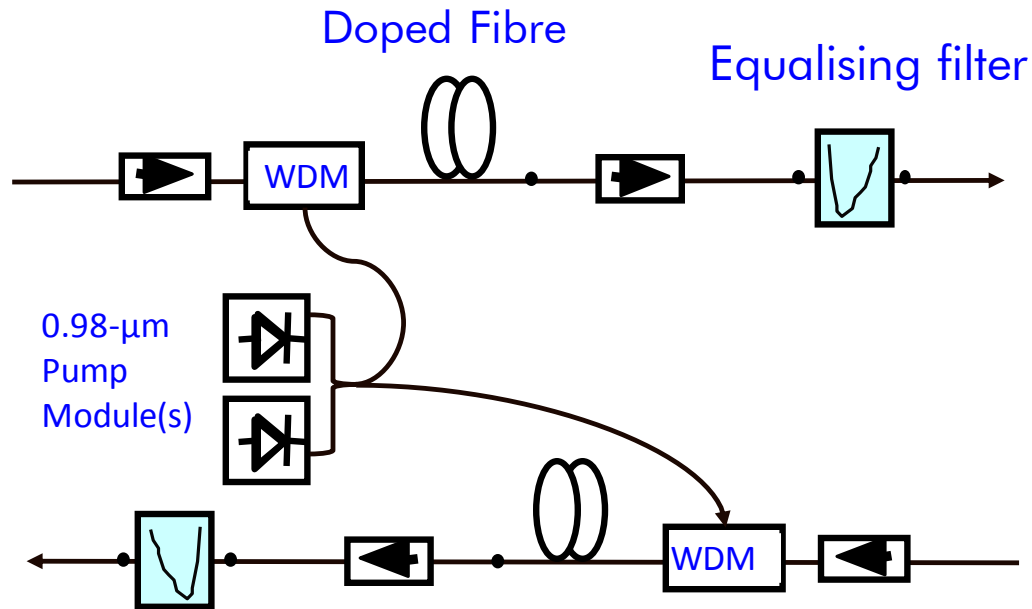
$$N_1 + N_2 = N_t$$



Whatever the inversion, the gain is not flat!

With a constant gain (population inversion) one can control the spectral profile using a fixed equalization optical filter

# Typical optical amplifier with optical equalization



## Typical features of subsea repeaters

- Total output power : up to 21dBm
- Equalizing filter adapted to fixed inter-amplifier section (span)
- Flatness within  $\pm 0.1$ dB over up to 5THz (40nm)
- Noise figure  $\sim 4$ -5 dB

# Quality of transmission parameter: OSNR

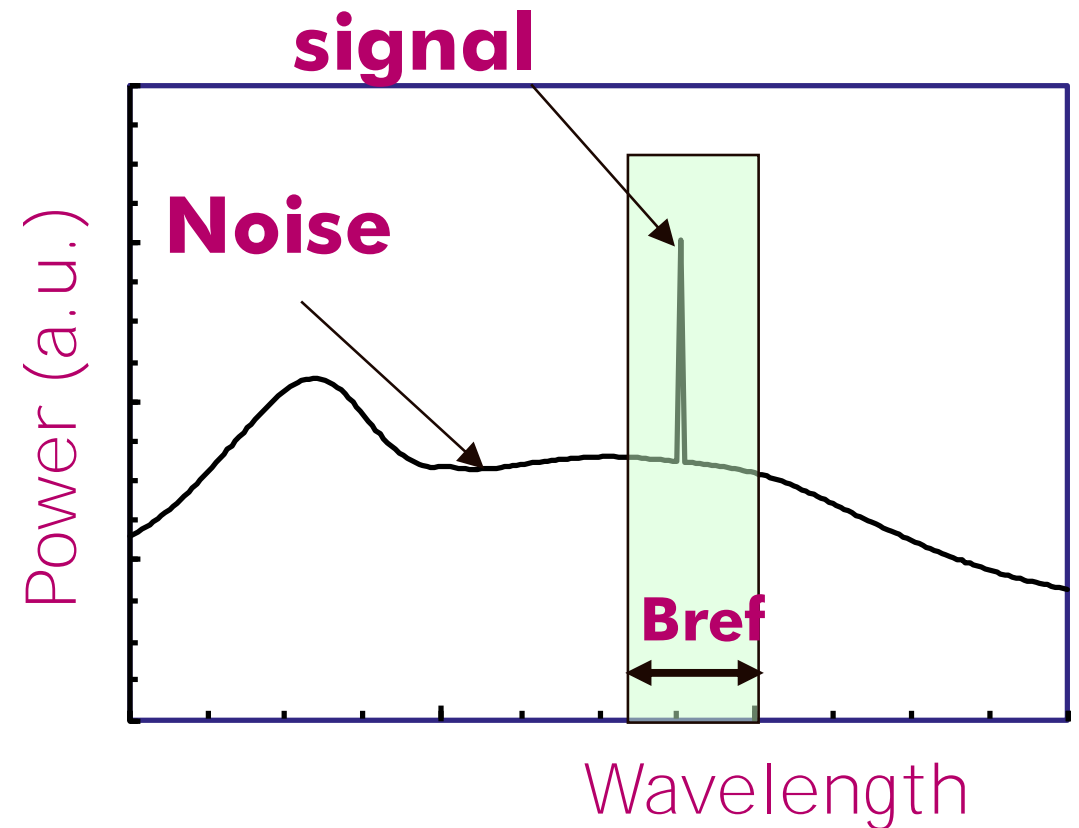
## Amplified Spontaneous Emission (ASE)

- Additive Gaussian Noise
- Broadband noise: >4THz, 30nm

## Optical Signal to Noise Ratio (OSNR)

$$OSNR_{B_{ref}} = \frac{P_{signal \text{ per channel}}}{P_{noise, 2 \text{ polars}, B_{ref}}}$$

Expressed in dB, generally w/in 0.1nm (12.5GHz)

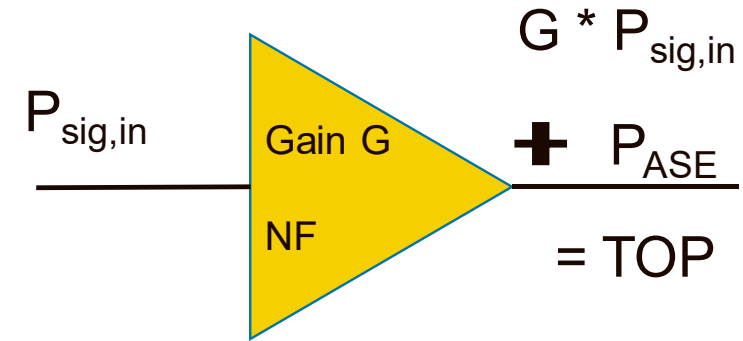


# Amplifier characteristics: Total Output Power (TOP), noise figure (NF)

- Generated ASE noise:

$$P_{ASE, B_{ref}} = NF * G * \frac{hc}{\lambda} * B_{ref}$$

Noise Figure (ITU)   
 Amplifier gain   
 Photon energy



- OSNR after 1 amplifier
  - Depends on input power

$$OSNR_{B_{ref}} = \frac{P_{in \text{ per channel}}}{NF} * K, \quad \text{with } K = \frac{\lambda}{hc * B_{ref}}$$

# Amplifier characteristics: Total Output Power (TOP), noise figure (NF)

- Generated ASE noise:

$$P_{ASE,B_{ref}} = NF * G * \frac{hc}{\lambda} * B_{ref}$$

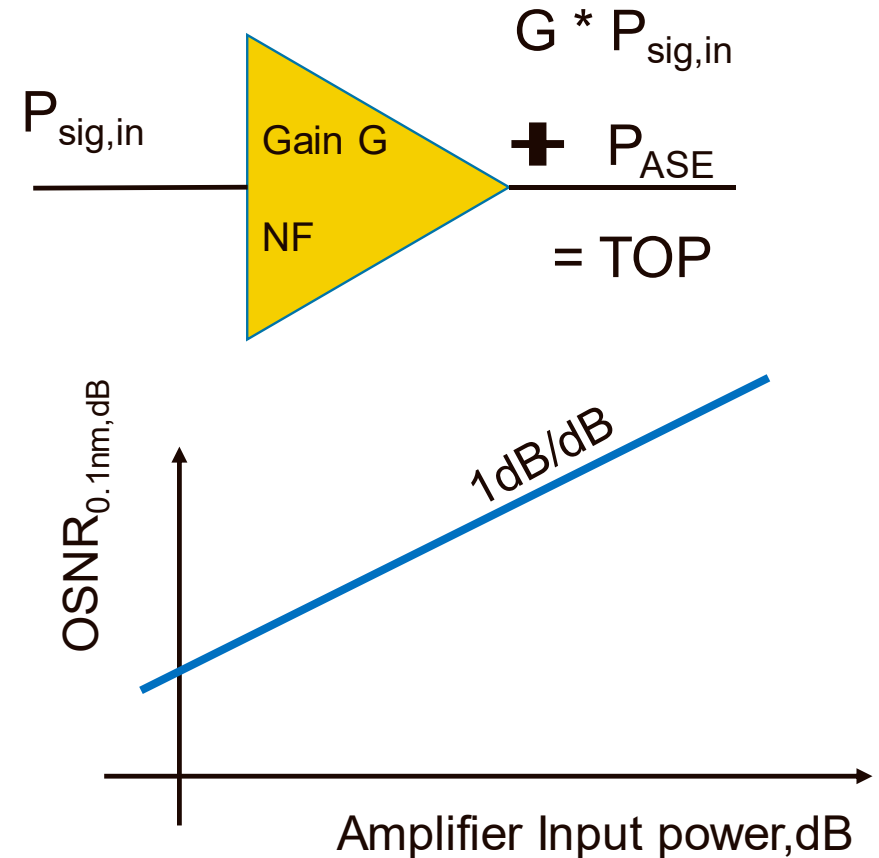
Noise Figure (ITU)   
 Amplifier gain   
 Photon energy

- OSNR after 1 amplifier

- Depends on input power

$$OSNR_{B_{ref}} = \frac{P_{in \text{ per channel}}}{NF} * K, \quad \text{with } K = \frac{\lambda}{hc * B_{ref}}$$

$$OSNR_{0.1nm,dB} = 58 + P_{tot,in,dBm} - Nb_{channels,dB} - NF_{dB}$$





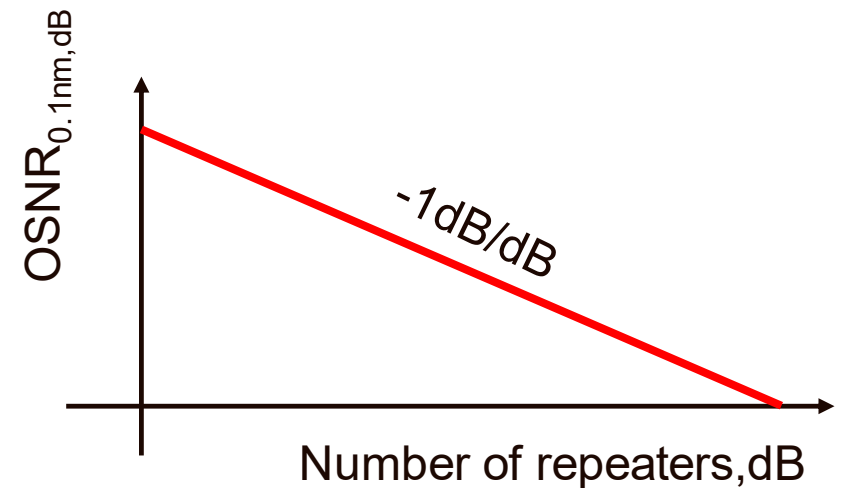
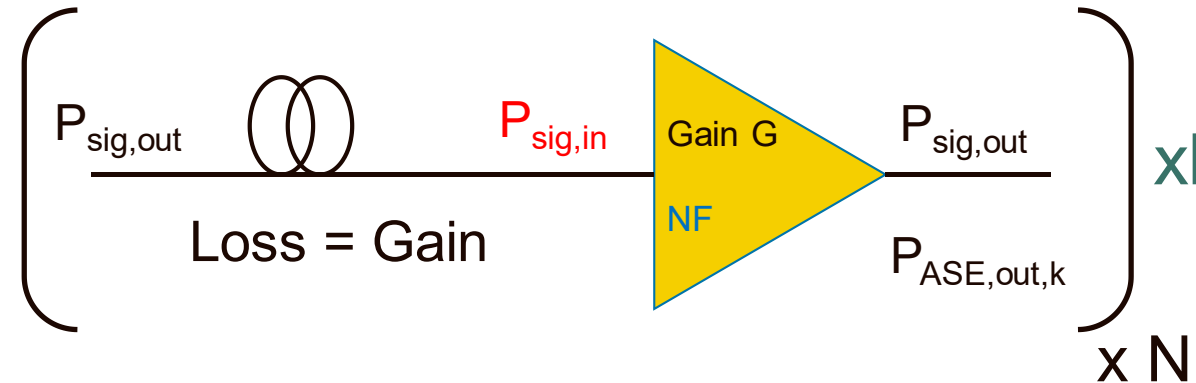
# Cascade of N identical repeaters

- Generated ASE noise:

- \* N

- OSNR after N amplifiers

- Assuming same signal input power



$$OSNR_{dB,0.1nm} = 58 + P_{tot,out,dBm} - LOSS_{dB} - Nb_{channels,dB} - NF_{dB} - N_{dB}$$

# Application : reach of terrestrial vs submarine systems

- $OSNR_{dB,0.1nm} \approx 58 + P_{out,total,dBm} - \#channels_{dB} - LOSS_{dB} - NF_{dB} - N_{repeaters,dB}$
- $SpanLoss_{dB} = Attenuation_{dB/km} * Repeater-spacing_{km}$

	Terrestrial	Submarine
Amplifier spacing (km)	100	60
Attenuation (dB/km)	0.22	0.15
Amplifier total output power (dBm, 100ch)	20	15
Noise figure (dB)	6	4
Transmission reach (km)	2,000	12,000
Number of repeaters		
Amplifier output power per channel (dBm)		
Span loss (dB)		
OSNR (dB/0.1nm)		

# OSNR in open cables: conventional vs natural bandwidth

- Convention: 0.1nm → OSNR depends on terminal (# channels)
- Natural: **channel spacing** → OSNR does not depend on terminal

$$SNR_{ASE} = \frac{P_{signal,channel}}{P_{noise,channel\ spacing}} = \frac{P_{signal,total}}{P_{noise,total}}$$

# OSNR in open cables: conventional vs natural bandwidth

- Convention: 0.1nm → OSNR depends on terminal (# channels)
- Natural: **channel spacing** → OSNR does not depend on terminal
- Conversion:

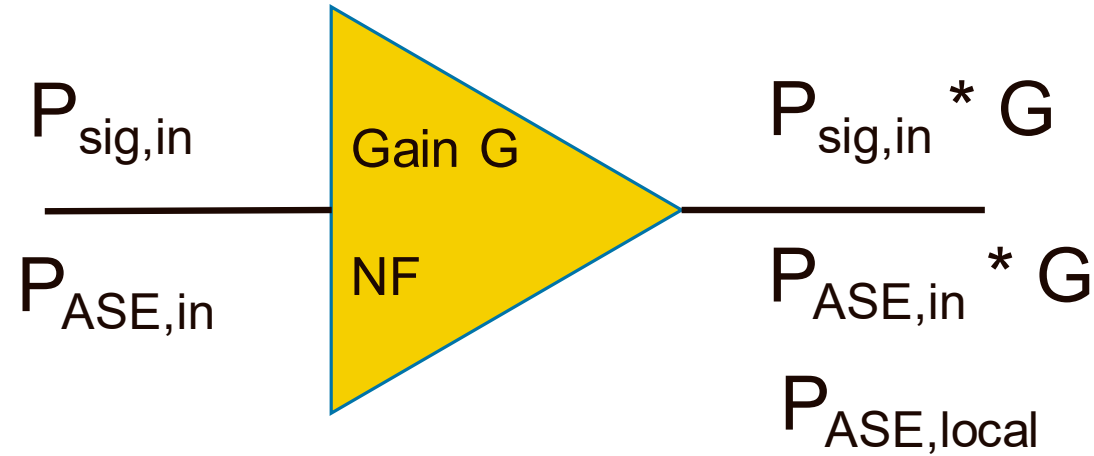
$$SNR_{ASE,dB} = OSNR_{ASE,B_{ref},dB} + 10 * \log_{10} \left( \frac{B_{ref}}{\text{Channel spacing}} \right)$$

or

$$SNR_{ASE,dB} \approx 38.9 + P_{out,tot,dBm} - LOSS_{dB} - NF_{dB} - N_{rep,dB} - 10 \log_{10}(\text{Ampl. Band}_{THz})$$

# General formula of a cascade of amplifiers (1/3)

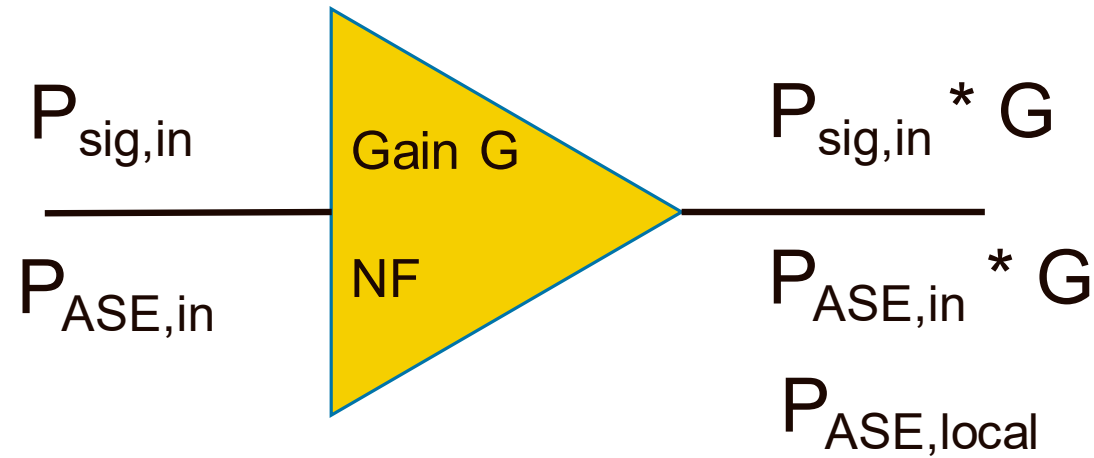
- OSNR degradation in presence of existing noise ( $OSNR_{in}$ )



$$\frac{1}{OSNR_{out}} = \boxed{\phantom{000}} = \boxed{\phantom{000}} + \boxed{\phantom{000}}$$

## General formula of a cascade of amplifiers (2/3)

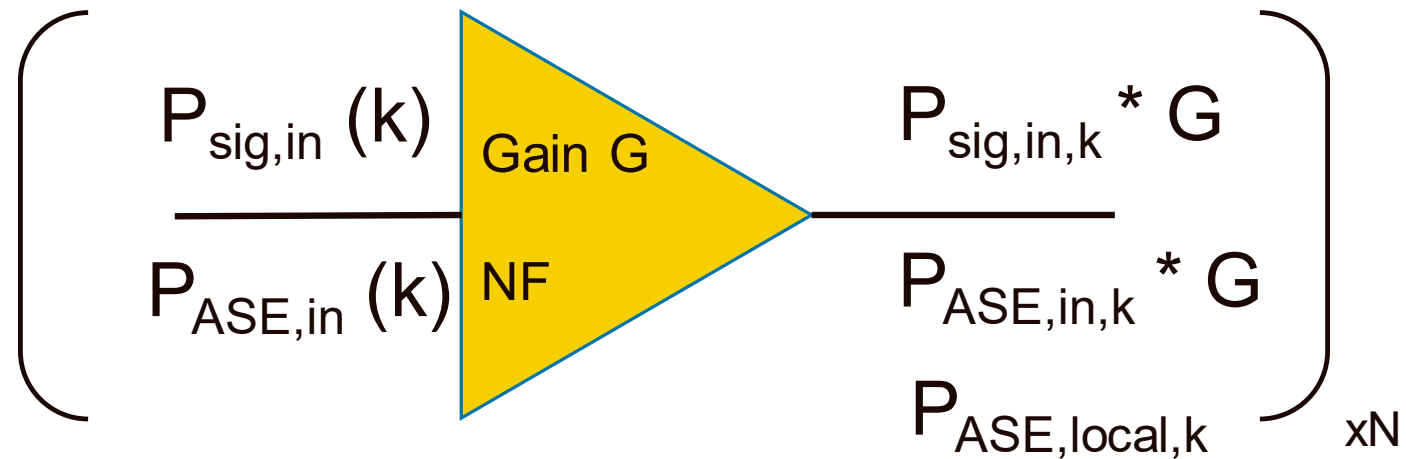
- OSNR degradation in presence of existing noise ( $OSNR_{in}$ )



$$\frac{1}{OSNR_{out}} = \frac{1}{OSNR_{in}} + \frac{1}{OSNR_{local}}$$

# General formula of a cascade of amplifiers (3/3)

- OSNR degradation in presence of existing noise ( $OSNR_{in}$ )

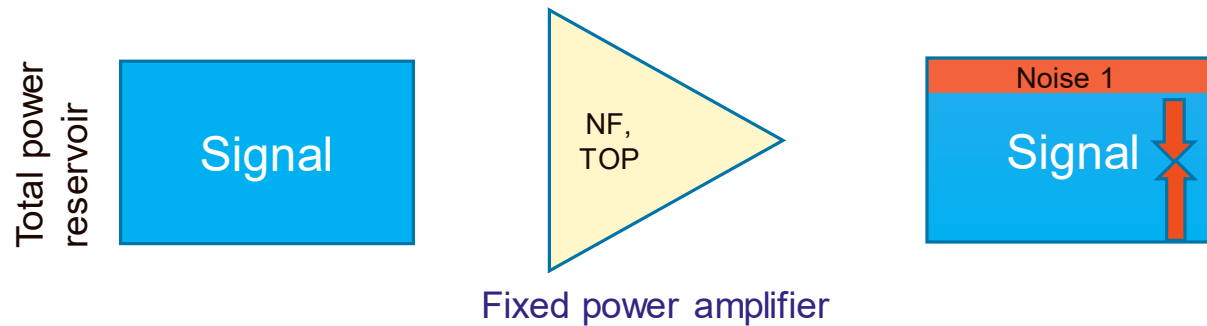


$$\frac{1}{OSNR_{out}} = \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{OSNR_{local,k}}$$

- Depends on  $P_{sig,in,k}$

# Exact OSNR with constant power amplifiers: signal & ASE droop

- Submarine repeaters = constant output power



- A fraction of total power is converted into **noise**
- The proportion of input signal decreases → **attenuation / droop**

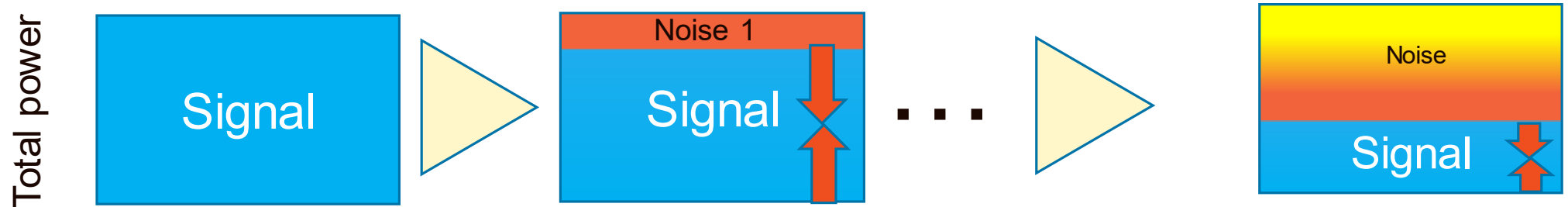
$$\frac{P_{total}}{P_{signal}} = \frac{P_{signal} + P_{noise}}{P_{signal}} = 1 + \frac{1}{SNR_{ASE}}$$

(SNRs expressed in channel spacing band)



# Exact SNR after a cascade of repeaters

[J.-C. Antona et al, Mo1J.6, OFC'19]



- Cascade of fixed power amplifiers: product of attenuations matters

$$1 + \frac{1}{SNR_{ASE}} = \prod_k \left( 1 + \frac{1}{SNR_k} \right)$$

Generalized droop (of signal and ASE)

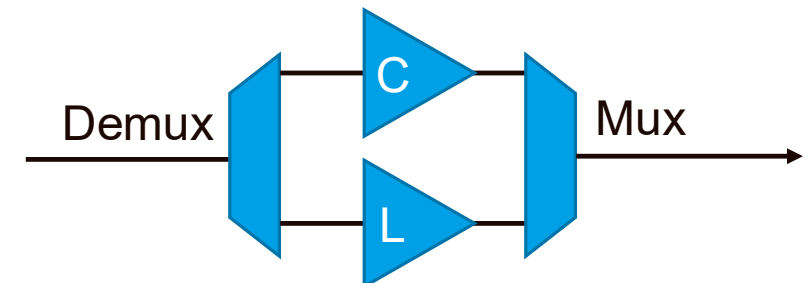
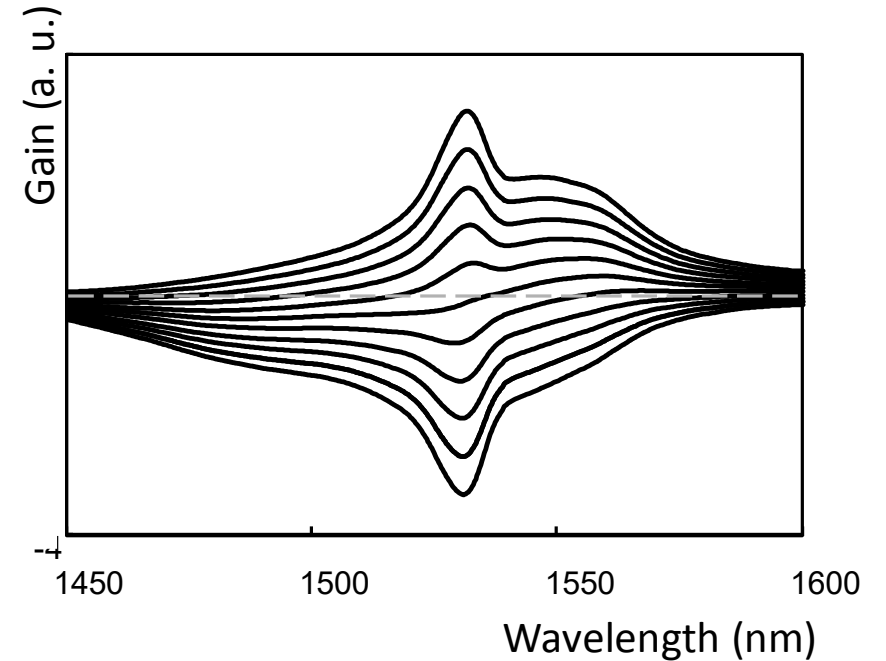
← Individual theo. contributions

- 1<sup>st</sup> order approximation:  $SNR_{Droop,1st\ order} = SNR_{theo} - \frac{1}{2}$  (for SNR > 2dB)

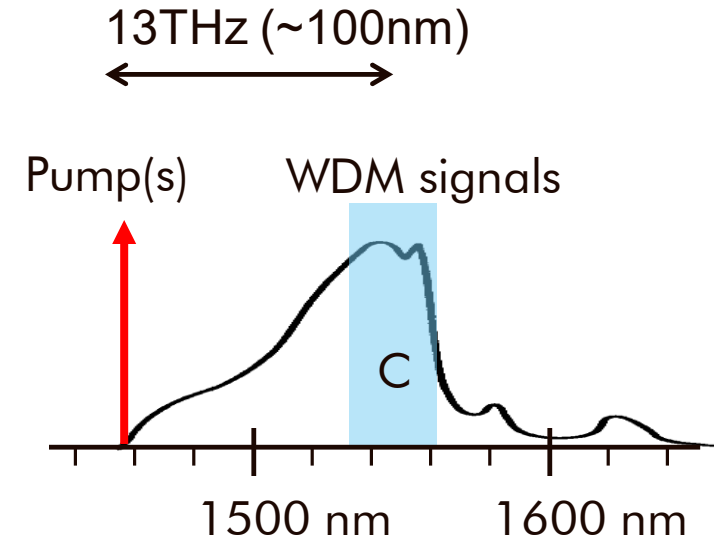
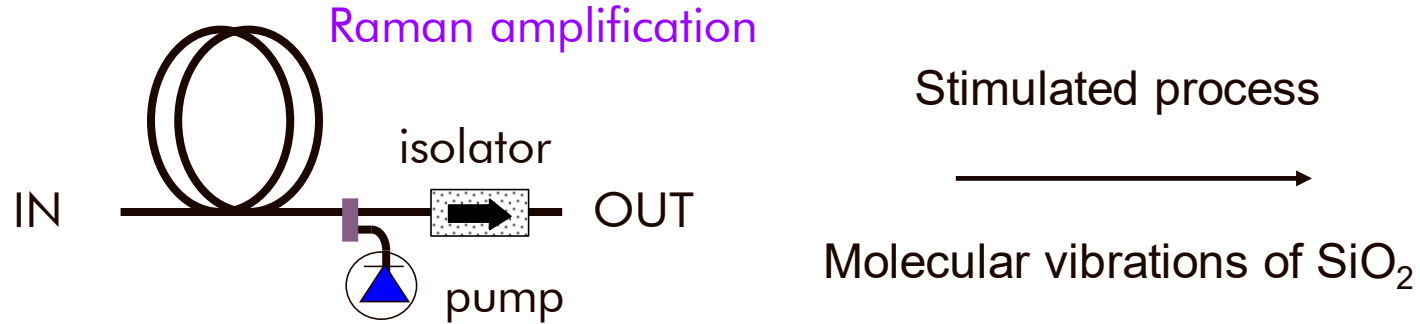
$$OSNR_{Droop,1st,B_{ref}} = OSNR_{theo,B_{ref}} - \frac{1}{2} * \frac{Ch.spacing}{B_{ref}}$$

# C+L wide-band amplification

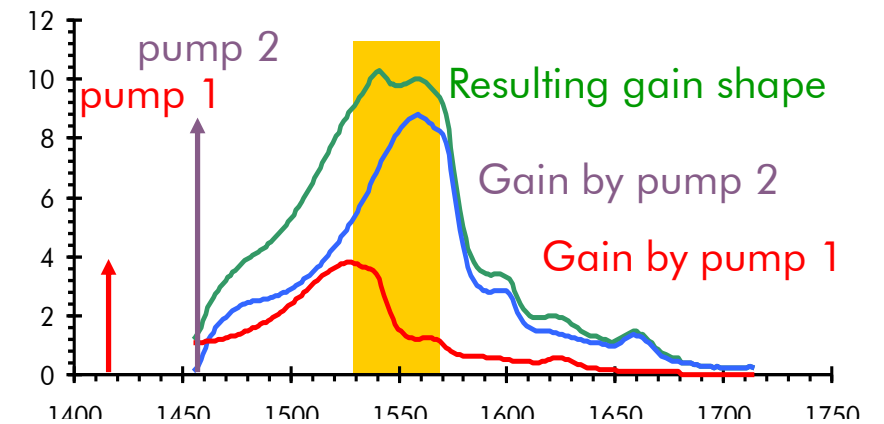
- Most amplifiers operate in the C-band
  - 1528-1570nm
  - High gain => short EDF
- Possible operation in the L-band
  - 1570-1610nm
  - Low gain → long EDF
- Wideband C+L amplifiers
  - Separate amplifiers and band Demux/Mux
  - Higher bandwidth, with a price to pay...



# (Distributed) Raman amplification



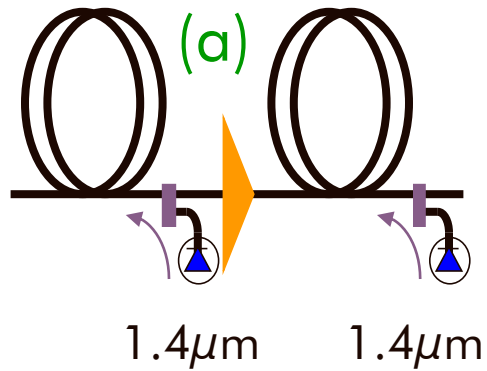
- Erbium process enables constant power operation
- Yet Raman amplification
  - bandwidth and gain shape are tunable
  - can be distributed along the line fiber → low NF



→ (Dynamic) gain tilt management possible

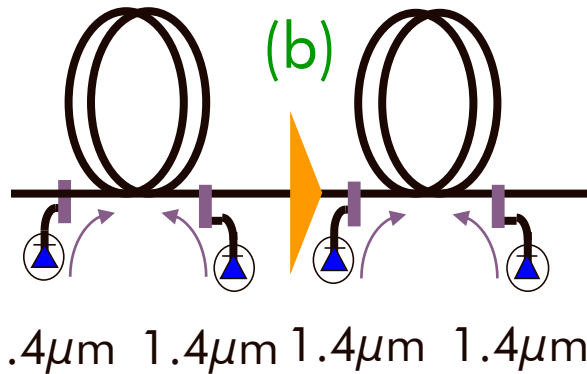
# Raman-assisted amplification schemes

Conventional backward scheme



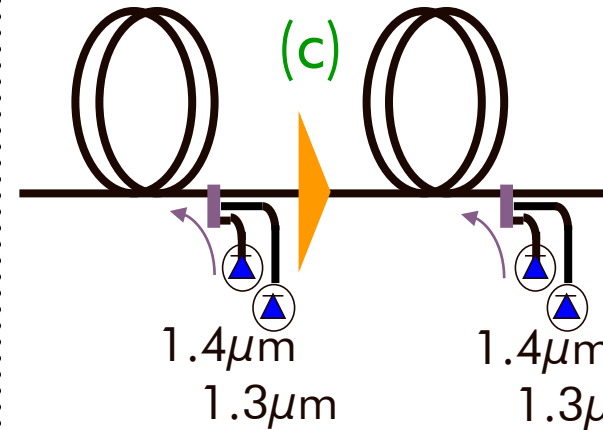
1.4 $\mu\text{m}$  1.4 $\mu\text{m}$

Bidirectional scheme



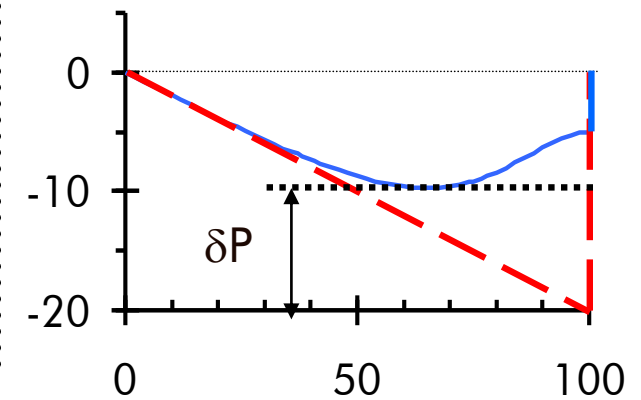
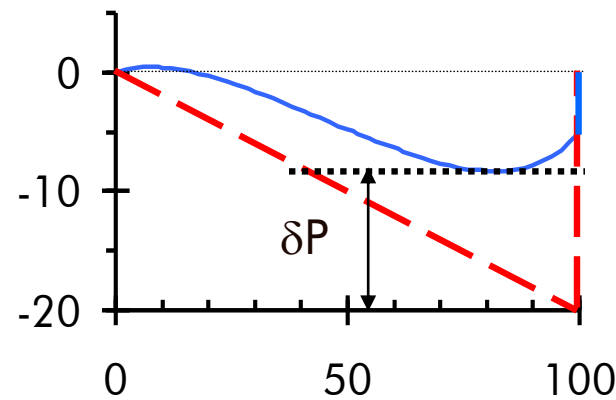
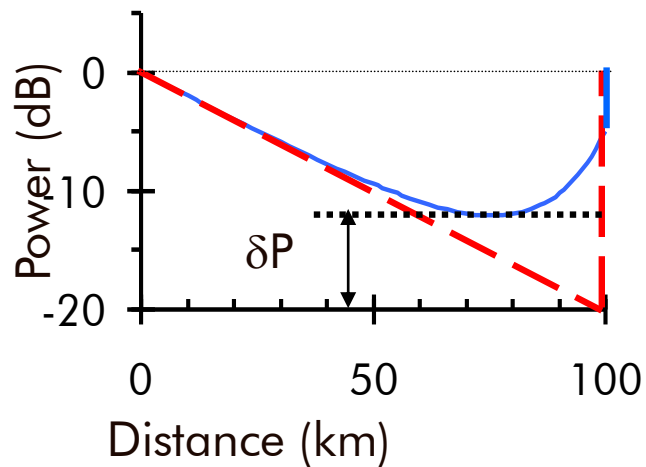
1.4 $\mu\text{m}$  1.4 $\mu\text{m}$  1.4 $\mu\text{m}$  1.4 $\mu\text{m}$

Second-order backward pumping



1.4 $\mu\text{m}$  1.3 $\mu\text{m}$  1.4 $\mu\text{m}$  1.3 $\mu\text{m}$

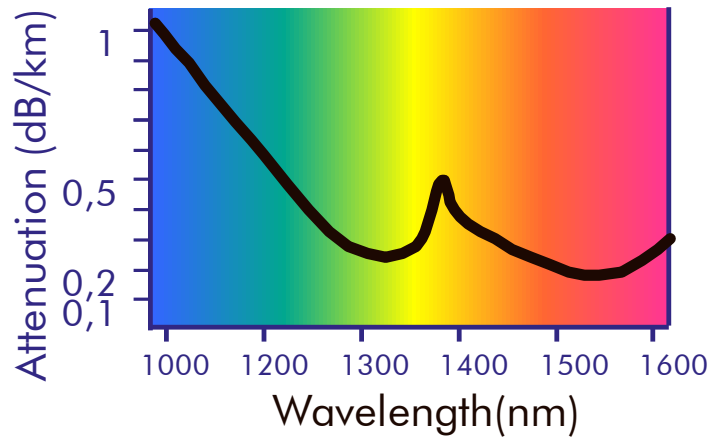
(Example: 15dB total Raman gain in all configurations)



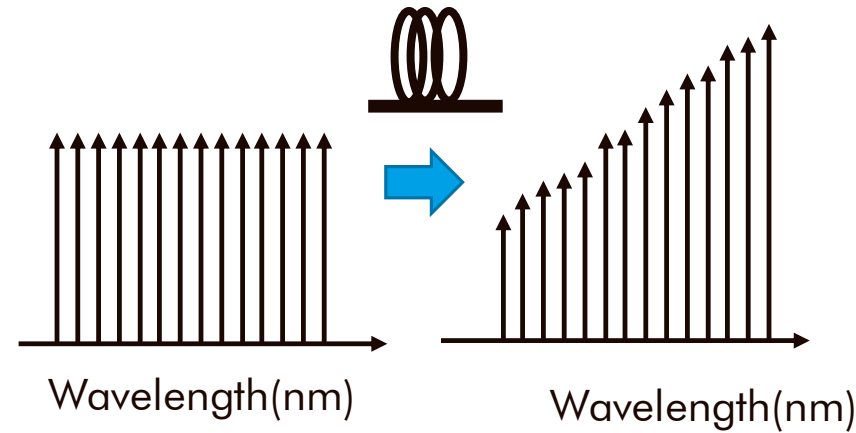
◆ Naturally, (b) and (c) may be combined...

# Refinement: Wavelength dependence Gain

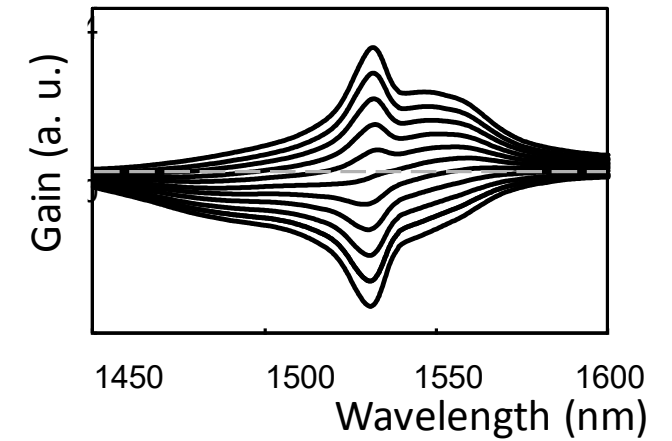
Fiber Attenuation



Stimulated Raman Scattering

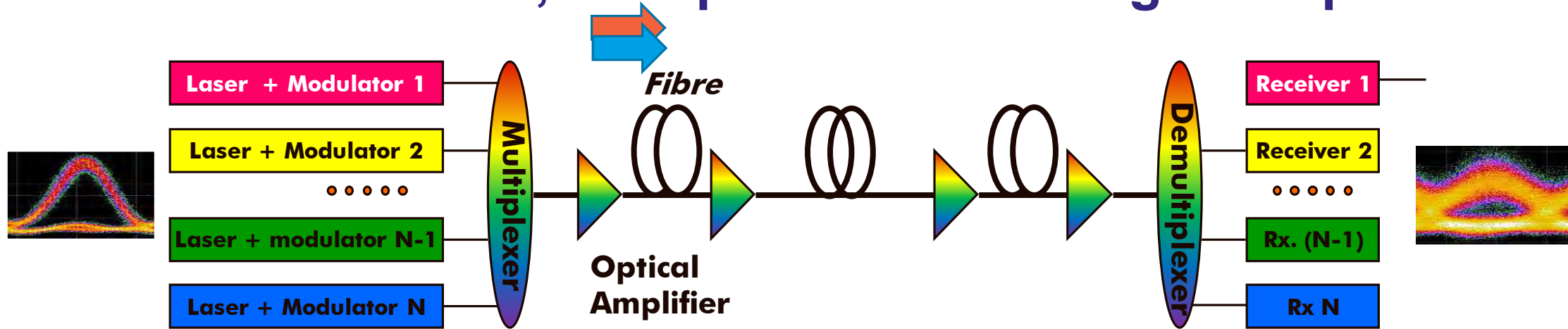


EDFA gain



- Despite filter at amplifiers + periodic Equalizers along the line
- **Wavelength-dependent OSNR** → reduction of average OSNR
- Coping with that:
  - Today: (O)SNR equalization by channel power adjustment (**pre-emphasis**)
  - Future ?: wavelength-dependent bit-rate

# One transmission line, multiple sources of signal impairments



Physical effect	Impact	Mitigation	Limitations
Attenuation	Undetectable Signal	Optical amplification	Amplifier noise, $SNR_{ASE}$
Chromatic Dispersion Frequency dep. Speed	Pulse broadening	Inline optical Electronic Dispersion compensation	Imperfect compensation

# Chromatic dispersion (or Group velocity dispersion)

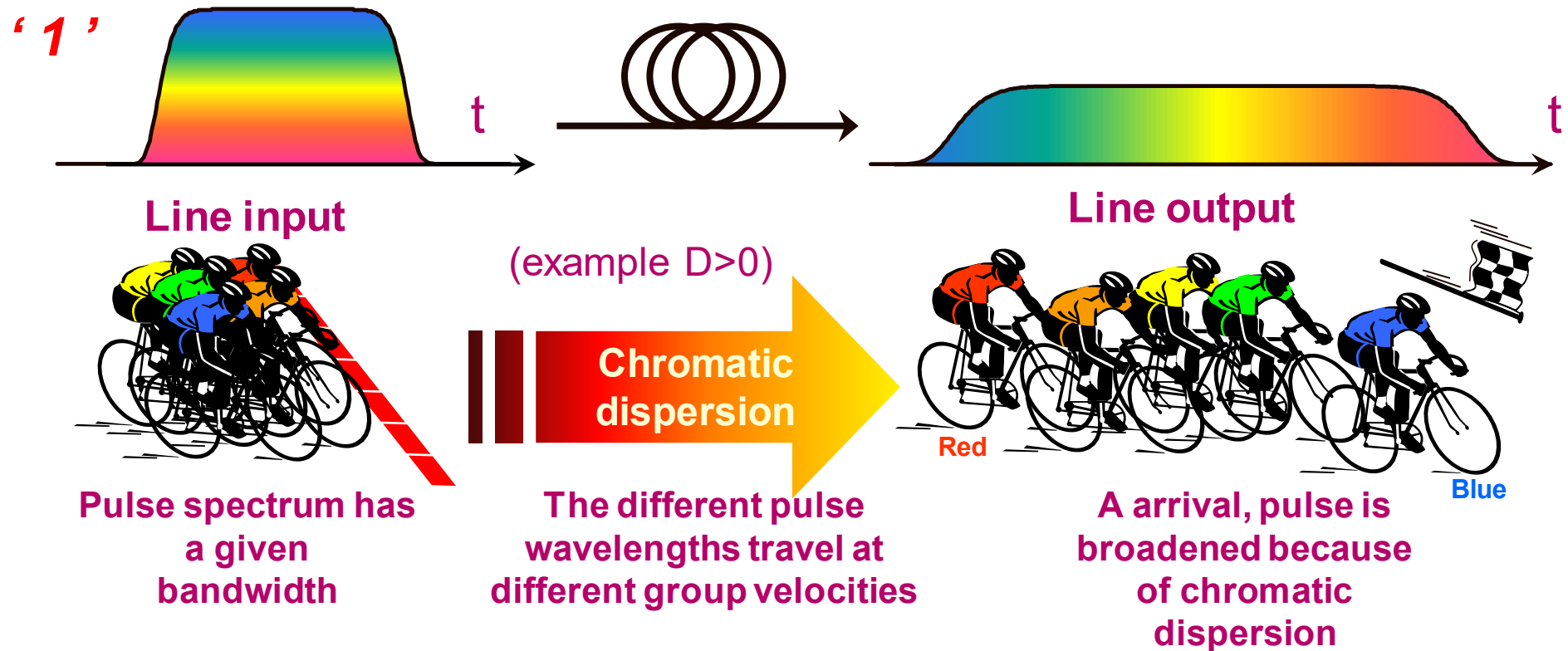
- Origin: wavelength dependence of refractive index
- Thus group velocity depends on wavelength
- Chromatic dispersion (or group velocity dispersion, GVD)

$$D = \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \left( \frac{1}{v_g} \right) (\text{ps/nm/km}) \quad \text{ou} \quad \beta_2 = \frac{\partial}{\partial f} \left( \frac{1}{v_g} \right) (\text{ps}^2/\text{km})$$

**Notation from Optics world**

**Notation from Physics world**

# Chromatic dispersion



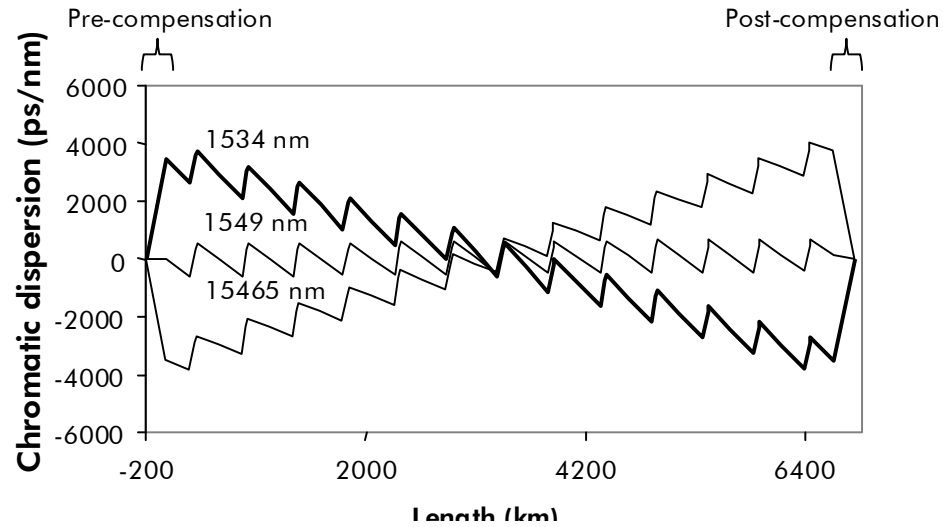
- Dispersion  $D$  is expressed in (ps/(nm.km))

*$D$  gives the arrival time after 1km fiber between two 1nm-spaced spectral components.  
From 10 to 100Gbaud: 100 times more stringent !!!*

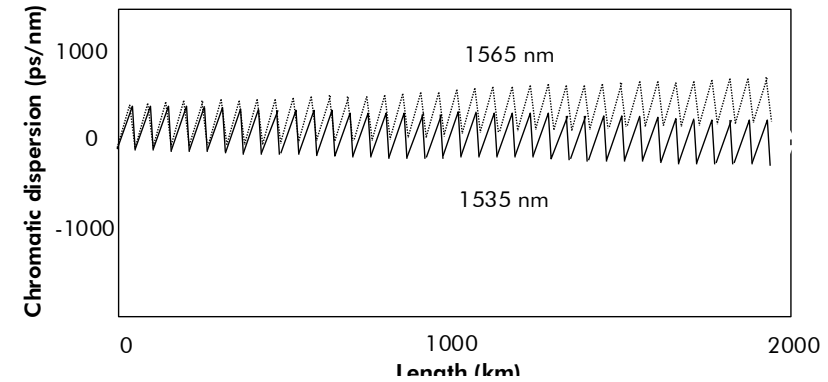


# Evolution of dispersion maps in submarine cables

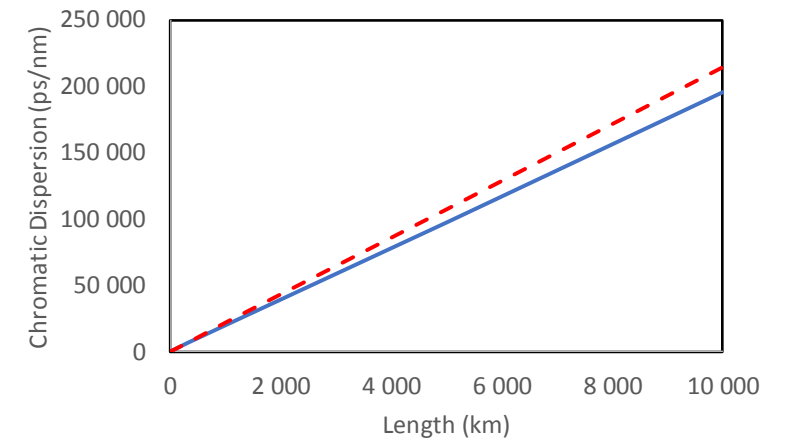
2000: NZDSF dispersion map



2005: DMF dispersion map

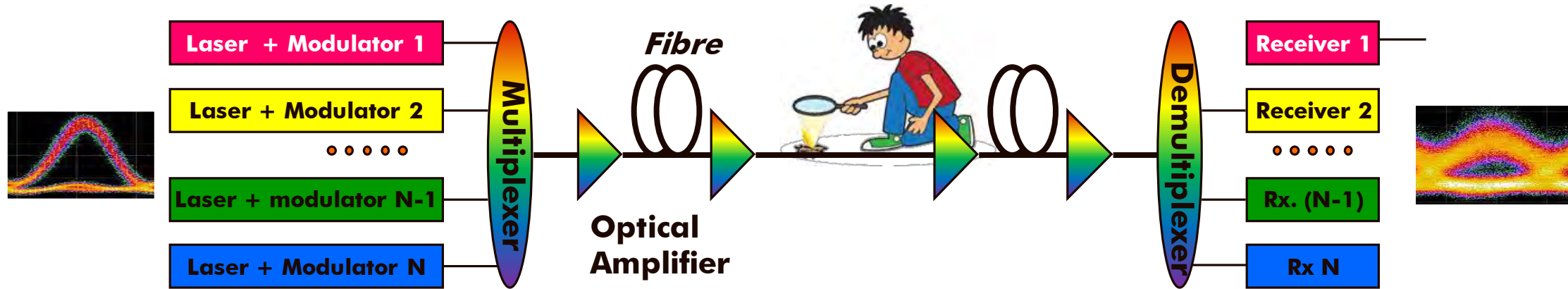


2010: Coherent dispersion map



- “Coherent” systems
  - Electronic mitigation
  - D+ fiber only:
    - Low attenuation, high effective area, high dispersion
    - $\sim 0.15$  dB/km  $80\text{-}150\mu\text{m}^2$   $\sim 21$  ps/nm/km

# One transmission line, multiple sources of signal impairments



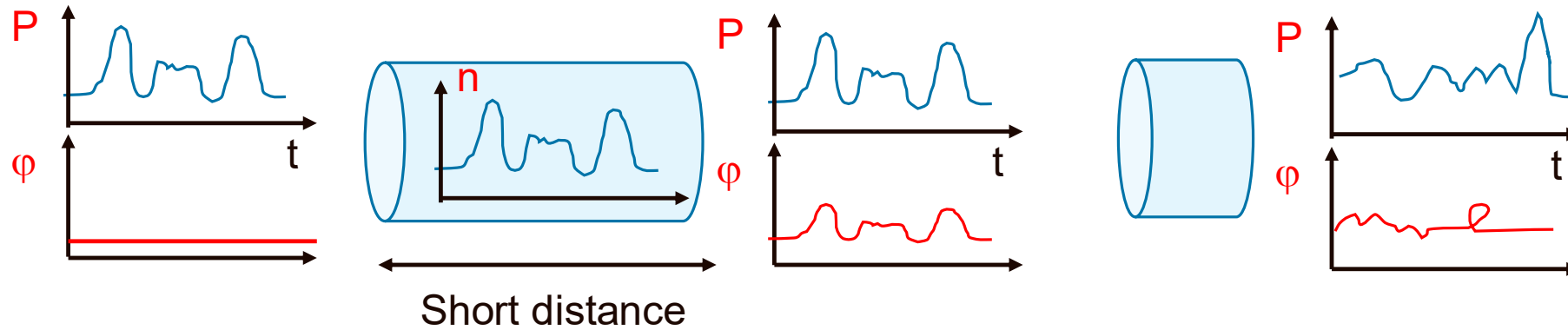
Physical effect	Impact	Mitigation	Limitations
Attenuation	Undetectable Signal	Optical amplification	Amplifier noise, $SNR_{ASE}$
Chromatic Dispersion Frequency dep. Speed	Pulse broadening	Inline optical Electronic Dispersion compensation	Imperfect compensation
Kerr effect ( power $\rightarrow$ phase)	Power-dep. distortions	Dispersion management, electronic mitigation	Repeater count & power

# Origin of Optical nonlinearities



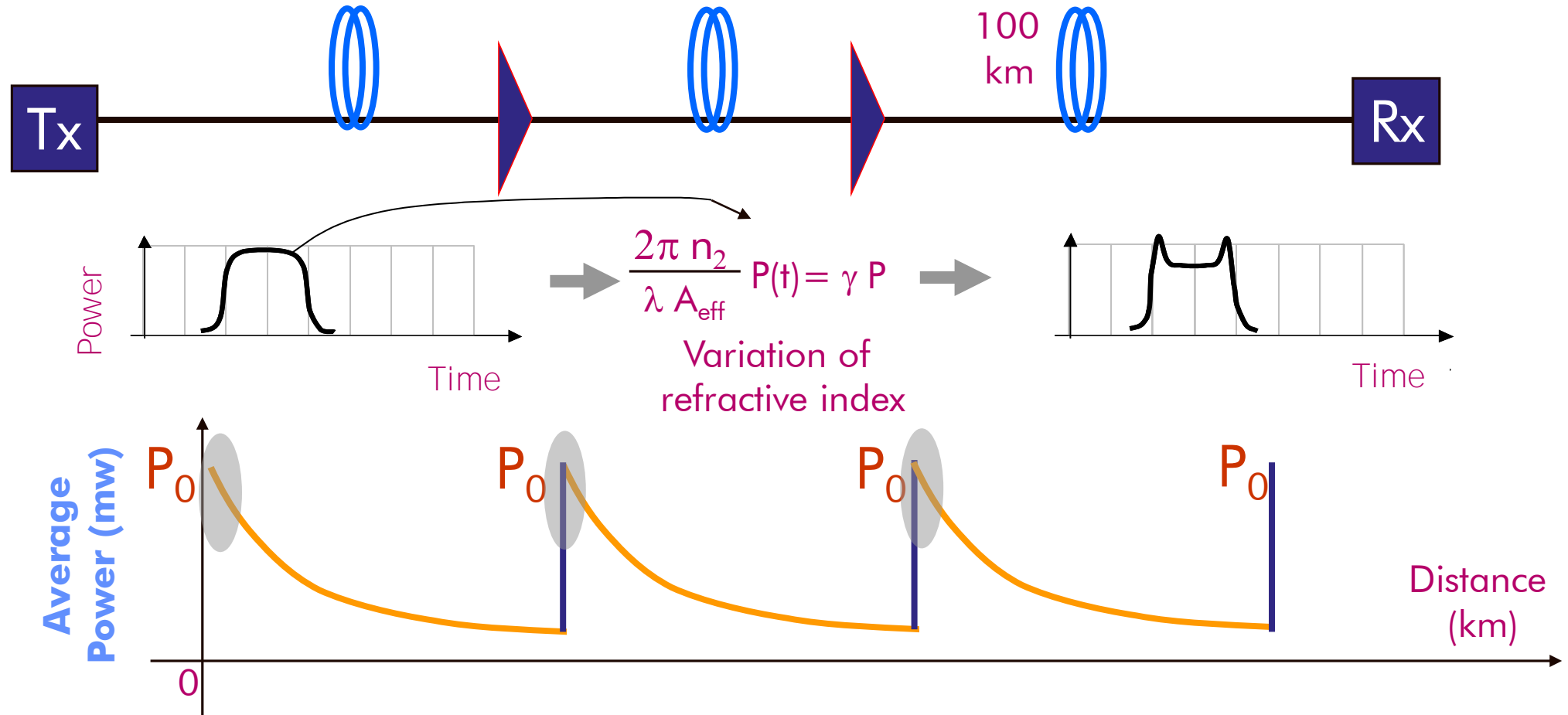
- Main limitation = ASE noise → need higher optical powers...
- But not too much, please
  - Low optical powers ~ 20dBm (100mW)
  - Low core effective area ~ 100 $\mu\text{m}^2$
  - → High optical intensity: **1 billion W/m<sup>2</sup>**
- **10 000 x** solar radiation at top of Earth's atmosphere

# Nonlinear Kerr effect



- 1/ High optical power variations modulate fiber refractive index
  - $n = n(\omega) + n_2 * P(t) / A_{\text{eff}}$
- 2/ the refractive index modifies the local phase of total optical field
- 3/ interplay with chromatic dispersion  $\rightarrow$  phase and intensity modulation  $\rightarrow$  mess
- Impact on one channel:
  - intra-channel or inter-channel effect, nonlinear signal noise interaction

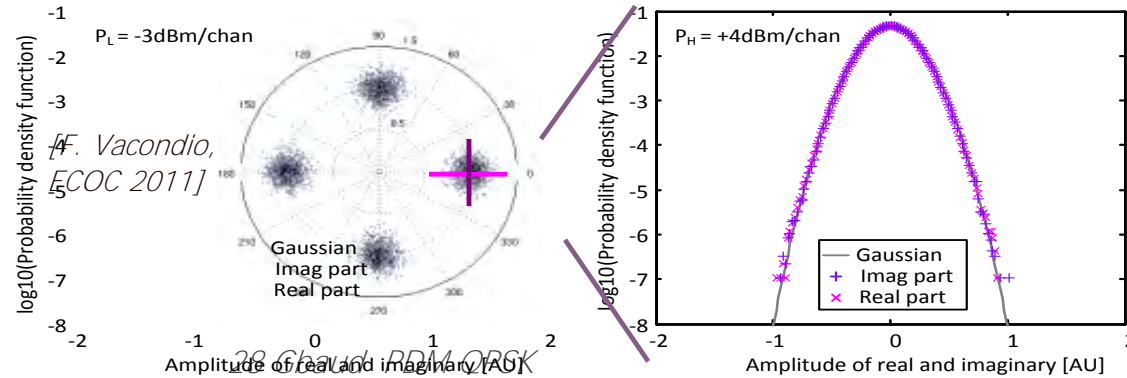
# Nonlinear effects accumulation



- When  $P_0$  or distance ( $N$ ) increase, non-linear effects increase and degrade signal.
- Accumulation depends on cumulated dispersion at each section input... Non obvious.

# Nonlinear impairments as an additive Gaussian noise

- With current systems
  - High modulation rate
  - Complex modulations
  - Coherent detection



After  
15x100km  
SSMF WDM  
Dispersion  
Unmanaged  
experiment.

Measured PDF of Kerr induced distortions

**Additive Gaussian noise** → noise variance, (O)SNR<sub>NL</sub> matter

$$\text{Variance} \propto N_{spans}^{1+\epsilon} * \left( \frac{P_{span\ input}}{A_{eff}} \right)^2 P_{Rx}$$

$\epsilon \sim 0$  for coherent dispersion maps,  $\sim 1$  when inline dispersion compensation

$\propto$  : analytical derivation in perturbative models (GN model...)

# Practical cases

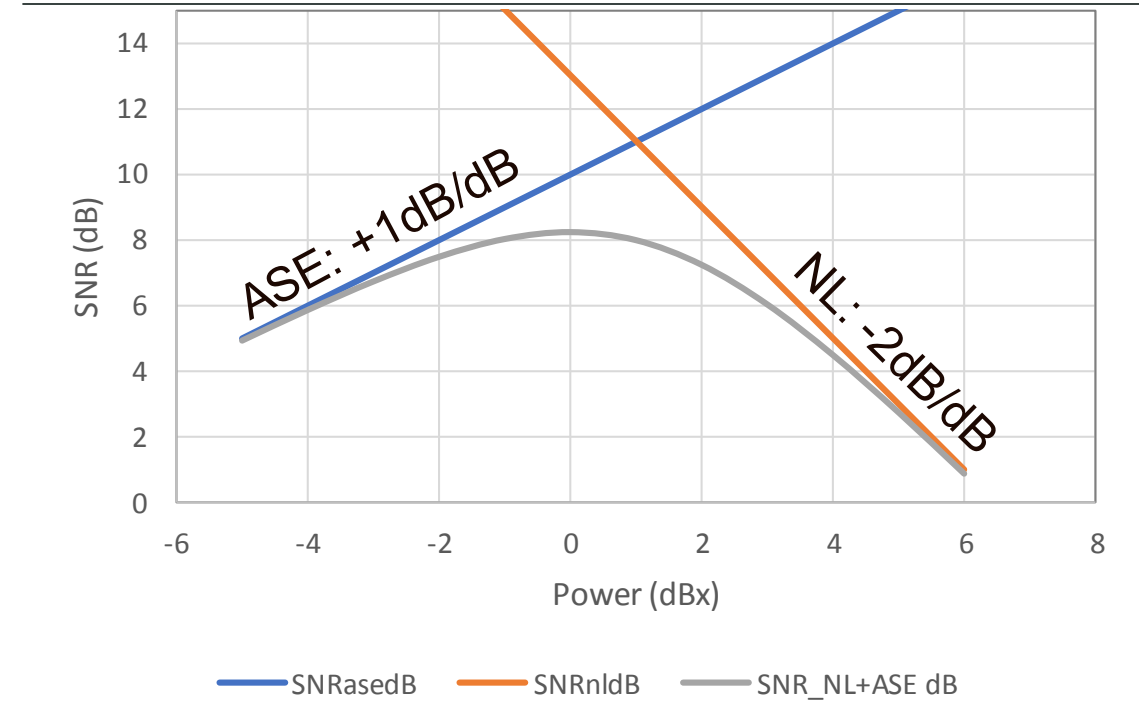
$$SNR_{NL} \propto \frac{1}{N_{spans} * P_{ch}^2}$$

i.e.

$$SNR_{NL,dB} = K - N_{spans,dB} - 2 * P_{ch,dBm}$$

Combined with (O)SNR<sub>ASE</sub>

$$P_{ASE+NL} \approx P_{ASE} + P_{NL}$$



Optimum power: ASE noise = 2x NL noise

# Practical cases

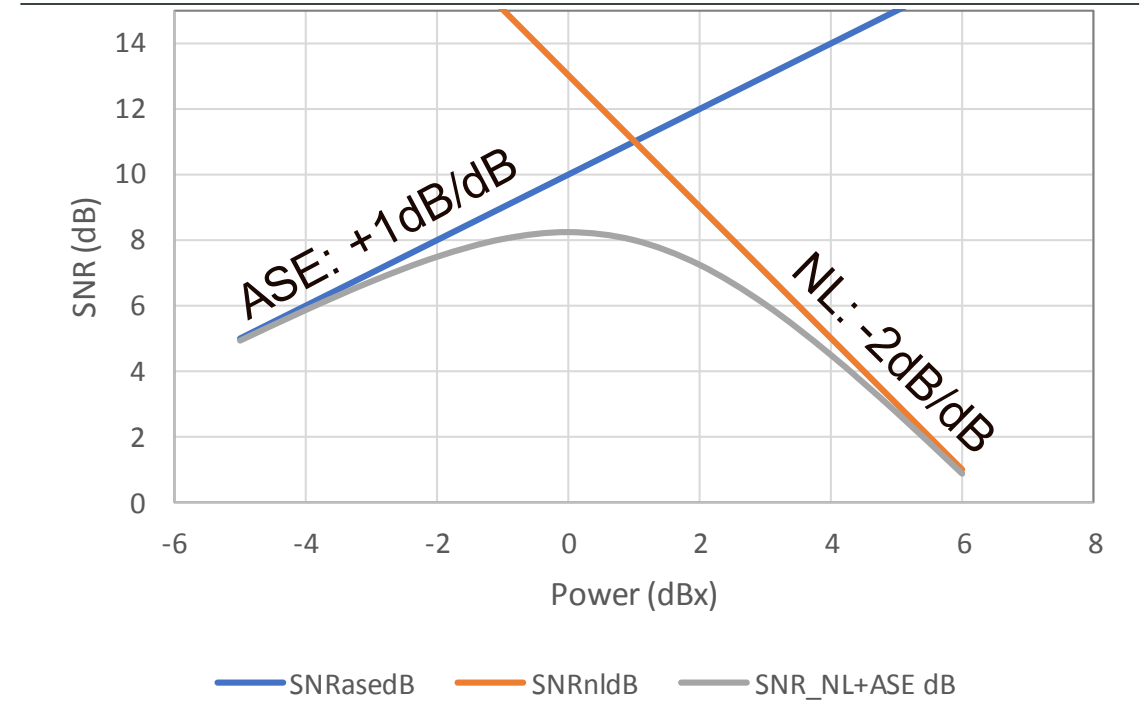
$$SNR_{NL} \propto \frac{1}{N_{spans} * P_{ch}^2}$$

i.e.

$$SNR_{NL,dB} = K - N_{spans,dB} - 2 * P_{ch,dBm}$$

Combined with (O)SNR<sub>ASE</sub>

$$\frac{P_{ASE+NL}}{P_{signal}} \approx \frac{P_{ASE}}{P_{signal}} + \frac{P_{NL}}{P_{signal}}$$



Optimum power: ASE noise = 2x NL noise



# Practical cases

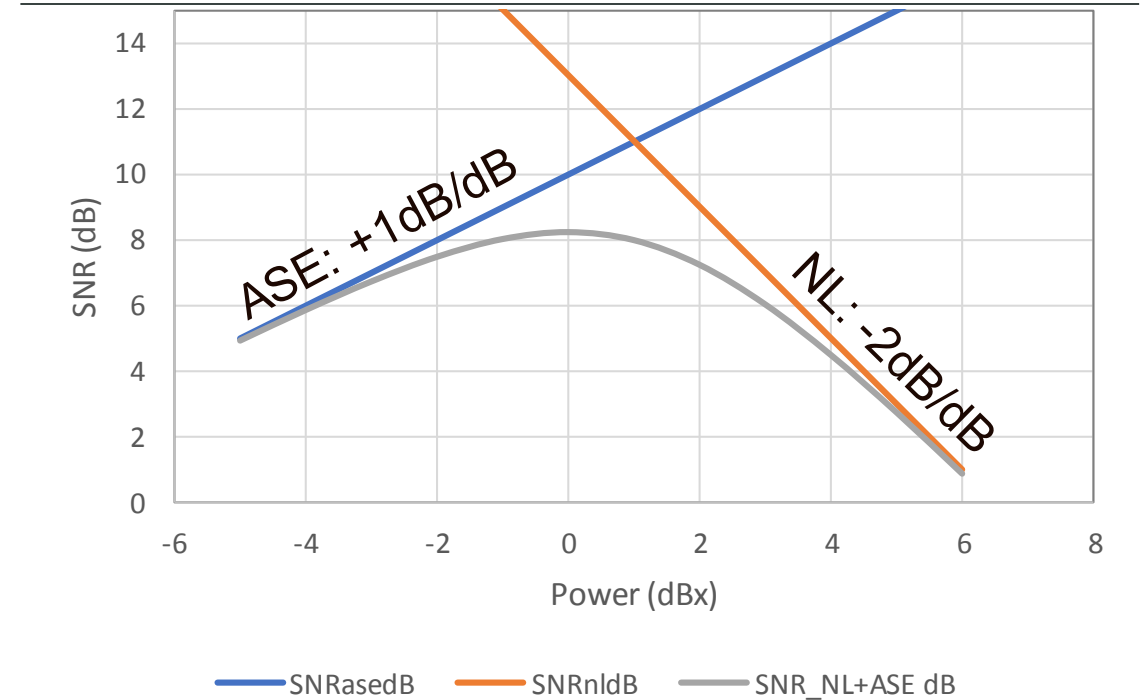
$$SNR_{NL} \propto \frac{1}{N_{spans} * P_{ch}^2}$$

i.e.

$$SNR_{NL,dB} = K - N_{spans,dB} - 2 * P_{ch,dBm}$$

Combined with (O)SNR<sub>ASE</sub>

$$\frac{1}{SNR_{ASE+NL}} \approx \frac{1}{SNR_{ASE}} + \frac{1}{SNR_{NL}}$$



Optimum power: ASE noise = 2x NL noise

# Application : reach of terrestrial vs submarine systems

- $OSNR_{dB,0.1nm} \approx 58 + P_{out,total,dBm} - \#channels_{dB} - LOSS_{dB} - NF_{dB} - N_{repeaters,dB}$
- $SpanLoss_{dB} = Attenuation_{dB/km} * Repeater-spacing_{km}$

	Terrestrial	Submarine
Amplifier spacing (km)	100	60
Attenuation (dB/km)	0.22	0.15
Amplifier total output power (dBm, 100ch)	20	15
Noise figure (dB)	6	4
Transmission reach (km)	2,000	12,000
Number of repeaters	20	200
Amplifier output power per channel (dBm)	0	-5
Span loss (dB)	23	9
OSNR (dB/0.1nm)	17	17
Nonlinear noise: $N_{dB} + 2P_{dBm}$		

# Signal impairments in the cable: Additive Gaussian noise models

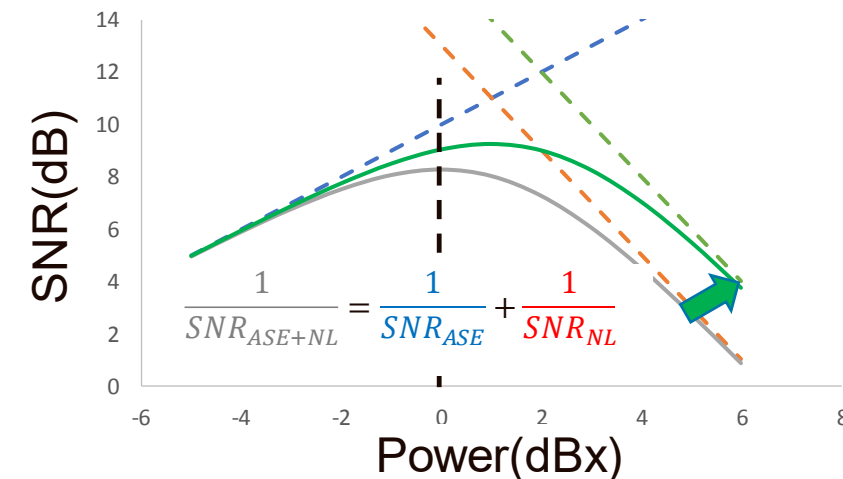
- 2. **Nonlinear (NL) noise due to high power density:** (< 30% of impairments)



$$SNR_{NL} \approx \frac{K_{models} * A_{eff}^2}{N_{spans}^\epsilon} * \frac{1}{N_{spans} * Power^2} - 1$$

often neglected

- Coming: **partial mitigation of NL at transceiver**



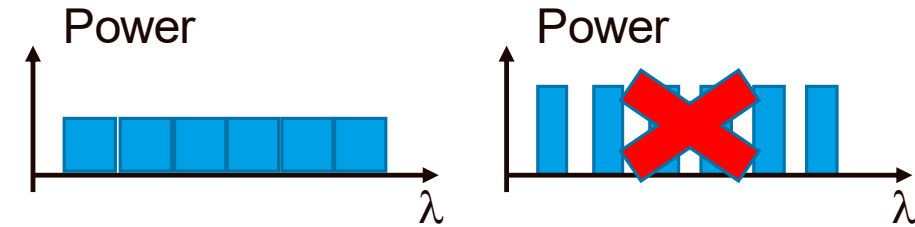
# Signal impairments in the cable: Additive Gaussian noise models

- More on Nonlinear (NL) noise

- The **higher** the **chromatic dispersion**, the better

- The **flatter** the **power spectral density**, the better

- Why? Peaks of power (in time / frequency) are detrimental
- Channel rate as close as possible to channel spacing

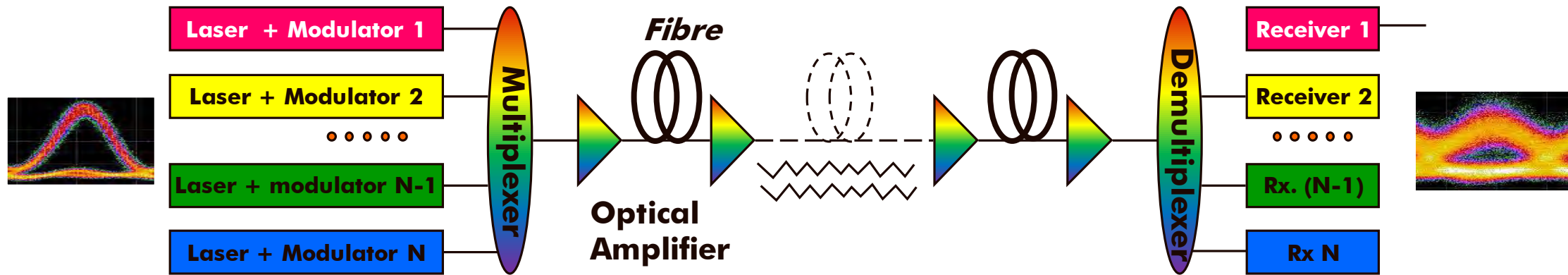


- Details: NL noise seen by a channel stems from intra- and interchannel nonlinear effects, following:

- $$\sigma_{NL,tot}^2(ch \#i) = A_{NL} * \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{Power} \\ \text{channel } i}}{P_{ch \#i}^2} + B_{NL} * \sum_{ch \#j \neq i} \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{Difference in wavelengths/frequencies}}}{\frac{P_{ch \#j}^2}{|\lambda_j - \lambda_i|}}$$

→ Less channels @ constant TOP and channel type = ☹

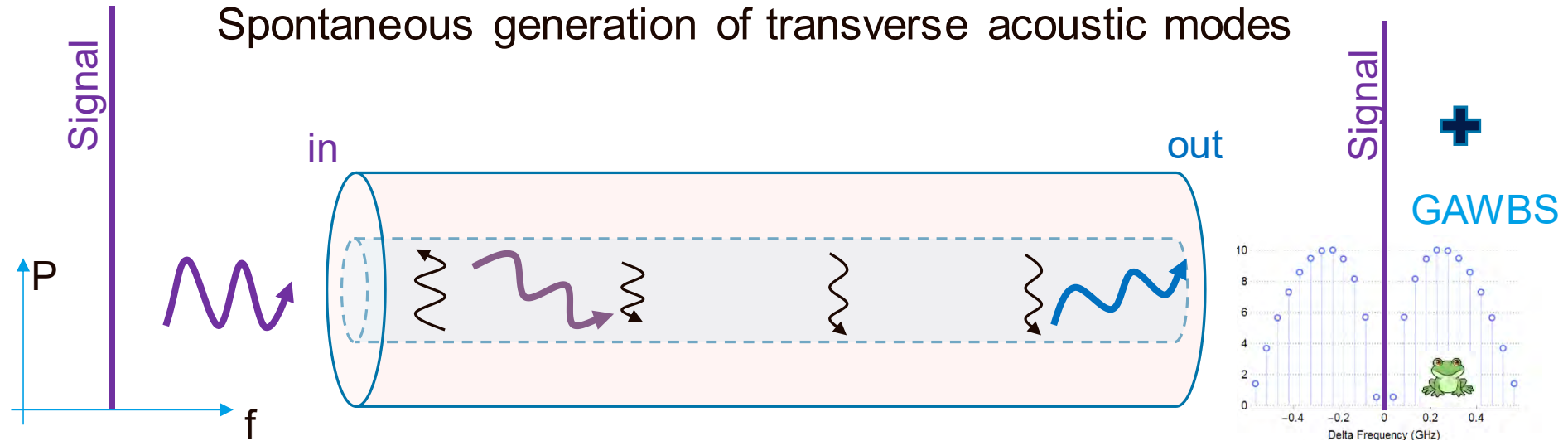
# One transmission line, multiple sources of signal impairments



Physical effect	Impact	Mitigation	Limitations
Attenuation	Undetectable Signal	Optical amplification	Amplifier noise, $SNR_{ASE}$
Chromatic Dispersion Frequency dep. Speed	Pulse broadening	Inline optical Electronic Dispersion compensation	Imperfect compensation
Kerr effect ( power $\rightarrow$ phase)	Power-dep. distortions	Dispersion-management, electronic mitigation	Repeater count & power
GAWBS: acoustic waves	Phase & polar shifts		Length, Effective area

# Guided Acoustic Wave Brillouin Scattering (GAWBS)

[M. Bolshtyanski et al, M4B.3, OFC'18]



Scatters incoming light in the forward direction, with small frequency shifts  
→ Crosstalk noise

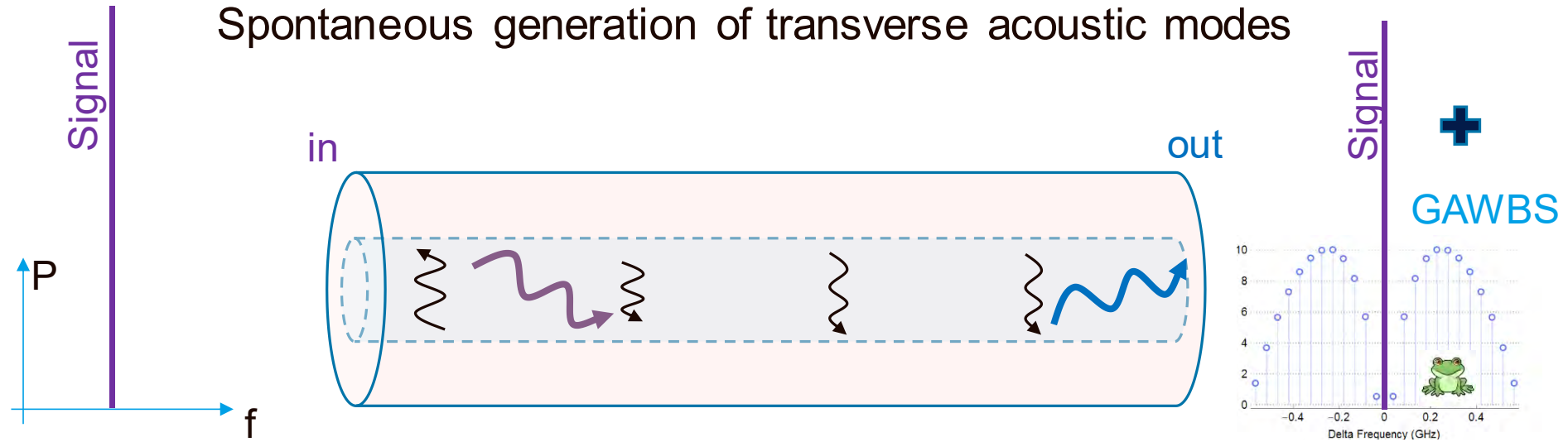
$$P_{GAWBS} \propto \frac{\text{Distance}}{A_{eff}^x} * P_{ch}$$

characterized in M4B.3, OFC'18

X ~ 1

# Guided Acoustic Wave Brillouin Scattering (GAWBS)

[M. Bolshtyanski et al, M4B.3, OFC'18]



Scatters incoming light in the forward direction, with small frequency shifts  
→ Crosstalk noise

$$SNR_{GAWBS} \propto \frac{A_{eff}^x}{Distance}$$

characterized in M4B.3, OFC'18

# Joint SNR, Line SNR, Gaussian SNR, Generalized SNR

- Most signal distortions coming from the line can be captured by the joint G-SNR:

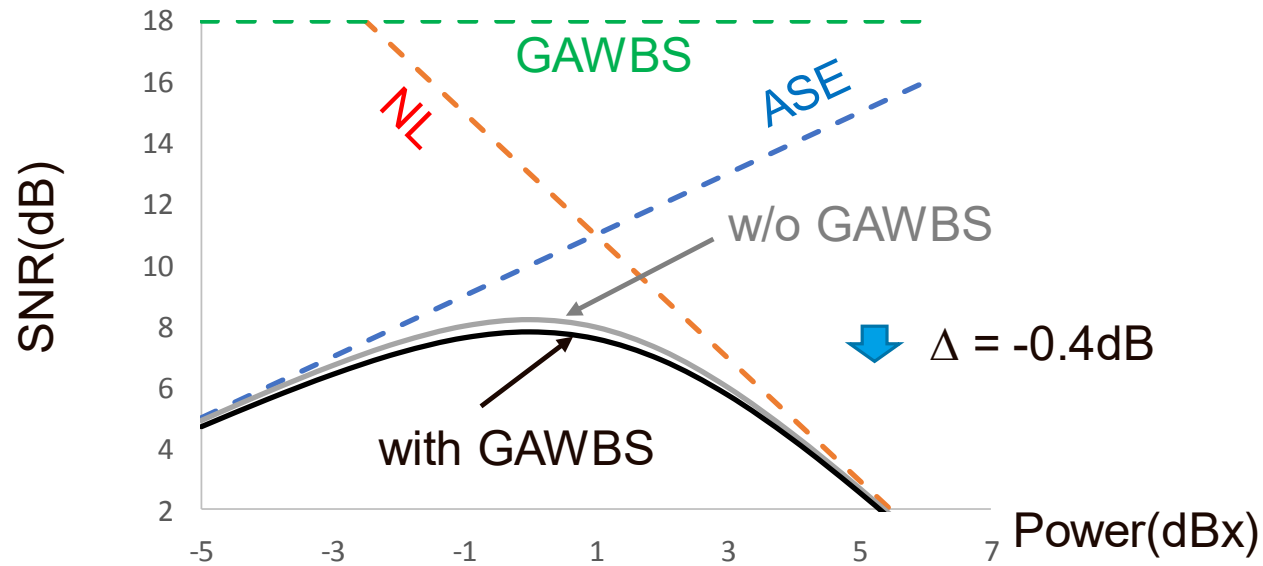
$$\frac{1}{G - SNR} = \frac{1}{SNR_{ASE}} + \frac{1}{SNR_{NL}} + \frac{1}{SNR_{GAWBS}}$$

- We expect here that chromatic dispersion and PMD are compensated by transceiver



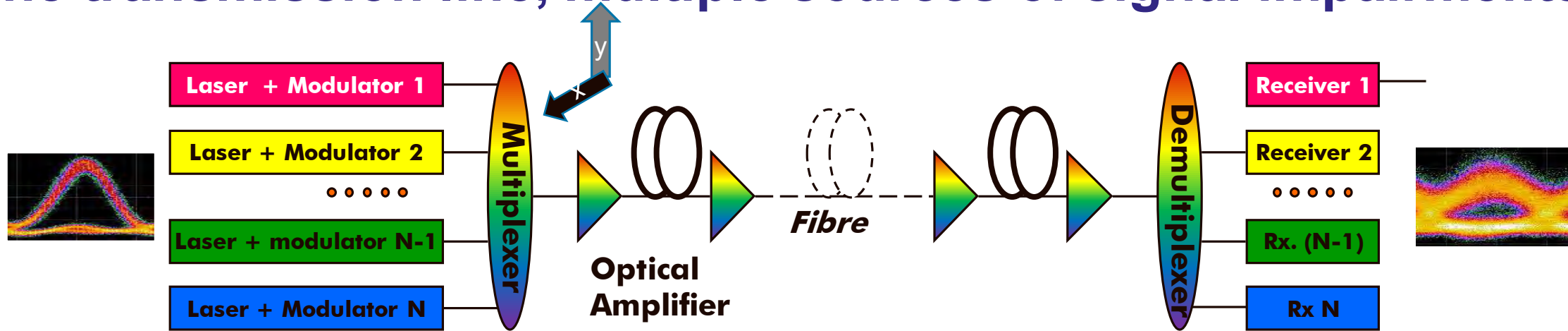
# Aggregation of impairments: Cable SNR, GSNR

$$\frac{1}{GSNR} \approx \frac{1}{SNR_{ASE}(P)} + \frac{1}{SNR_{NL}(P)} + \frac{1}{SNR_{gawbs}}$$



Optimum **power** P only depends on ASE and NL noises

# One transmission line, multiple sources of signal impairments



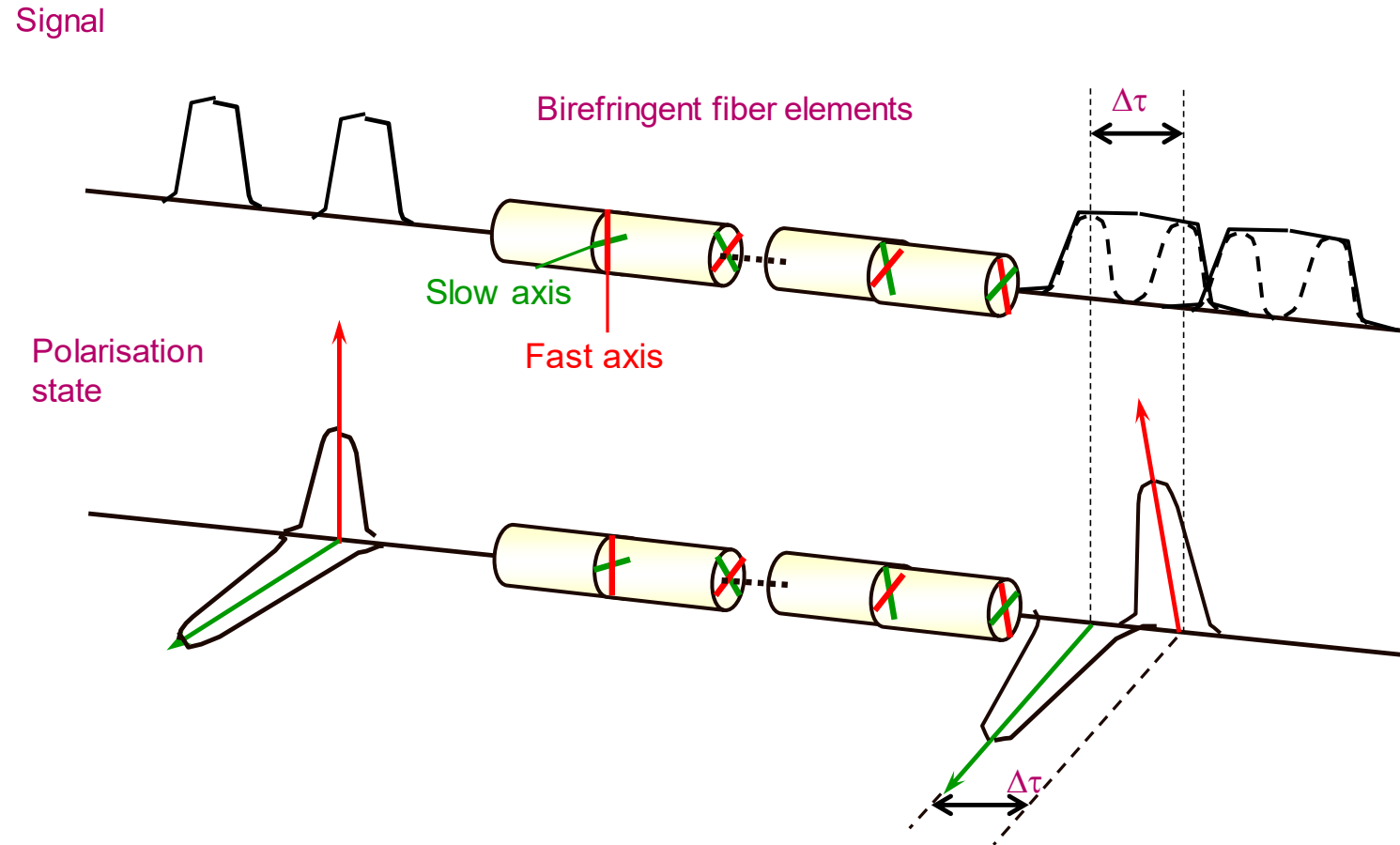
Physical effect	Impact	Mitigation	Limitations
Attenuation	Undetectable Signal	Optical amplification	Amplifier noise, $SNR_{ASE}$
Chromatic Dispersion Frequency dep. Speed	Pulse broadening	Inline optical Electronic Dispersion compensation	Imperfect compensation (ASIC)
Kerr effect ( power $\rightarrow$ phase)	Power-dep. distortions	Dispersion-management, electronic mitigation	Repeater count & power
GAWBS: acoustic waves	Phase & polar shifts		Length, Effective area
PMD (polar. dep. speed)	Time-varying distortions	Electronic mitigation	ASIC implementation

# Polarization Mode Dispersion (PMD)

- Origin:
  - Fibre is a cylindrical medium with a quasi-circular section
  - Small imperfections from construction and conditions of deployment (torsions, pressure, trains...)
- 3 consequences
  - 1. Slight birefringence.
  - 2. This birefringence evolves along fiber line
  - 3. and with time
- Which impact over signal ?

# Polarization Mode Dispersion (PMD)

- Fiber can be seen as a cascade of birefringent sections



# In summary: transmission line = multiple sources of impairments modeled as Additive Gaussian noises

- 1. **Amplifier noise** (> 60% of impairments)
  - $SNR_{ASE,dB} \approx 38.9 + P_{out,tot,dBm} - LOSS_{dB} - NF_{dB} - N_{rep,dB} - 10 \log_{10}(Ampl. Band_{THz})$
  - Correction with constant output power repeaters: -1/2 in linear scale
  - Extra-penalty expected with line non flatness
- 2. **Nonlinear noise due to high power density**: (< 30% of impairments)
  - At optimized power (max QoT), ASE noise = 2 x Nonlinear noise power
- 3. **GAWBS**: (< 10% of impairments)
- 4. Plus other sources of degradations, minor or significantly mitigated by transceiver
- Aggregation into a line SNR:  $\frac{1}{GSNR} \approx \frac{1}{SNR_{ASE}} + \frac{1}{SNR_{NL}} + \frac{1}{SNR_{gawbs}}$

## Next: Design of an end to end system

- End to end performance model including transceiver
- Typical experiments to validate models / systems
- Power budget table
- Design of standard / SDM systems

# Thank you

---

# Cable Powering

Yoshihisa INADA  
**NEC Corporation**



# Contents

## I. Powering Method

- a. Powering Method
- b. Powering Design
- c. Powering Topology

## II. Equipment for Powering

- a. Power Feeding Equipment (PFE)
- b. Power Path Switchable BU (PSBU)
- c. Submarine Cable

## III. System Powering & Reconfiguration

- a. System Powering and Redundancy
- b. Power Path Re-configuration
- c. Powering Management System

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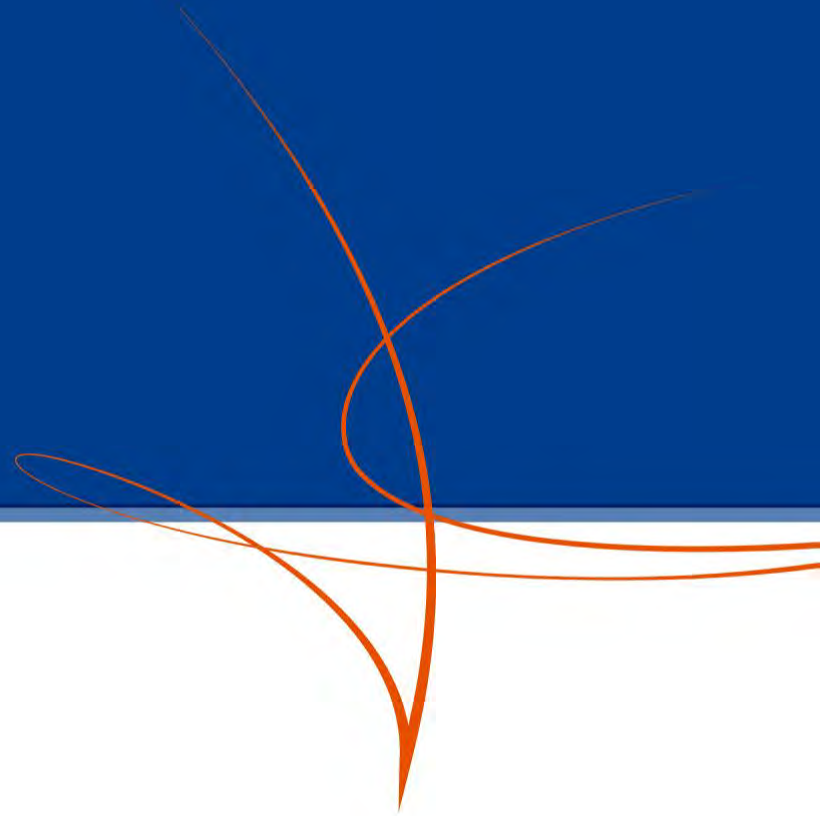
## II. Equipment for Powering

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# Powering Method

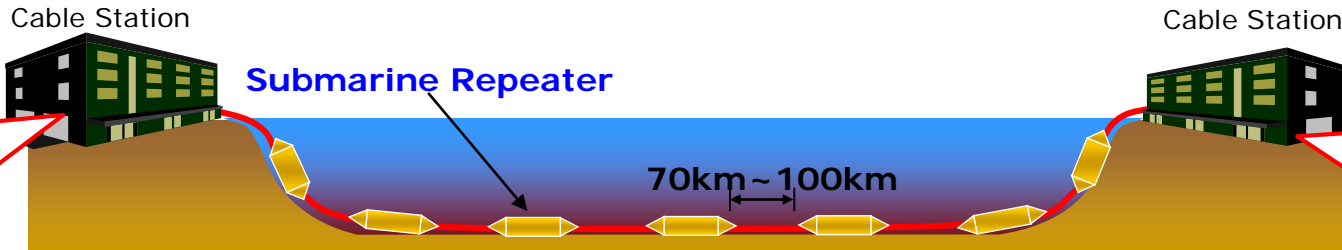


# Purpose of Powering Feeding

To supply stable power to submersible repeaters

## General Requirement :

- Stable power supply and high voltage applied up to 15kV for trans oceanic application
- High reliable power feeding system for operate 25 years or more
- Safety operation to personnel and system
- Fault analysis in case of cable failure



PFE



PFE



Signal Level



Distance

# Powering Method

## AC or DC ?

- AC

- Easy for voltage conversion
  - ➔ Flexible for voltage apply to repeater
- Need transformer and rectifier in each repeaters
  - ➔ complicated power circuit in each repeater, less reliability...

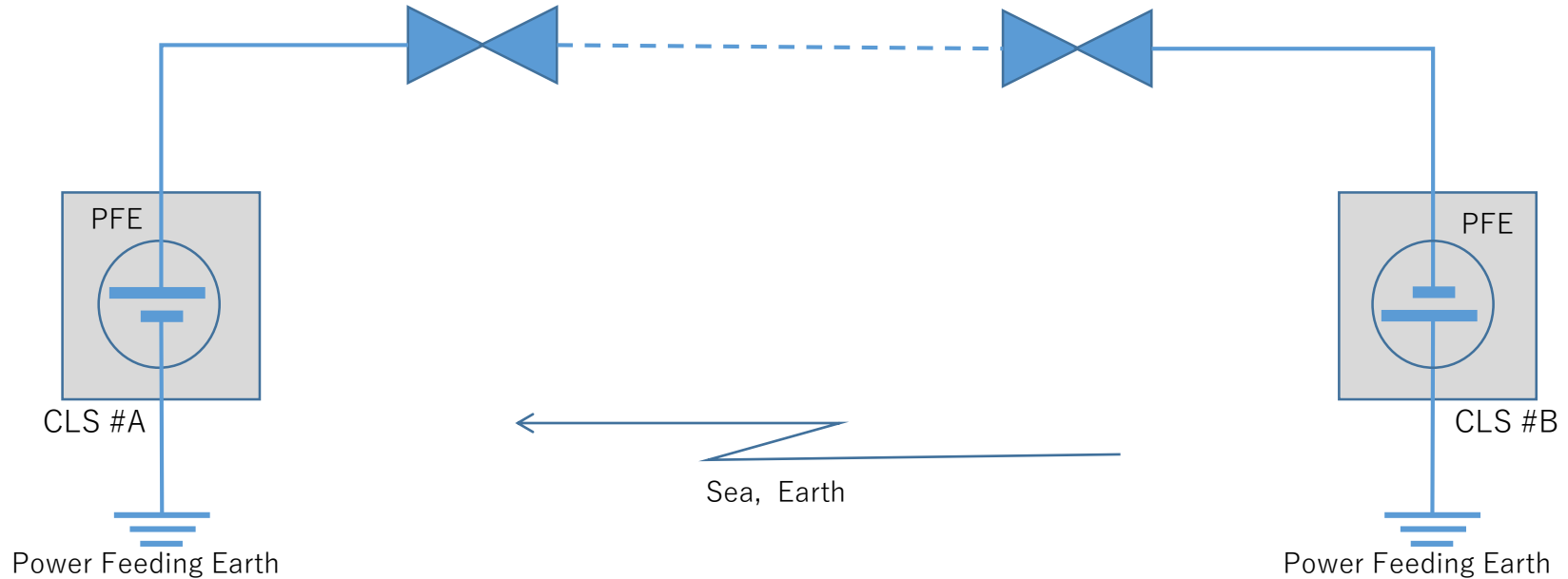
## Parallel or Series?

- Parallel

- Supply current becomes sum of each repeater's current
  - ➔ leading huge current and voltage drop through cable ...
  - ➔ Receiving voltage at each repeaters becomes unstable...

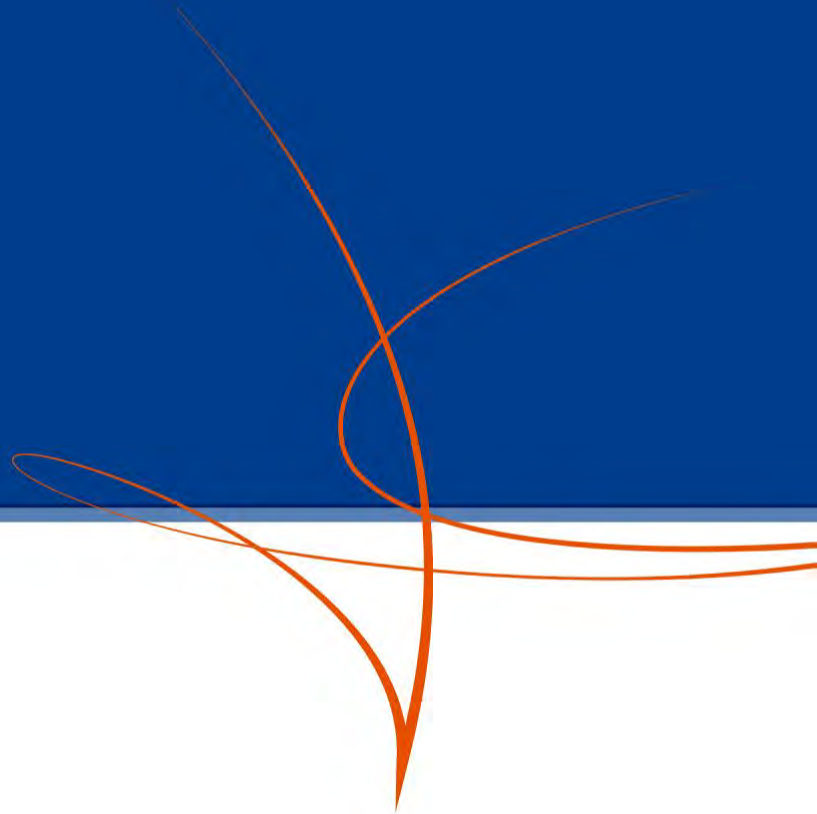
# Powering Method

- ✓ Direct Current and Series Circuit are applied for all submarine cable system



PFE : Power Feeding Equipment  
CLS : Cable Landing Station

# Powering Design



# Power Feeding Design Parameters

## Specification of Power Feeding Equipment (PFE)

- Specified to generate maximum voltage under constant current

### Consideration;

- Power feeding configuration
- Power feeding budget
- Margin consumed by repair

## Withstand voltage limitation : up to 15KV

- Taking into consideration all the devices; submersible plant, land/beach joint, land cable

$$\text{Constant} = V^{nt}$$

where  $V$  : apply voltage

$n$  : device-specific parameter

$t$  : elapsed time to failure of device

- Maximum power feeding voltage must be less than the withstand voltage of all devices, reducing maximum voltage is more preferable to have an additional margin of safety

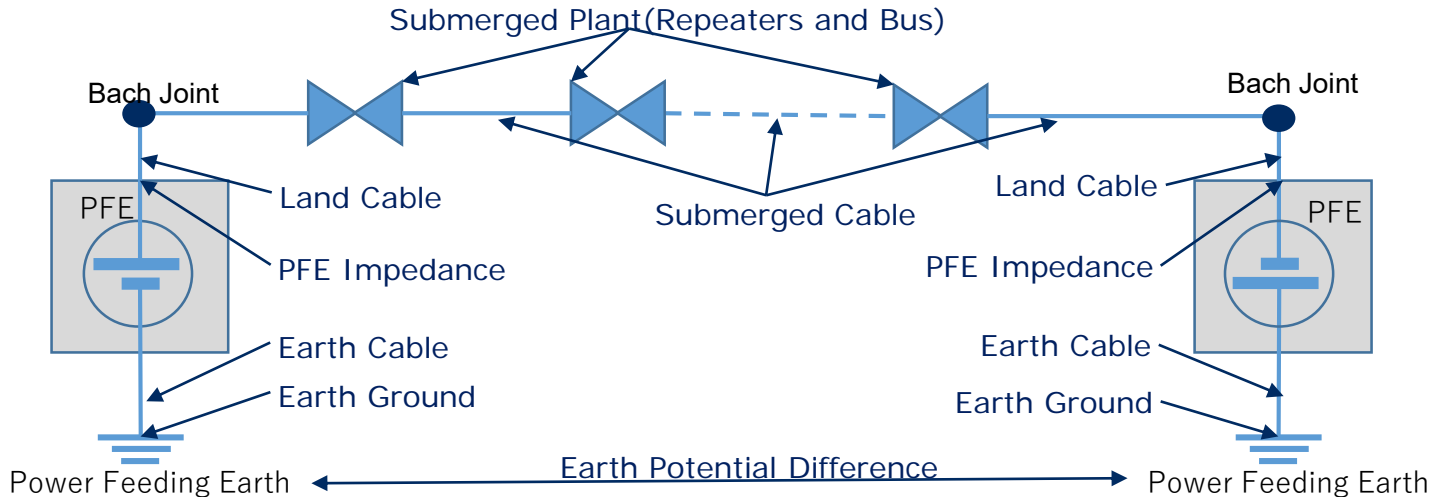


# Power Feeding Budget

- ✓ Aggregate the effects of all components contributing to voltage drops along electrical path

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\text{SYSTEM}} &= V_{\text{EARTH\_GROUND}} + V_{\text{EATH\_CABLE}} + V_{\text{PFE}} + V_{\text{LAND\_CABLE}} \\ &+ V_{\text{SUB\_PLANT}} + V_{\text{SUB\_CABLE}} \\ &+ V_{\text{EPD}} + V_{\text{REPAIR}} \end{aligned}$$

where,  $V_{\text{SUB\_CABLE}} = \text{Cable Resistance} \times \text{Cable Length} \times \text{Feeding Current}$   
 $V_{\text{SUB\_PRANT}} = \Sigma V_{\text{REP}} + \Sigma V_{\text{BU}}$



# Power Feeding Current

Power feeding current is derived from repeater current requirement to maintain stable amplification characteristics

- Repeater optical output power
  - Power efficiency of Pump Laser Diode (LDs)
- Power consumption of control circuit
- Margin for electroding current

## Current distribution in a repeater

Parameters	Proportion	Remarks
LD current for the specified optical output power	80%	Approx. 10% End Of Life margin
Current for LD control circuit	10%	
Electroding margin	10%	Nominally 80mA margin

# Margin Design

## Earth Potential Voltage (EPV)

- Potential difference between both PFE earths due to Earth's magnetic field
- In general, earth potential changes is caused by movement of the Earth's mantle.
- 0.1~0.3V/km (EPV) is considered based on historical experience.

System		PFE voltage		c) Earth Potential Difference	
Link	Length (km)	a) Calculation	b) Measured	Volts	V/km
Japan-Guam	3,743	4,404	4,352	-52	-0.01
Guam-Australia	7,130	7,296	7,189	-107	-0.02
Malaysia-China	2,632	4,339	4,469	130	0.05
Singapore-Phillippin	2,789	4,073	4,208	135	0.05
Japan-Taiwan	2,792	4,617	4,646	29	0.01

## Repair Allowance

- Design life of 25 years, cable repair must be considered.
- Cable repair requires additional cable insertion, typically 2.5 times of water depth per repair. Additional cable insertion cause cable voltage drop.

# Power Feeding Voltage and Max. Capacity

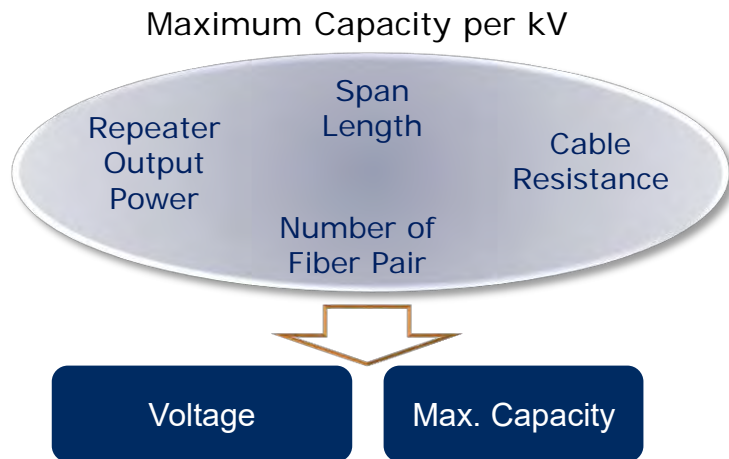
- ✓ For ultra-long system, maximum voltage of PFE limits the max. capacity

## Cable Capacity

- Number of fiber pairs ( $N_{FP}$ )
- Repeater Bandwidth ( $BW$ )
- Shannon SE [G-OSNR ( $N_{REP}, ROP, Fiber, L, BW$ )]

## Total Voltage

- Number of fiber pairs ( $N_{FP}$ )
- Feeding current ( $L, ROP, BW$ )
- Cable resistance
- Number of repeaters ( $N_{REP}$ )



Repeater Output Power (ROP), Span Length (L) and the number of fiber pairs (N) are free parameters defining total voltage entirely the Capacity optimization

- ✓ Fiber attenuation helps increasing span length (L), and reducing number of repeaters ( $N_{REP}$ )
- ✓ Lower cable resistance of cable, but costly → Apply Aluminum??
- ✓ Repeater efficiency improvements reduce feeding current

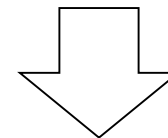
# Example of line Design impact in powering

- Different line designs can provide the same capacity
- What is the best design in terms of power efficiency?

	High SE design	Large FP count design
Distance	9000	9000
Span Length	75km	100km
Repeater sharing index	4pumps/2FPs	4pumps/4FPs
Repeater Power [dBm]	19	15.1
Line Current [mA]	1000	750
Resistance [Ohm/km]	1.0	1.0
Repeater BW [THz]	4.5	4.5
Fiber Effective Area	150	110
OSNR/90carriers [dB]	20.2	14.3
GSNR [dB]	11.9	7.3
Capacity Shannon FP [Tb/s] <i><math>\propto BW \times \log_2(1 + GSNR)</math></i>	34.8	23.2
FPs	8	12
Capacity Shannon CABLE [Tb/s]	278	278
Voltage Cable [kV]	7.2	6.8
Voltage Repeaters [kV]	7.3	4.3
Voltage Cable+Reps [kV]	14.5	11.1

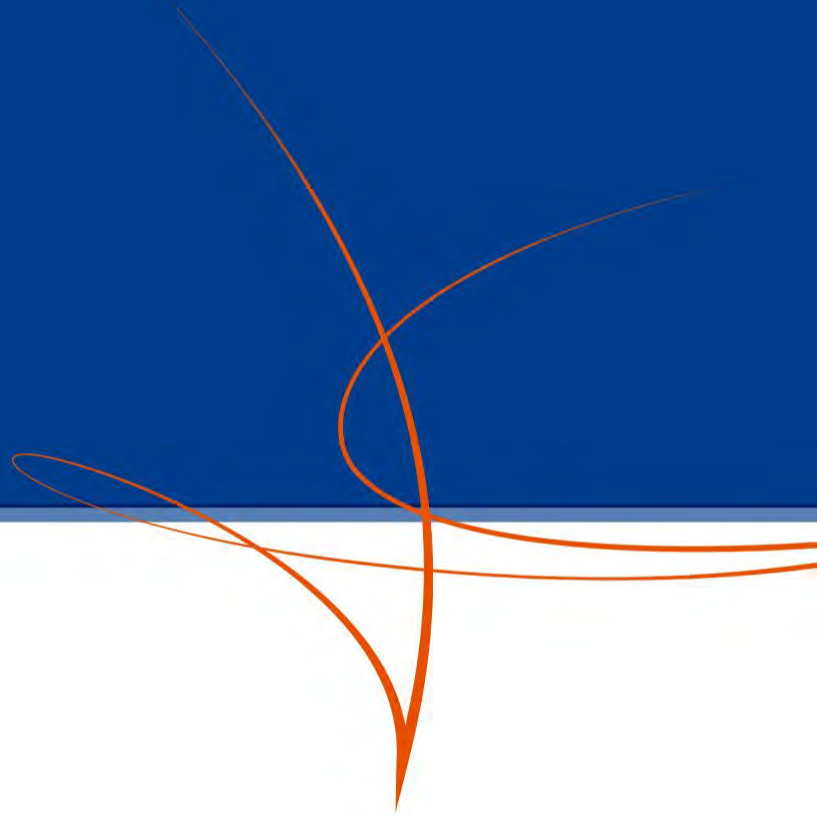
**Capacity grows logarithmically with SNR and linearity with BW**

**Large SNR comes with Fiber Nonlinearity**



**Power efficient submarine networks operate at low OSNR and larger bandwidth (more fibers)**

# Powering Topology



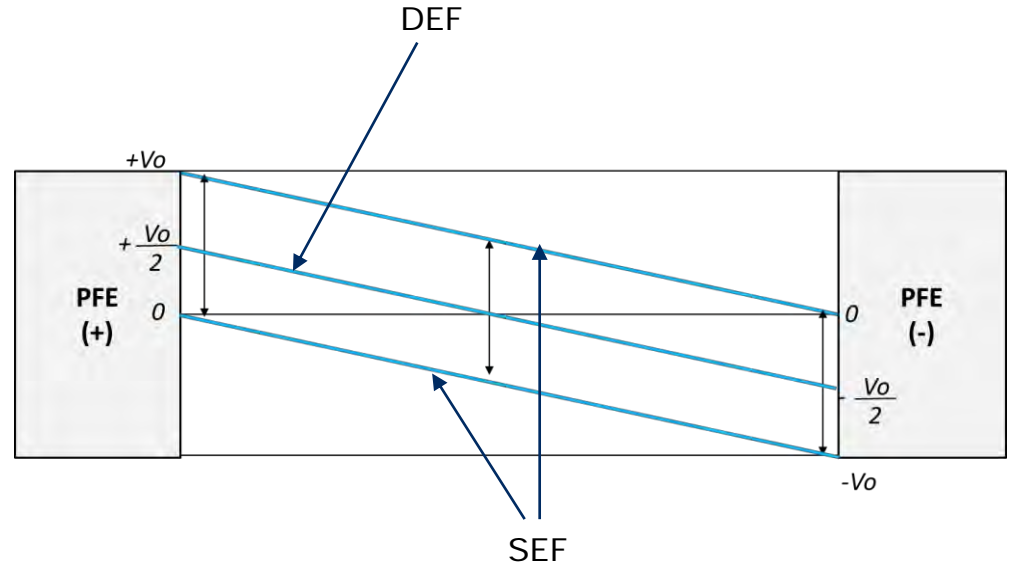
# Powering Mode

## Double-End-Feeding (DEF)

- Feeding power from both end station

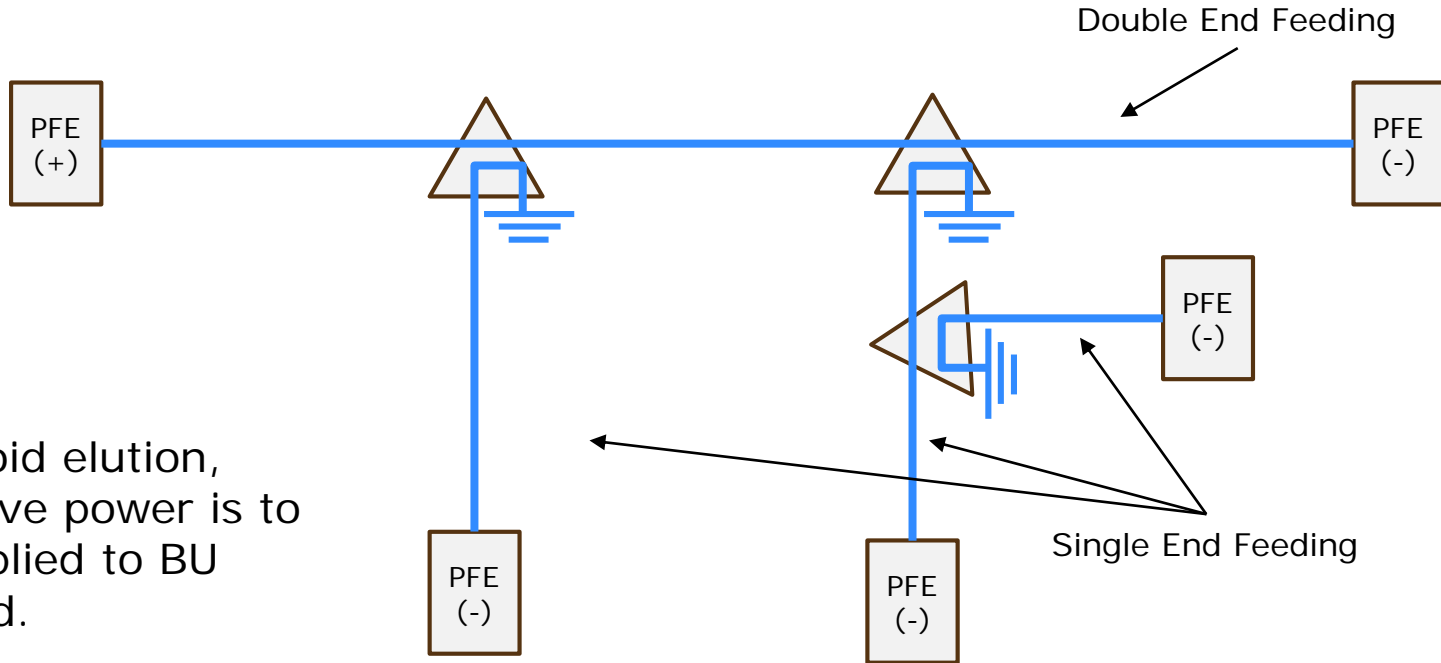
## Single-End-Feeding (SEF)

- Feeding power from one end station



# System Powering Example

- Trunk Segment : Double End Feeding
- Branch Segment : Single End Feeding



Note:

To avoid elution, negative power is to be applied to BU ground.



# Contents

## I. Powering Method

- a. Powering Method
- b. Powering Design
- c. Powering Topology

## II. Equipment for Powering

- a. Power Feeding Equipment (PFE)
- b. Power Path Switchable BU (PSBU)
- c. Submarine Cable

## III. System Powering & Reconfiguration

- a. System Powering and Redundancy
- b. Power Path Re-configuration
- c. Powering Management System

# Power Feeding Equipment (PFE)

A decorative graphic consisting of several thin, flowing orange lines that originate from the right side of the slide and curve across the top and middle sections, partially overlapping the title text.

# Power Feeding Equipment (1/4)

## Major Functions

- Current control
  - Precise current control is required for stable system
- Polarity switching (when PSBU is deployed)
  - Polarity change is required for power re-configuration (detail to be discussed in Part III.)
- Voltage limitation
  - To avoid voltage generation beyond a specific value, the maximum output voltage is limited.
- Slow ramp up & down
  - To avoid large surge currents being injected into the line, the PFE controls the voltage ramp-up and ramp-down speeds.

# Power Feeding Equipment (2/4)

## Major Functions (cont.)

### ● Shutdown function

- Auto-shutdown when high current, high voltage, and/or open circuit is detected
- Auto-shutdown when operator access high voltage terminal
- Emergency shutdown is provided for the event of an accident or other potential hazard

### ● Discharge function

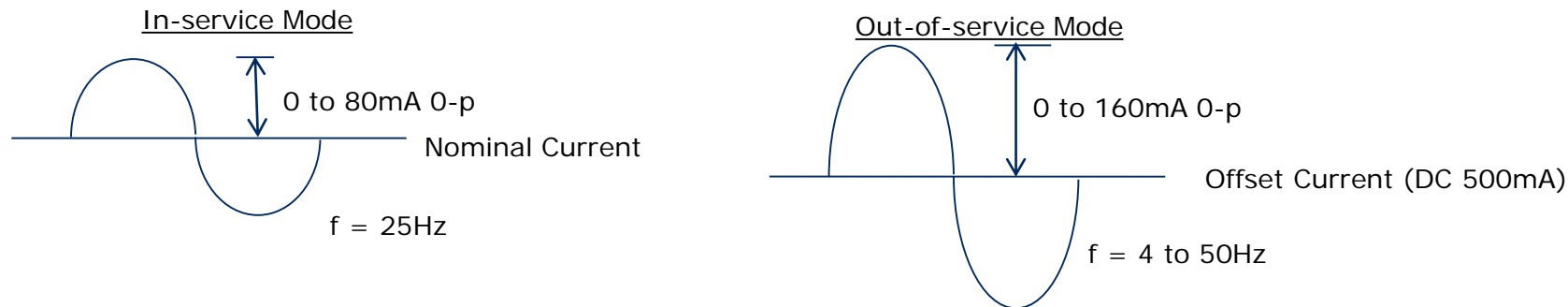
- Cable end stores electric charge due to cable capacitance
- PFE provides discharge function
  - Resistive Mode
  - Short Mode

# Power Feeding Equipment (3/4)

## Major Functions (cont.)

### ● Electroding

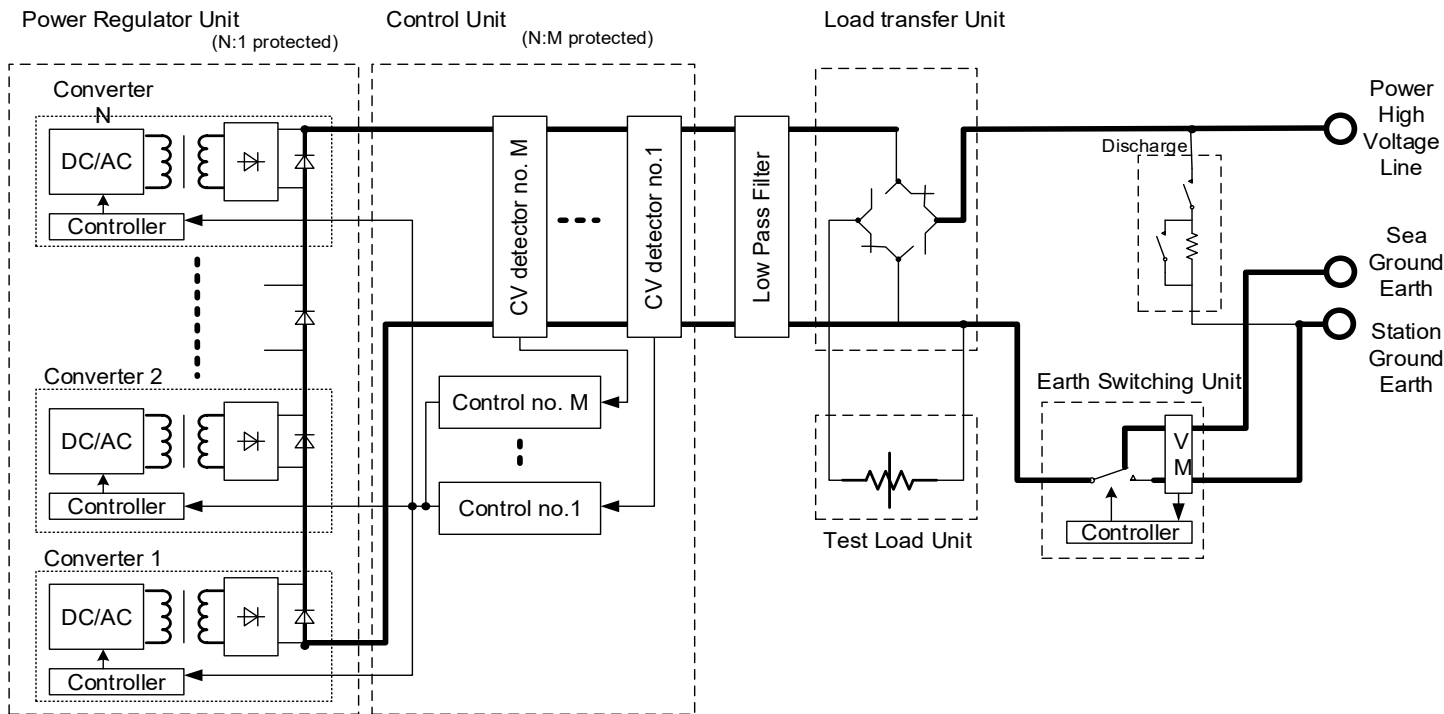
- ✓ This function is used to identify the cable or cable fault location by cable ship
- ✓ Electroding tone is detected by tone detector (magnetic sensor) equipped on cable ship
- Electroding tone (low frequency) is superposed on a nominal current or DC offset current



- Electroding tone of 10mA can be detected;
- 300 km from PFE (In-service mode)
  - 500 km from PFE (Out-of-service mode)

# Power Feeding Equipment (4/4)

## Configuration



# Power Path Switchable BU (PSBU)

# Powering Switchable - Branching Unit (PSBU)

## Branching Unit (BU)

- BU is laid underwater for the trunk and branch system
- BU provides routing both optical fiber and power feeding path to trunk and branch landing stations
- PSBU → Power path switchable BU



## Key Features for Power Feeding Routing

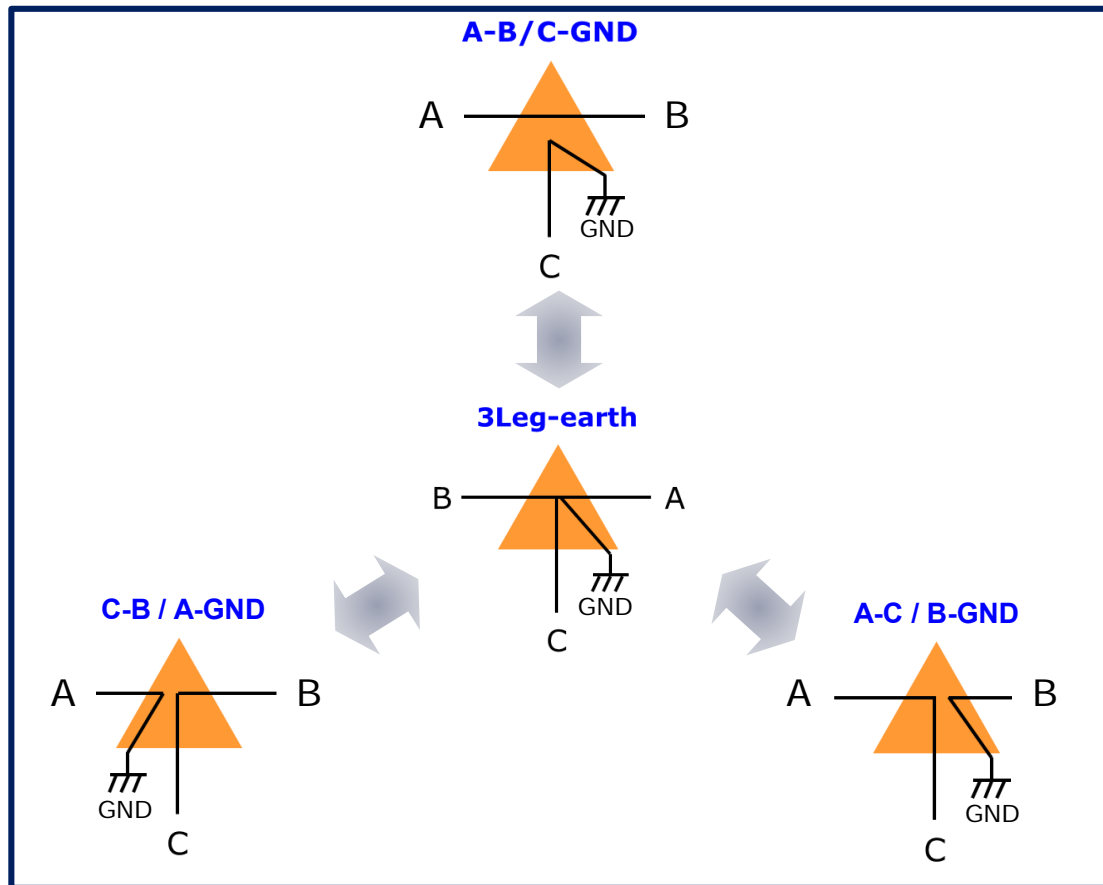
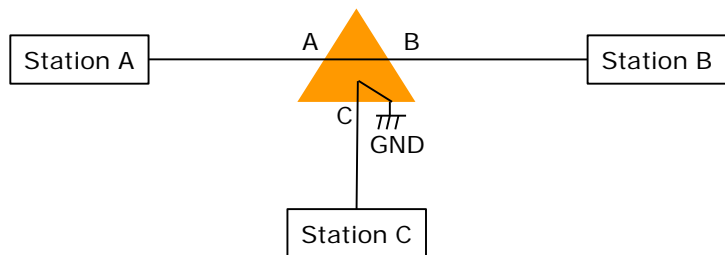
- Reconfiguration of PSBU status shall be performed by optical command
- Command operation shall be available as long as BU is powered any one of three leg, even branch power only
- Switch status is maintained even if the electric power is removed from the BU.
- “Hot switching” is feasible under single-end feeding → Withstand up to 15KV



# Powering Switchable - Branching Unit (PSBU)

## Switch Status

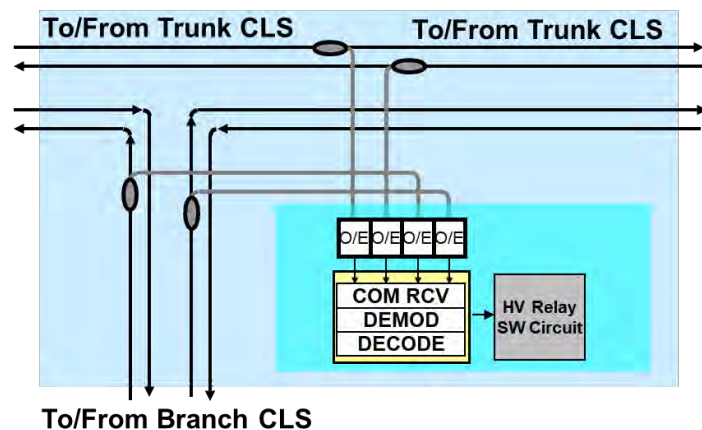
Normal Configuration



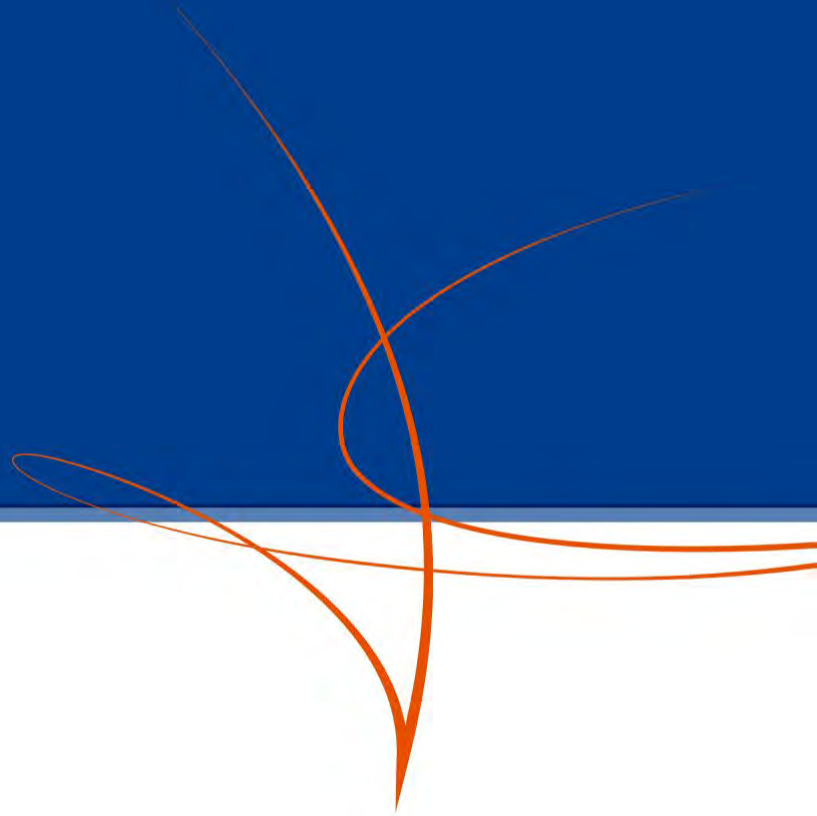
# Powering Switchable - Branching Unit (PSBU)

## Remote Control of PSBU

- High Voltage Circuit
  - Highly reliable SW part
- Command Control of BU Switch
  - Control Command to be sent as serial data including BU address
  - Only the BU assigned by the address responds to the command signal
- Multi Control Path
  - BU can be controlled through multiple fiber paths
- Self Holding
  - BU power path status configured by the command maintains even when power supply stops

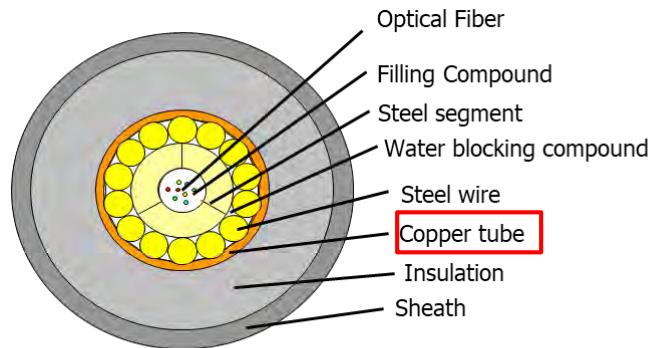
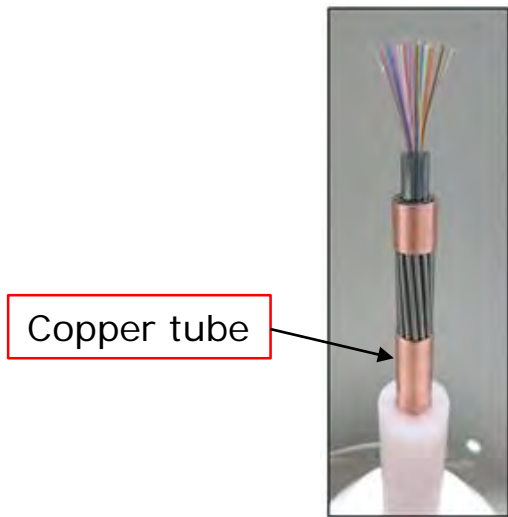


# Submarine Cable



# Submarine Cable Structure

- ✓ Power is fed through copper tube in submarine cable
- ✓ Cable resistance is depending on thickness of copper



LW (Light Weight)

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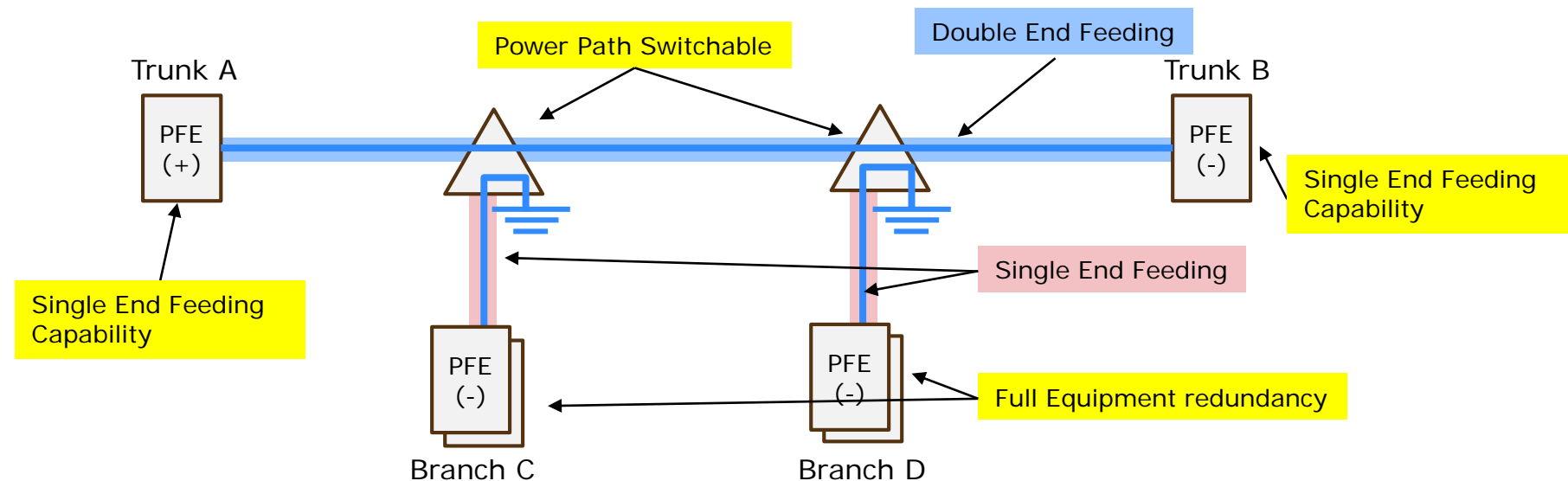
# System Powering and Redundancy

A decorative graphic consisting of several thin, flowing orange lines that originate from the right side of the slide and curve downwards and outwards, crossing the horizontal line that separates the blue header from the white body.

# Normal Power Feeding Configuration

## Features:

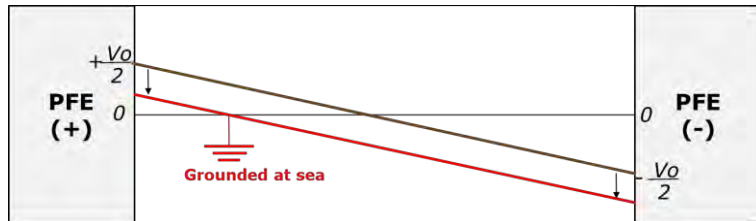
- Trunk Double End Feeding with Single End Feeding capability
- Branch : Full Equipment Redundancy
- BU : Power Path Re-configurable



# System Redundancy

## Trunk Power Feeding Path with Single End Feeding Capability

- Maintain power even if power path failure happens



- : Normal Condition
- : Power Feeding Path Failure

## Equipment Redundancy

- Full Equipment Redundancy



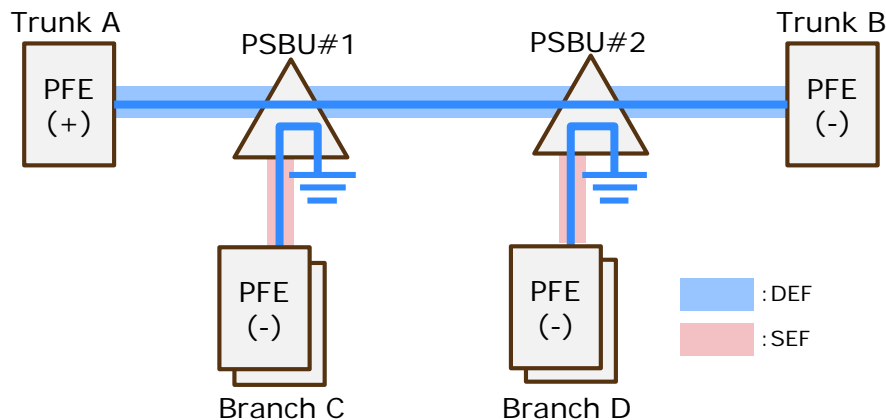
## Power Path Switching

- Power Path Switching to restore power feeding path for un-failed segment

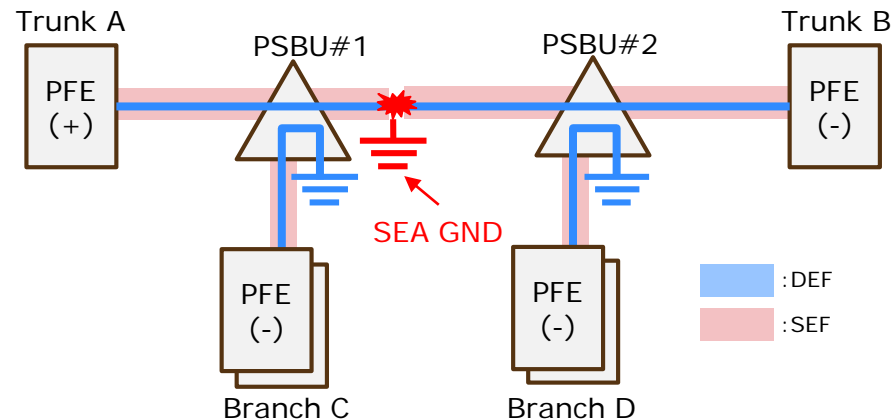


# Power Path Re-Configuration

# Power Feeding Path Re-Configuration -Trunk Failure (1/3)



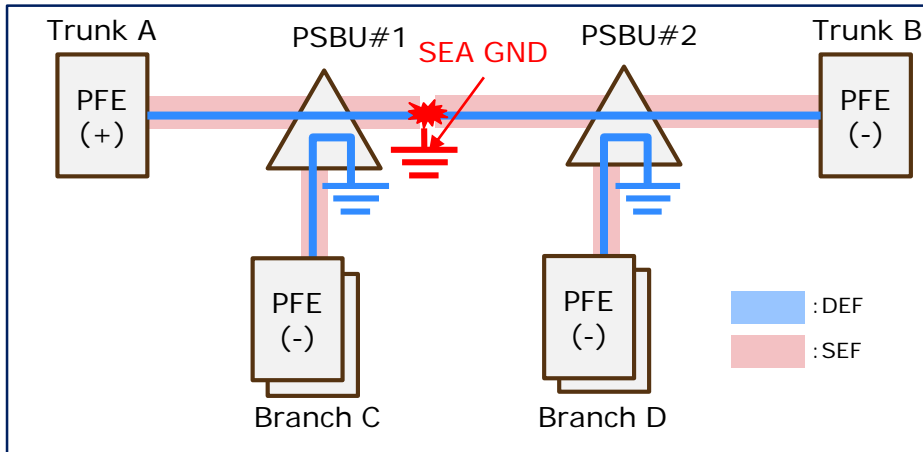
## Normal Configuration



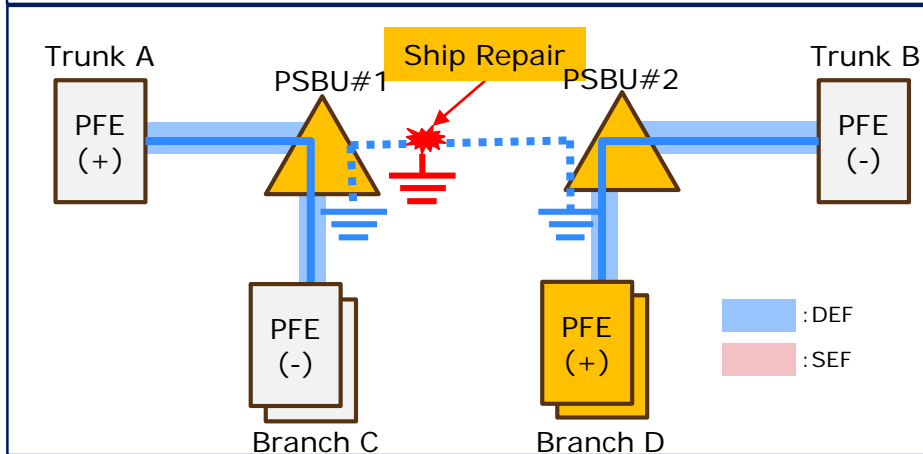
## After trunk path failure

- ✓ Power feeding is **maintained** since PFEs in Trunk A and B feed power to sea ground under SEF
- ✓ Power re-configuration is not required until ship repair

# Power Feeding Path Re-Configuration -Trunk Failure (2/3)



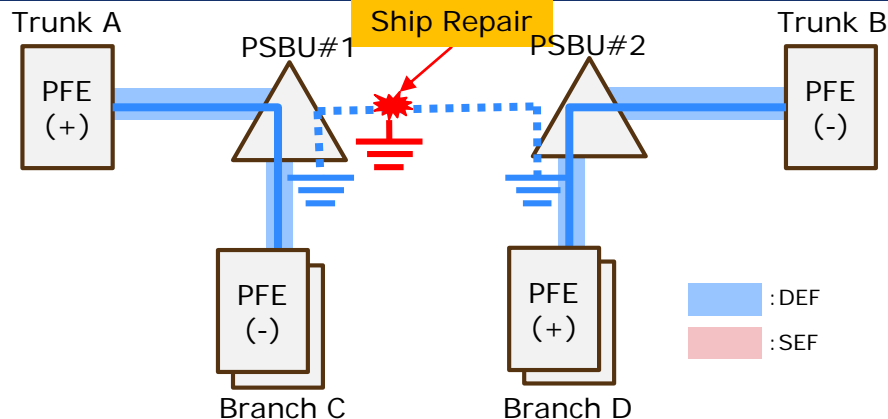
## After trunk path failure



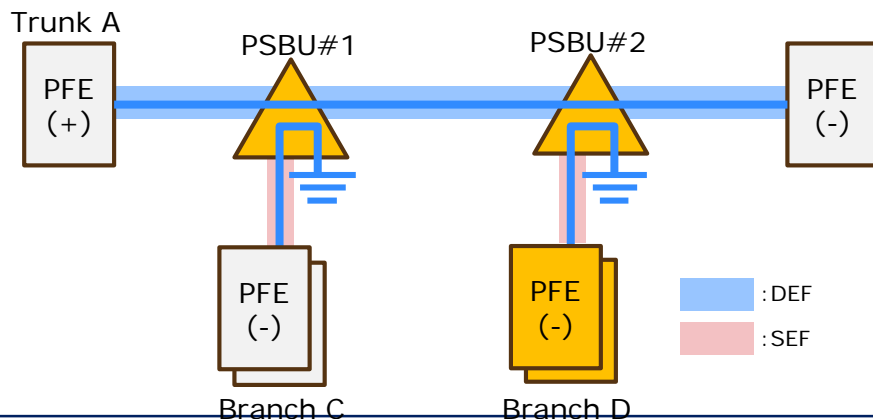
## During Ship Repair

- ✓ Powering path is **re-configured** in order to isolate failure segment;
- Trunk A – Branch C (DEF)
- Trunk B – Branch D (DEF)
- PSBU#1 and #2 are switched
- Branch D polarity is changed

# Power Feeding Path Re-Configuration -Trunk Failure (3/3)



## During Ship Repair

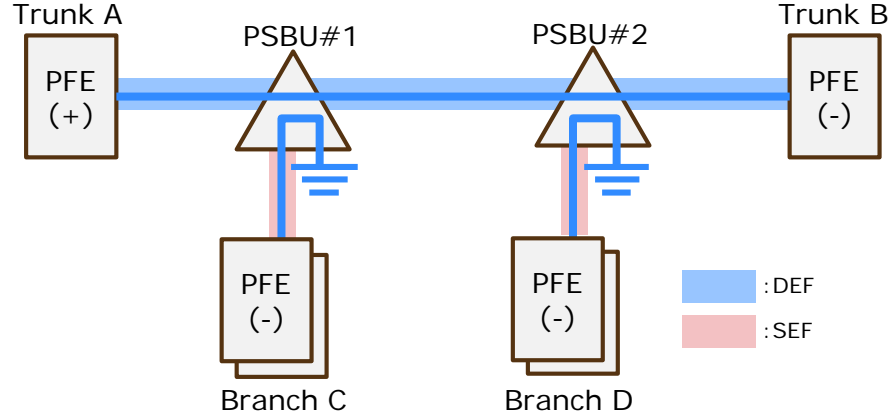


## After Ship Repair

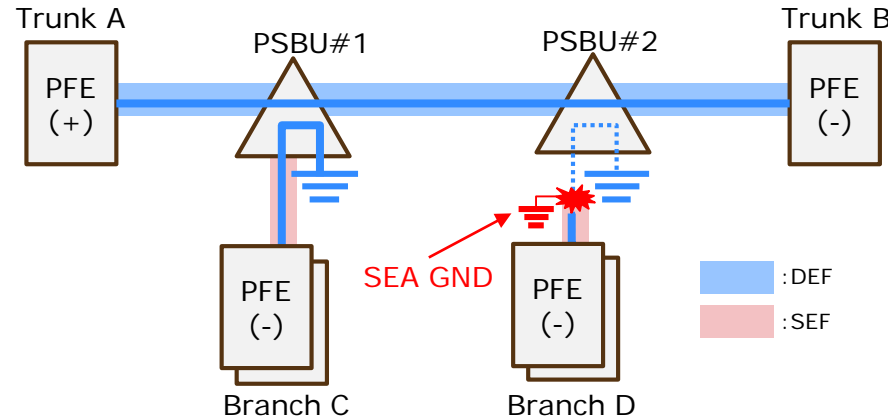
✓ Powering path is **normalized**:

- Trunk A – Trunk B (DEF)
- PSBU#1 – Branch C (SEF)
- PSBU#2 – Branch D (SEF)
- PSBU#1 and #2 are switched
- Branch D polarity is changed

# Power Feeding Path Re-Configuration -Branch Failure (1/4)



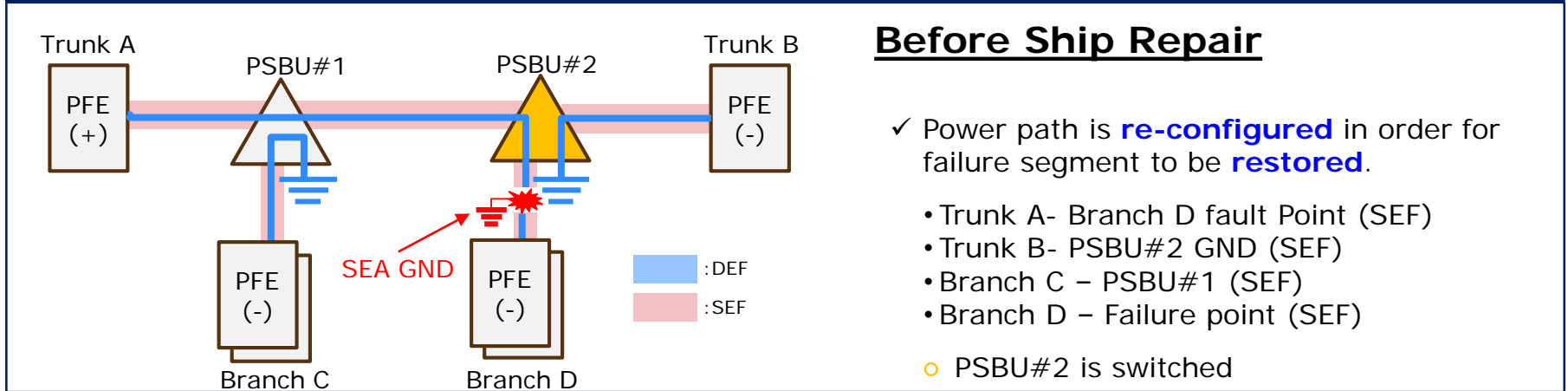
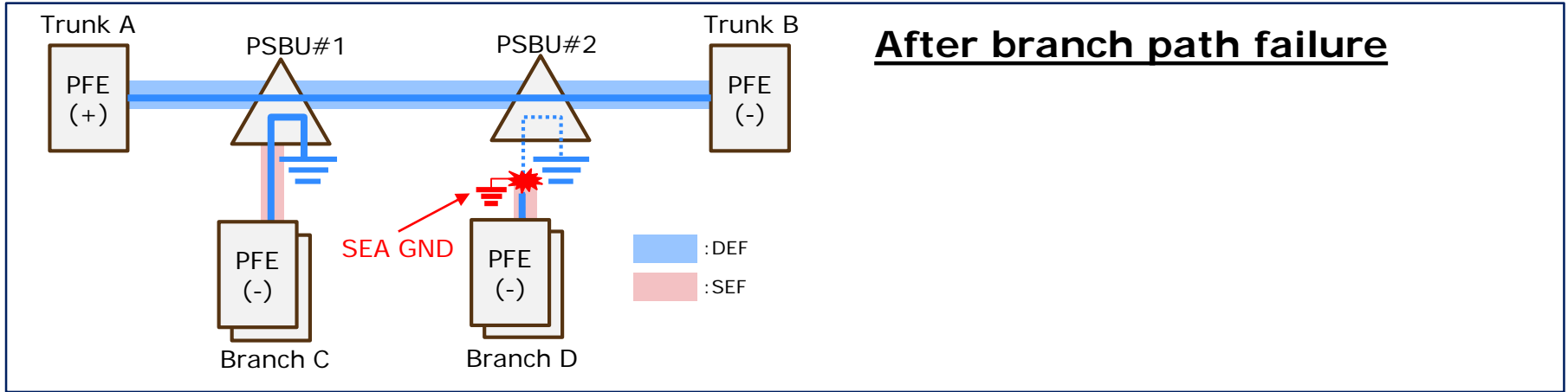
## Normal Configuration



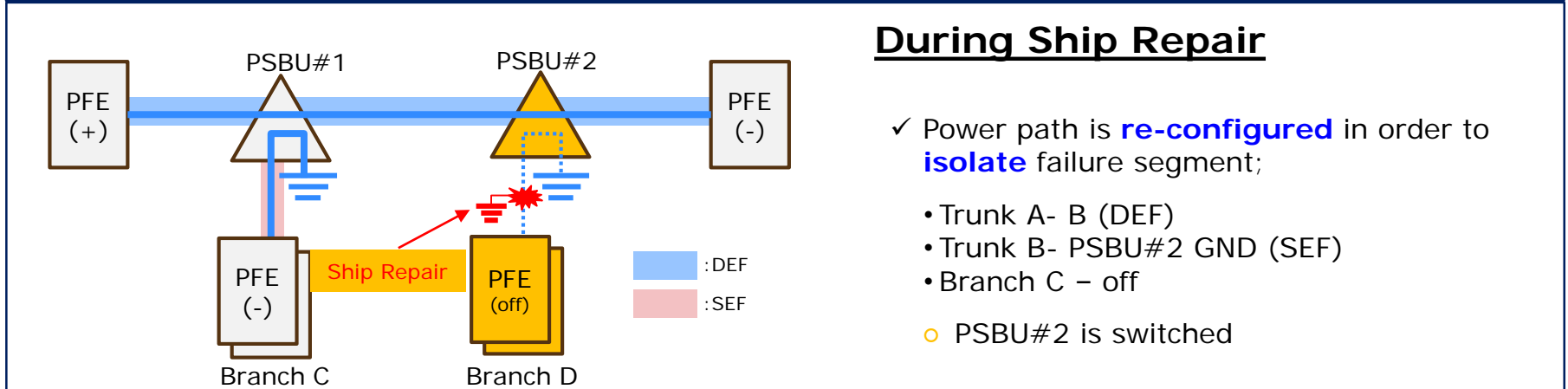
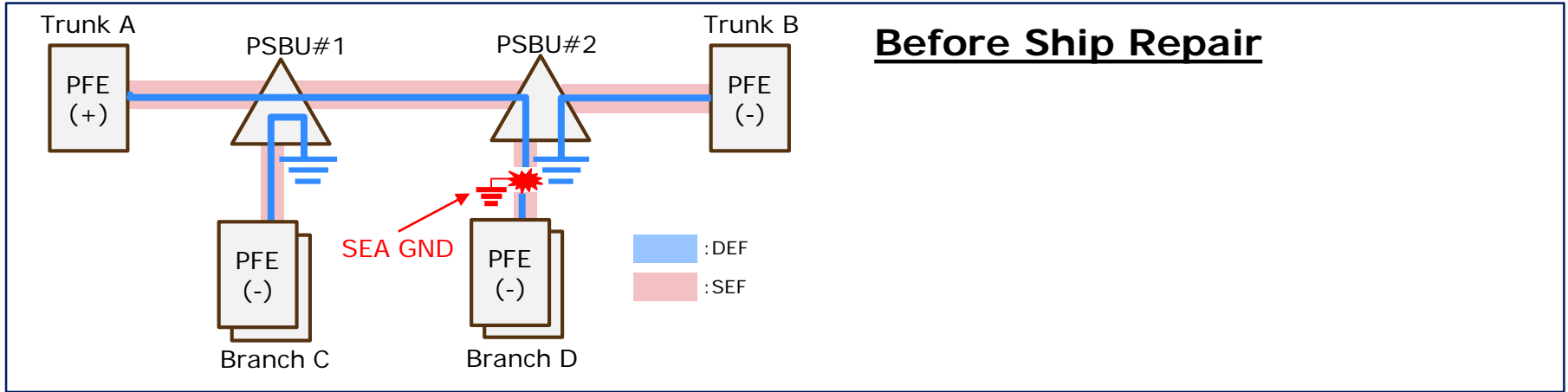
## After branch path failure

- ✓ PSBU#2 and failure point becomes **unpowered**.
- ✓ Un-failed segment does **not affected**.
  - Trunk A-B,
  - PSBU#1-Branch C

# Power Feeding Path Re-Configuration -Branch Failure (2/4)

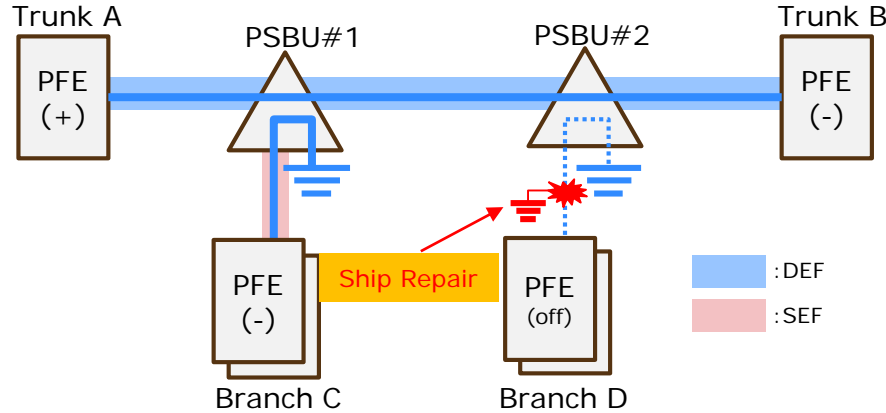


# Power Feeding Path Re-Configuration -Branch Failure (3/4)

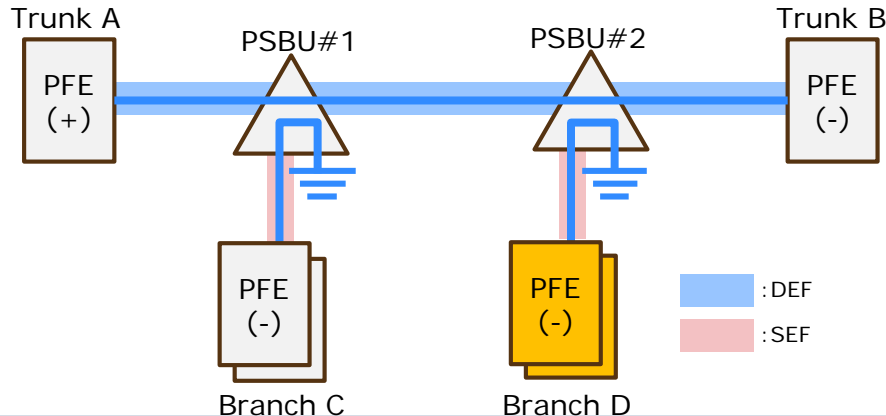


# Power Feeding Path Re-Configuration -Branch Failure (4/4)

## During Ship Repair



## After Ship Repair



✓ Powering path is **normalized**:

- Trunk A – Trunk B (DEF)
- PSBU#1 – Branch C (SEF)
- PSBU#2 – Branch D (SEF)
- Branch D is just powered

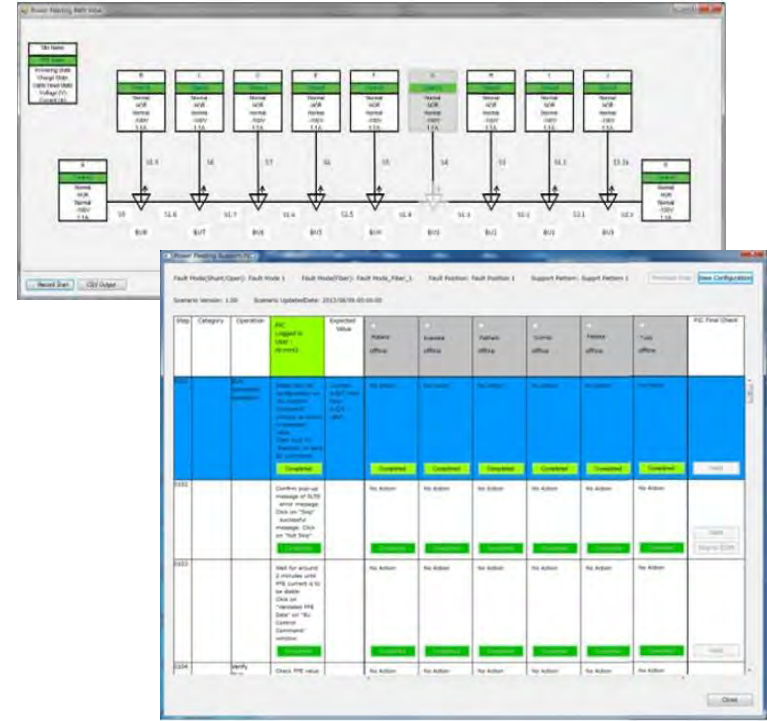


# Powering Management System

# Power Feeding Management System

## Functions

- Monitor power feeding current and voltage for every station
- Manage PFE status
- Control and manage Power-Path Switching in BU
- Display the power feeding configuration
- Support powering procedure among stations





# Orchestrating a brighter world

NEC brings together and integrates technology and expertise to create the ICT-enabled society of tomorrow.

We collaborate closely with partners and customers around the world, orchestrating each project to ensure all its parts are fine-tuned to local needs.

Every day, our innovative solutions for society contribute to greater safety, security, efficiency and equality, and enable people to live brighter lives.

# Optical Transmission – Lecture 3

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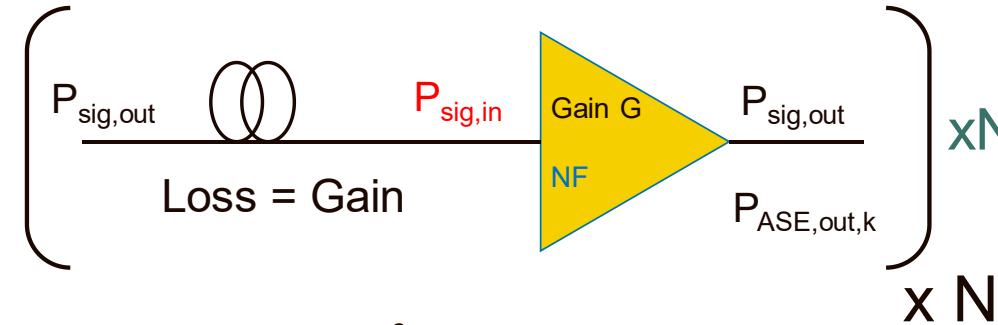
From physics to system design

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# Back to propagation effects in the cable

# Signal impairments in the cable: Additive Gaussian noise models

- 1. **Amplifier noise** (ASE) (> 60% of impairments)



$$SNR_{ASE} \approx \frac{P_{out,tot}}{Gain * NF * N_{rep} * Amplifier Band} * \frac{\lambda}{hc} \quad \text{(within channel spacing band)}$$

- Concatenation :

$$\frac{1}{SNR_{1 \rightarrow N, lin}} \approx \frac{1}{SNR_{1, lin}} + \dots + \frac{1}{SNR_{N, lin}}$$

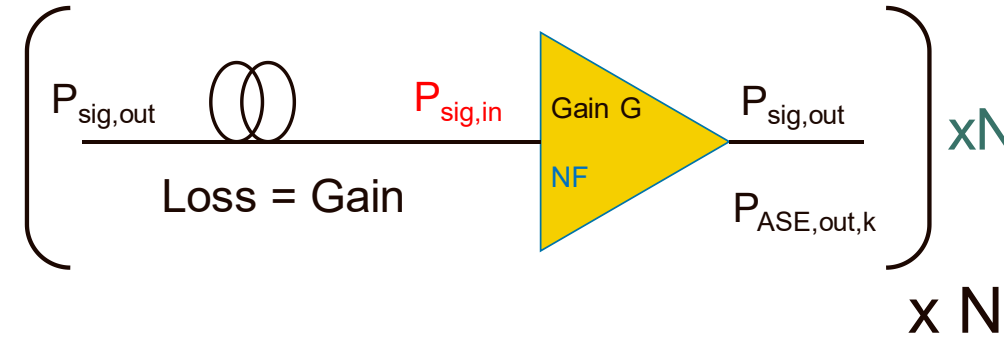
- Refinements

- Constant total output power :  $SNR_{signal\ droop, lin} - SNR_{basic, lin} \approx -\frac{1}{2} * \frac{Ch.spacing}{Ref.Band_{SNR}}$

- Extra-penalty expected due to spectral non flatness

# Signal impairments in the cable: Additive Gaussian noise models

- 1. **Amplifier noise** (ASE) (> 60% of impairments)



$$SNR_{ASE,dB} \approx 38.9 + P_{out,tot,dBm} - Gain_{dB} - NF_{dB} - N_{rep,dB} - 10 * \log_{10}(Bandwidth_{THz})$$

*(within channel spacing band)*

From  $OSNR_{0.1nm,dB}$  to  $SNR_{dB}$ :

$$SNR_{dB} = OSNR_{dB,0.1nm} + 10 * \log\left(\frac{12.5 \text{ GHz}}{\text{Channel spacing}}\right)$$

12.5GHz corresponds to 0.1nm at 1550nm

# Signal impairments in the cable: Additive Gaussian noise models

- 2. **Nonlinear (NL) noise due to high power density:** (< 30% of impairments)



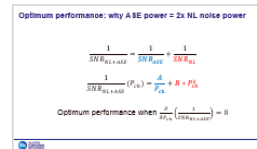
$$SNR_{NL} \approx \frac{K_{models} * A_{eff}^2}{N_{spans}^\epsilon} * \frac{1}{N_{spans} * Power^2} - 1$$

often neglected

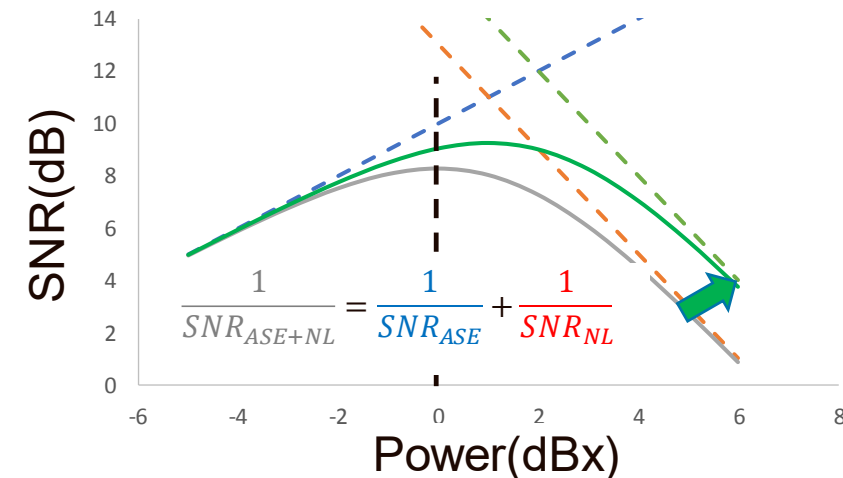
- At optimized power (max Quality of Transmission),

ASE noise = 2 x Nonlinear noise power

$$SNR_{ASE,dB} = SNR_{NL,dB} - 3dB$$



- Coming: **partial mitigation of NL at transceiver**





# Signal impairments in the cable: Additive Gaussian noise models

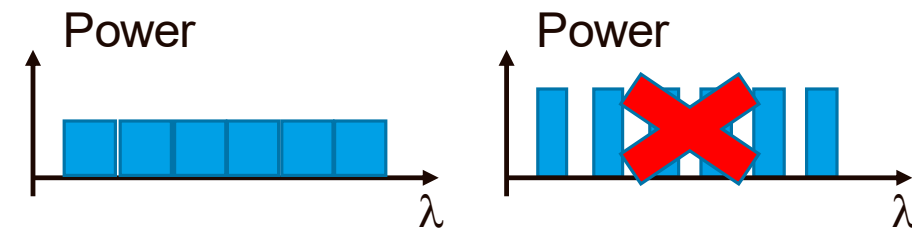
- More on Nonlinear (NL) noise

- The **higher** the **local chromatic dispersion**, the better

- Increases with **high** **cumulated chromatic dispersion**, with quick saturation

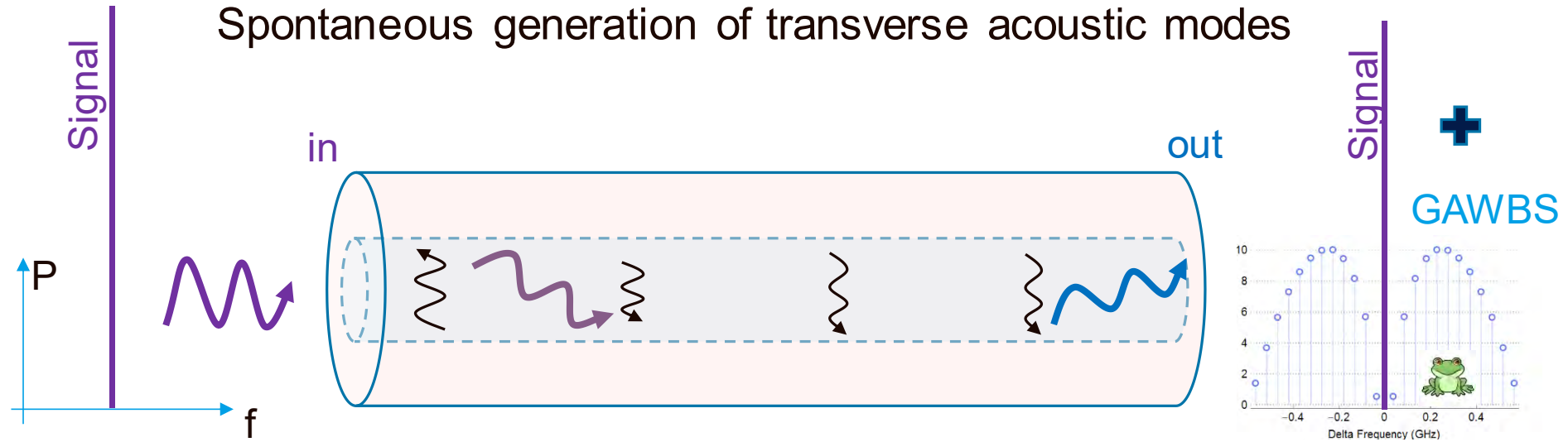
- The **flatter** the **power spectral density**, the better

- Why? Peaks of power (in time / frequency) are detrimental
- Channel rate as close as possible to channel spacing



# Guided Acoustic Wave Brillouin Scattering (GAWBS)

[M. Bolshtyanski et al, M4B.3, OFC'18]



Scatters incoming light in the forward direction, with small frequency shifts  
→ Crosstalk noise

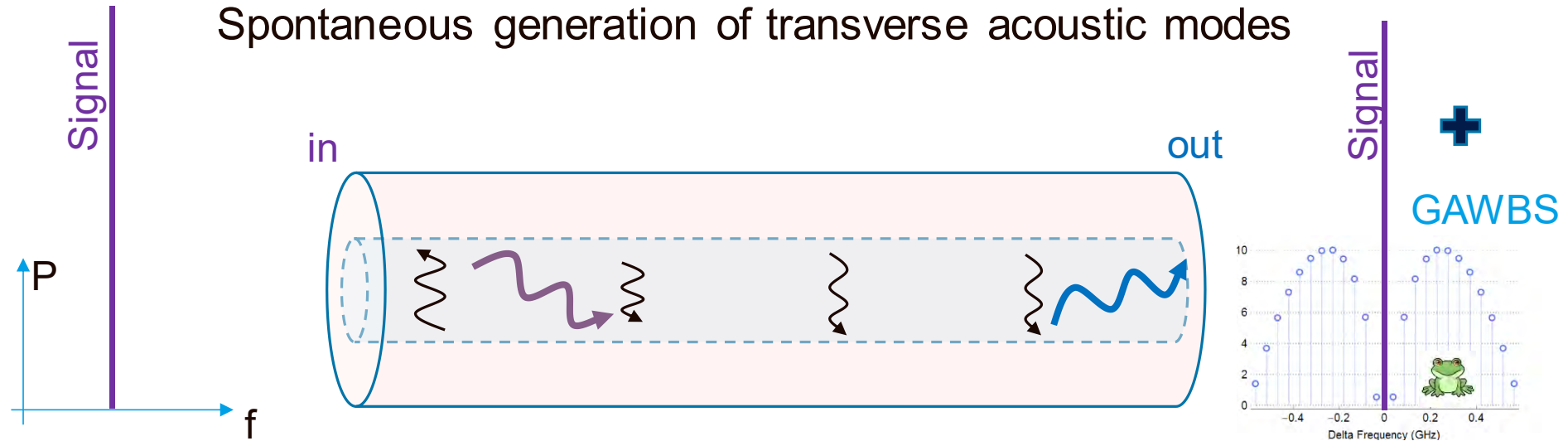
$$P_{GAWBS} \propto \frac{\text{Distance}}{A_{eff}^x} * P_{ch}$$

characterized in M4B.3, OFC'18

X ~ 1

# Guided Acoustic Wave Brillouin Scattering (GAWBS)

[M. Bolshtyanski et al, M4B.3, OFC'18]



Scatters incoming light in the forward direction, with small frequency shifts  
→ Crosstalk noise

$$SNR_{GAWBS} \propto \frac{A_{eff}^x}{Distance}$$

characterized in M4B.3, OFC'18

# Joint SNR, Line SNR, Gaussian SNR, Generalized SNR

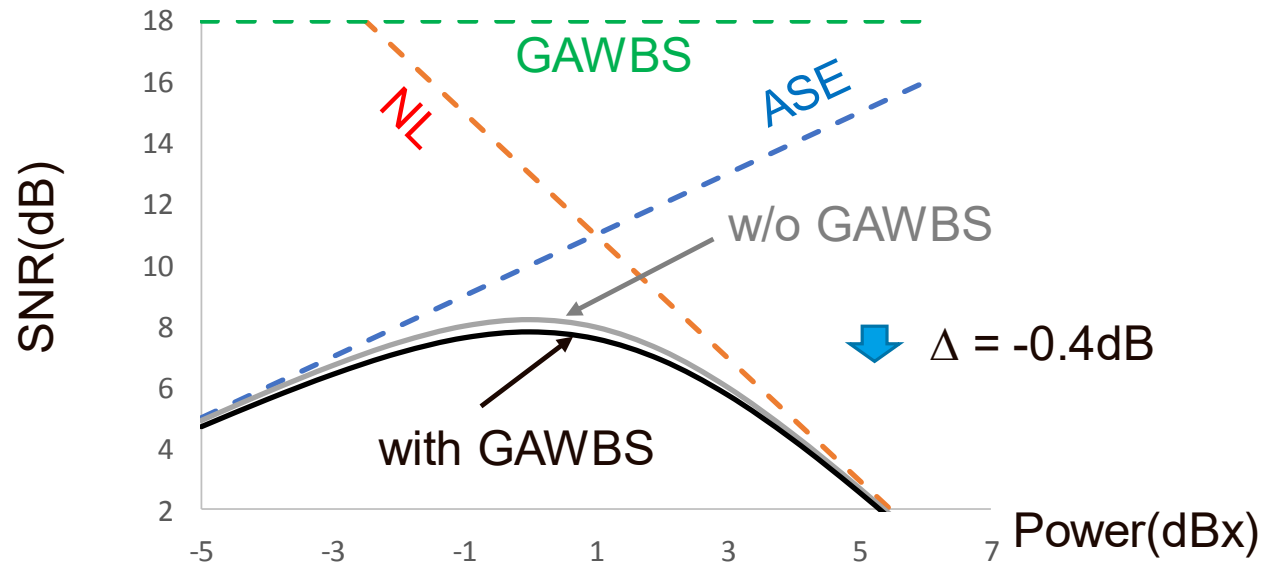
- Most signal distortions coming from the line can be captured by the joint G-SNR:

$$\frac{1}{G - SNR} = \frac{1}{SNR_{ASE}} + \frac{1}{SNR_{NL}} + \frac{1}{SNR_{GAWBS}}$$

- We expect here that chromatic dispersion and PMD are compensated by transceiver

# Aggregation of impairments: Cable SNR, GSNR

$$\frac{1}{GSNR} \approx \frac{1}{SNR_{ASE}(P)} + \frac{1}{SNR_{NL}(P)} + \frac{1}{SNR_{gawbs}}$$

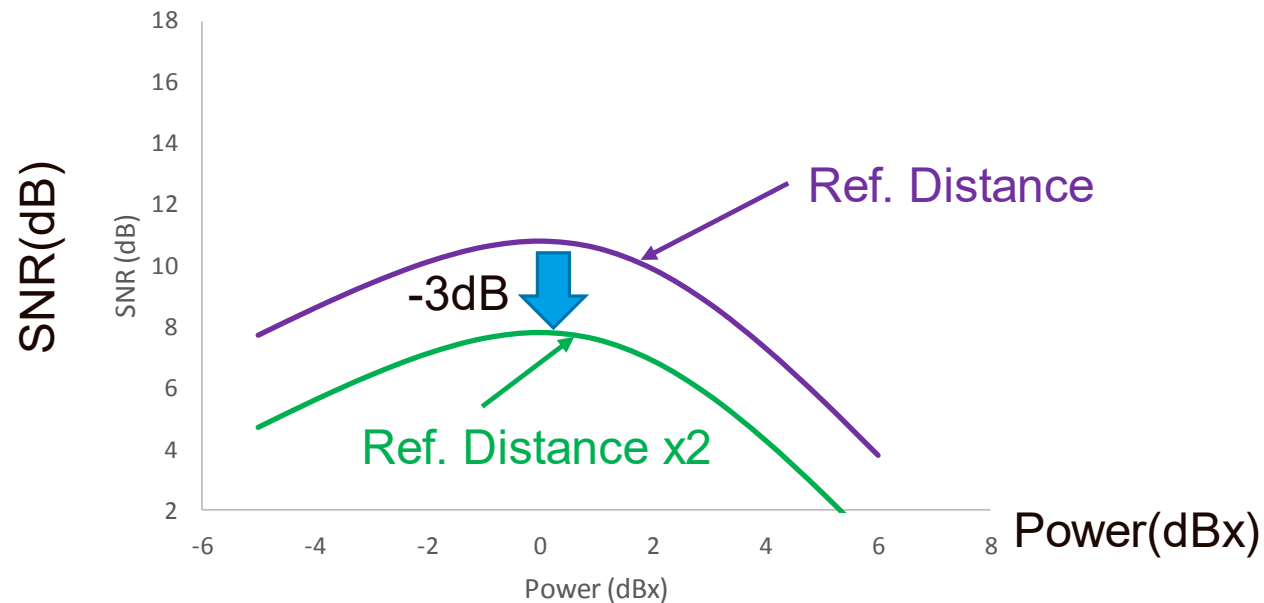


Optimum **power** P only depends on ASE and NL noises

# GSNR and distance (constant repeater spacing)

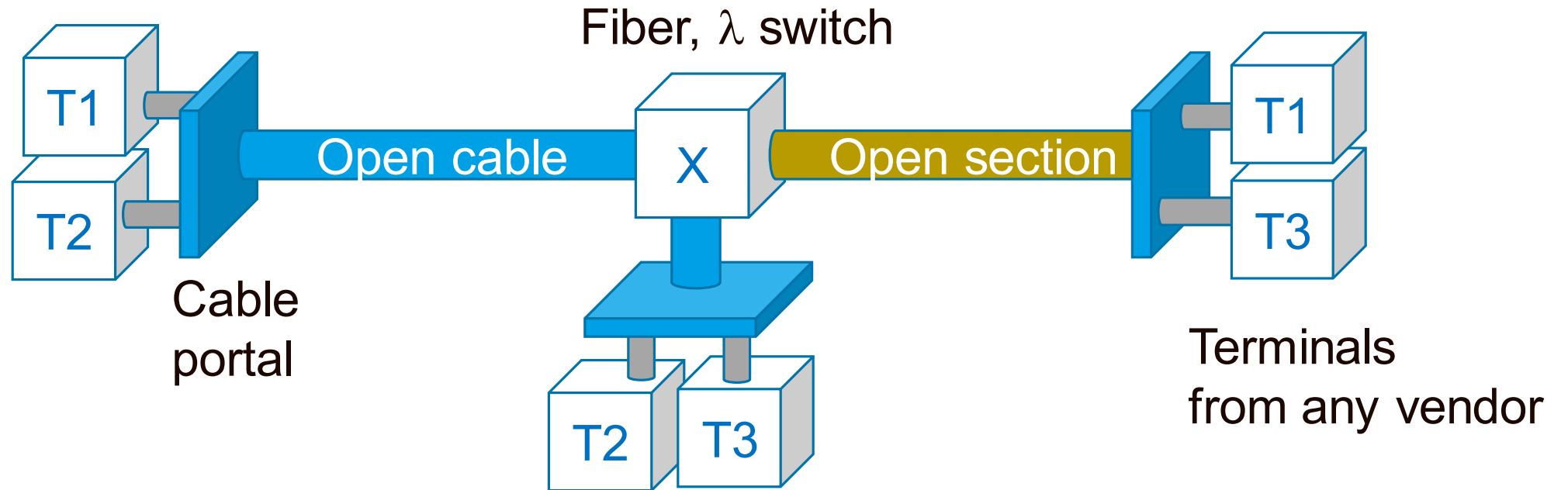
$$\frac{1}{GSNR} \approx \frac{1}{SNR_{ASE}} + \frac{1}{SNR_{NL}} + \frac{1}{SNR_{gawbs}}$$

All the terms are almost proportional to distance



GSNR scales like 1/distance (-1dB/dB), with almost same optimum power

# From GSNR to end to end performance



- Possible interconnection of cables with terrestrial sections, terminals through portals
- Same physics applies:
  - model impairment as an equivalent SNR, sum the inverse (G)SNRs...

# Quality of Transmission (QoT) between 2 transceivers

- A usual metric is the **Bit Error Rate (BER)** before FEC decoding
  - or its translation into **Q-factor**, more precisely  $Q_{dB}^2 = 10 * \log_{10}(Q^2)$ 
    - With Q defined from relation:  $BER = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{Q}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$
    - Interest:  $Q^2$  is usually proportional to electrical SNR
- **BER is a function of the electrical SNR integrated in receiver band**

$$BER \approx x * \operatorname{erfc}(\sqrt{K * SNR_e})$$

x,K depend on the modulation



# Physical limitations at modem side

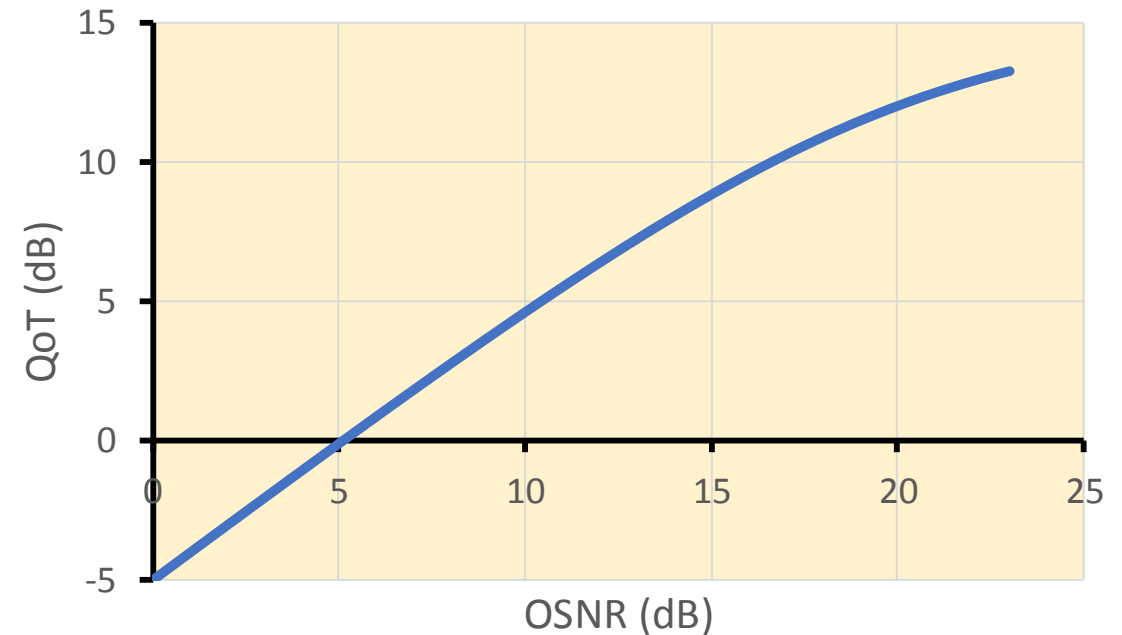
## Transmission independent

- Thermal, shot noises
- Bandwidth of E/O components
- Assembly / alignment

Model: Additive Gaussian noise

Back to back measurements:

QoT vs external source of SNR

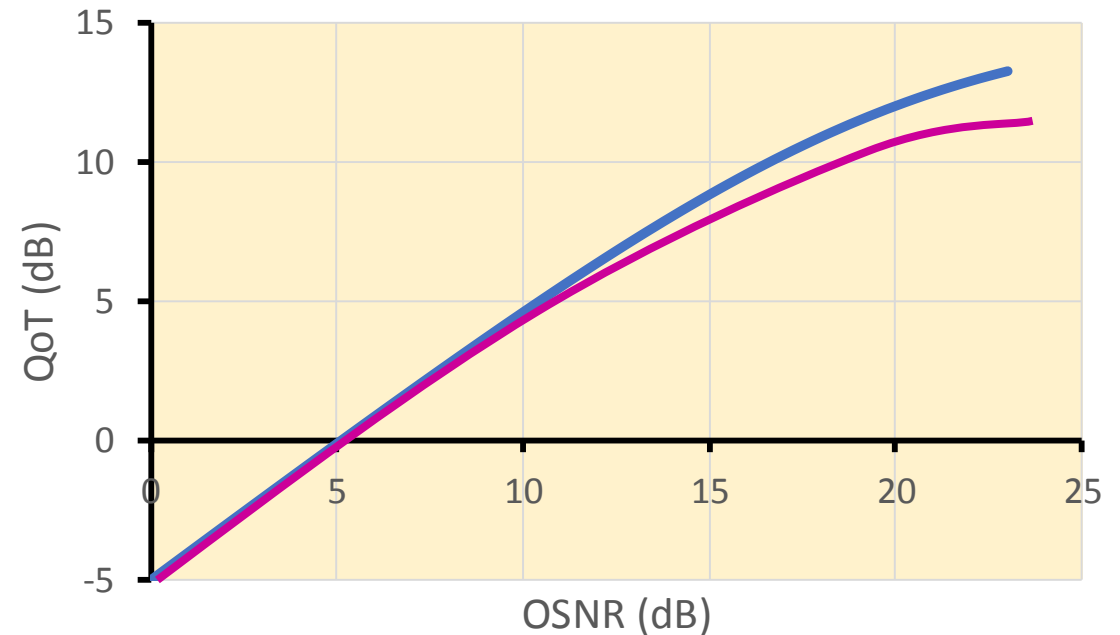


# Physical limitations at modem side

## Transmission dependent

- Av. impact of PDL / PMD
- Imperfect mitigation of chromatic dispersion due to
  - Resolution of implemented DSP
  - Laser linewidth

Characterization requires reliable emulation of impairment / model / simulations



$$\text{Basic fit for } QoT=Q^2 \text{ or } SNR_e: \frac{\eta}{QoT} = \frac{1}{SNR_{line}} + \frac{1}{SNR_{TRx}}$$

# End to end Gaussian noise model

- 1. Back to back characterization

- Transponder tolerance to Gaussian noise (ASE noise)

$$QoT = f_{btb}(O-SNR)$$

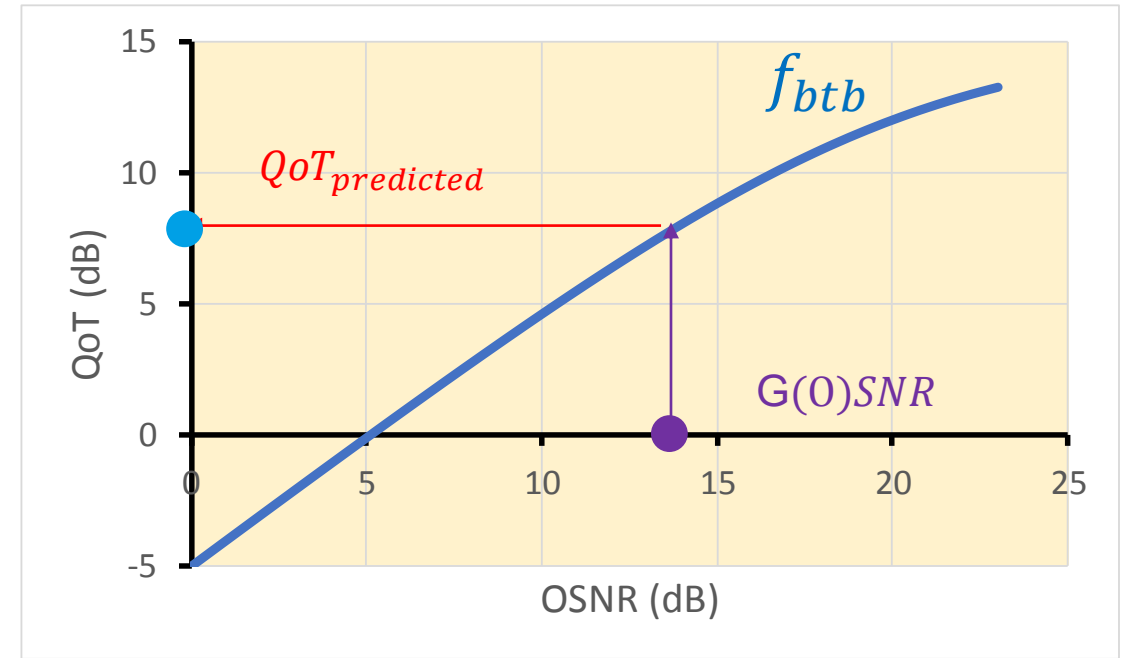
- With possible refinements

- 2. Model transmission impairments as Gaussian noises

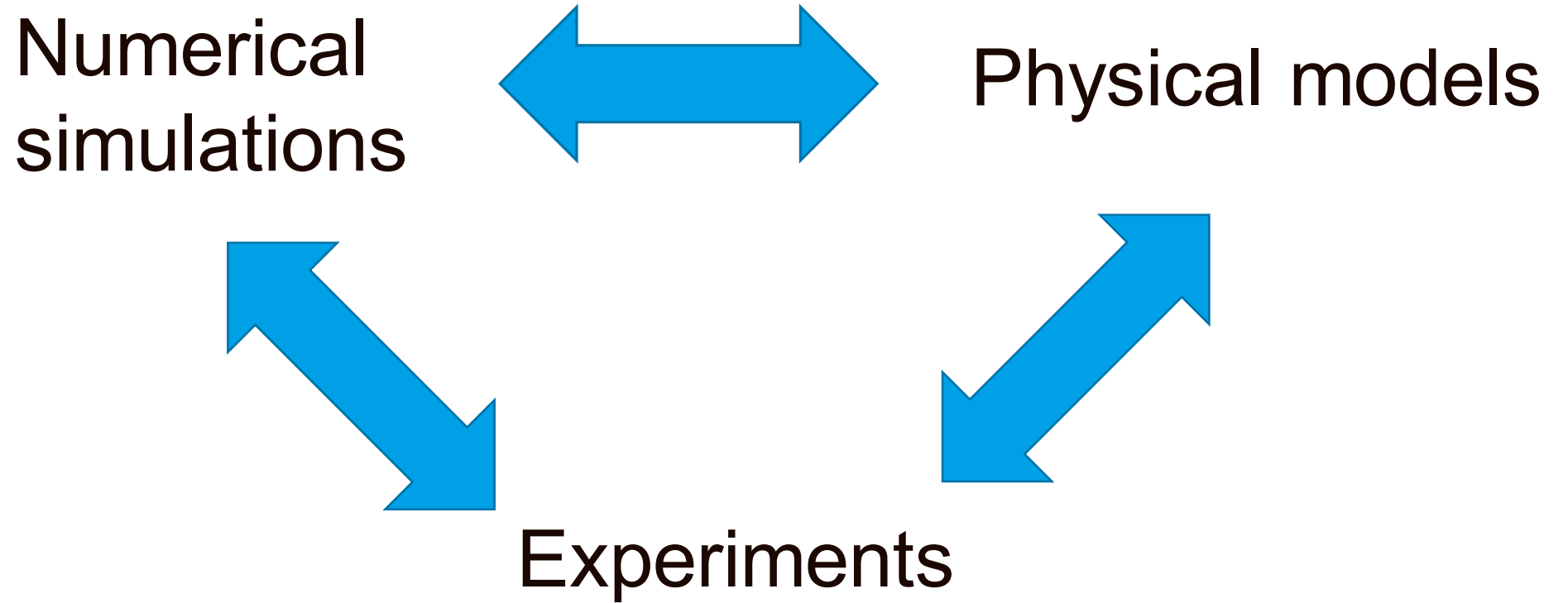
- ASE noise, nonlinear effects, GAWBS,
- G-(O)SNR matters

- 3. Infer end to end **QoT** using the back to back calibration

$$QoT_{predicted} = f_{btb}(GOSNR)$$



# Performance prediction relies in three pillars



# Performance of Open Cable: From Modeling to Wide Scale Experimental Assessment

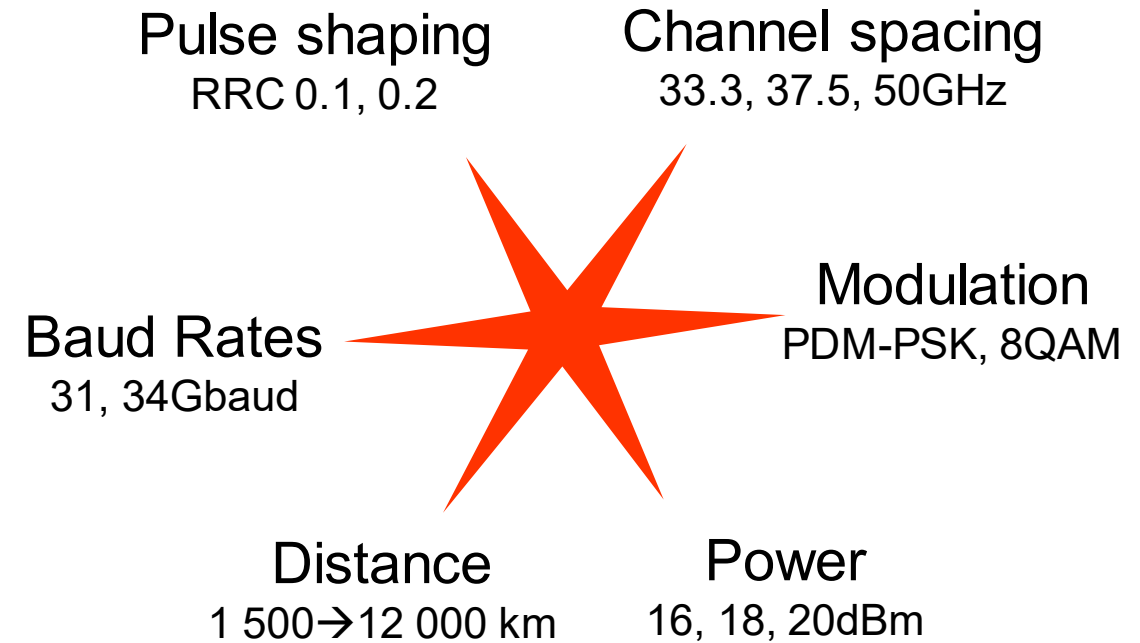
Name: Jean-Christophe ANTONA

Company: Alcatel Submarine Networks

# Parametric study

## Experimental set-up

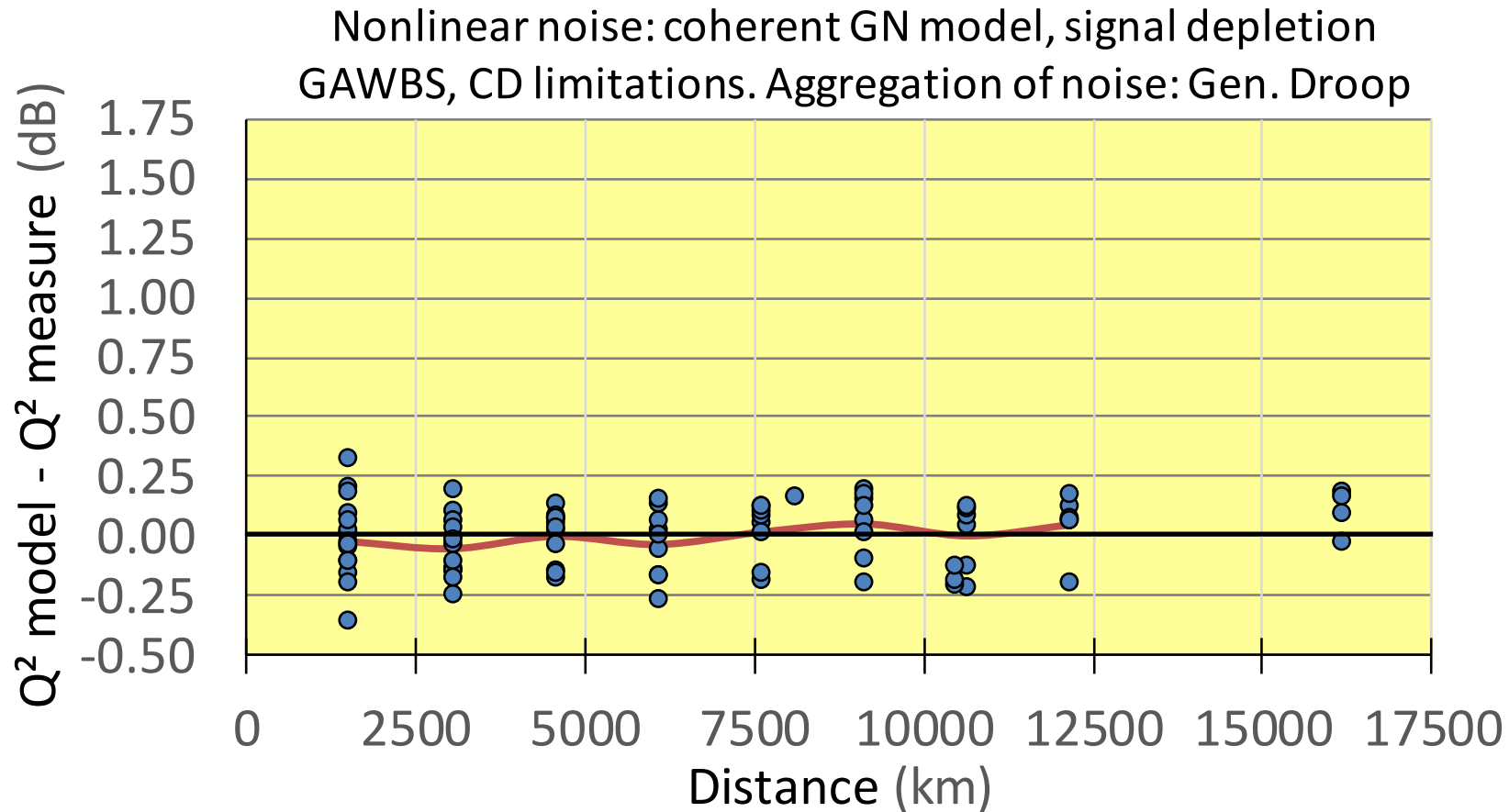
- 36nm loop testbed
  - CSF1 (110 $\mu\text{m}^2$  fiber)
- Real-time trials, calibrated in back to back
- **Various configurations** :



- **Measurements** of average  $\text{OSNR}_{\text{ASE}}$  and  $Q^2$  factor over the full C-band
- **Comparisons** with  $Q^2$  factor predictions, aware of  $\text{OSNR}_{\text{ASE}}$  measures

# Performance prediction accuracy

+ **Additional cases:** 45, 69Gbaud, QPSK, TPCS, 16 000km



Accurate prediction whatever the configuration

---

**Enough models and labs,  
let's design a cable**



# Main expectations from a customer

---

## Turn-key system

Guarantee capacity “per fiber”  
over 25 years

Incl. manuf. Margins, time-fluctuations,  
repairs, customer margins

Demonstrate capacity at  
commissioning, with terminals

---

## Open cable

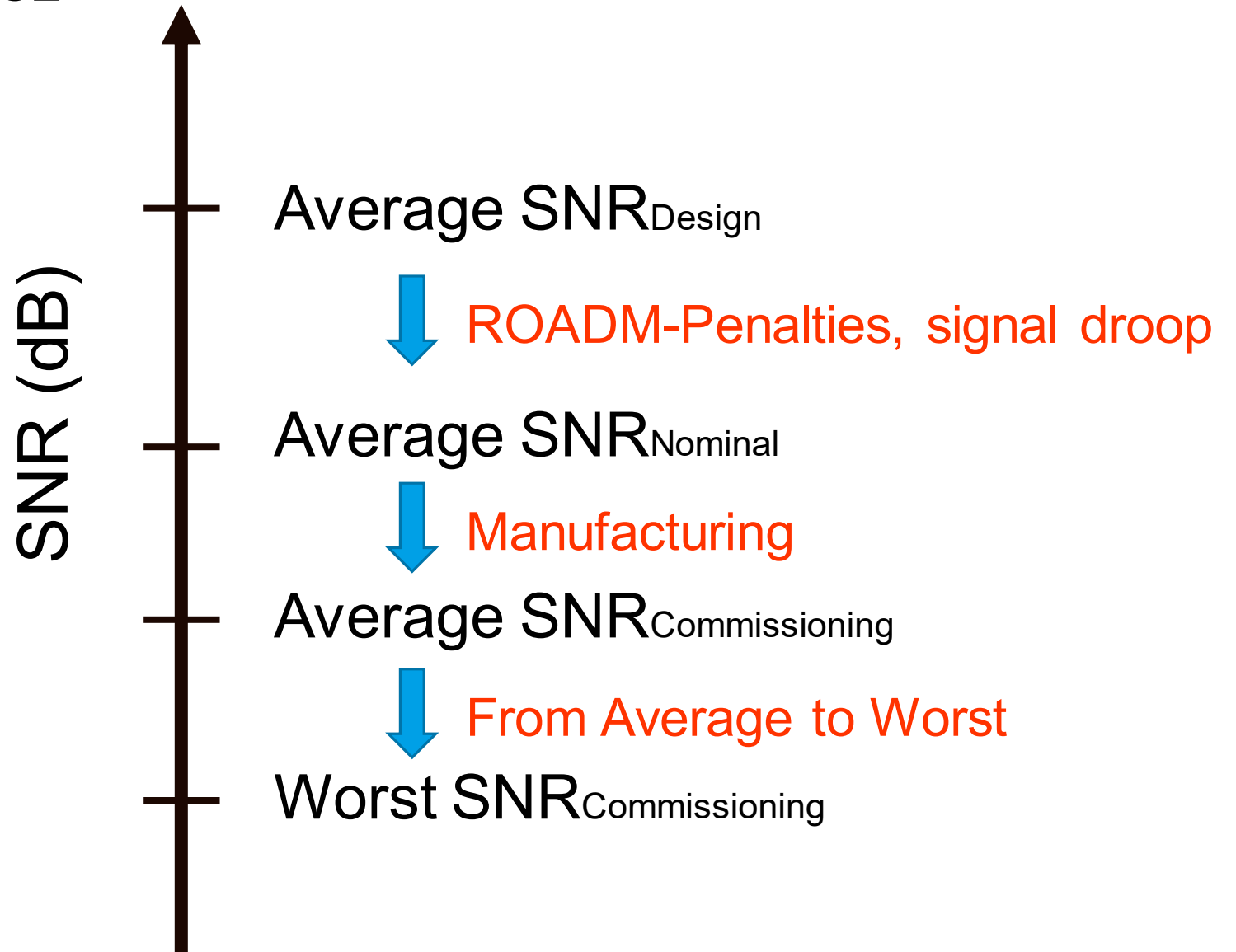
Commit on agreed cable  
characteristics that will enable  
further interconnection with SLTE:  
 $OSNR_{ASE}$ , GOSNR (NL?), flatness,  
expectable capacity over time

Demonstrate OSNR / GOSNR at  
commissioning

# Examples of characteristics to provide

DLS	Site A to Site B	
Fiber Pair Number	Z	
	BOL	EOL
<b>Commissioning Parameters</b>		
SNR <sub>ASE</sub> [dB] (Average & WC, under X conditions)		
GSNR [dB] (Average & WC, under X conditions)		
Slope of Tilt [dB/THz] (under Flat Tx conditions)		
Max Gain Deviation [dB] (under Flat Tx conditions)		
<b>System Specification</b>		
System Length [km]		
Nominal Span Length [km]		
Span Loss [dB]		
Accumulated Dispersion [ps/nm]		
Mean PMD [ps/√km]		
Mean PDL [dB]		
Number of Repeaters		
<b>Repeater Specification</b>		
Repeater TOP [dBm]		
Repeater Noise Figure [dB]		
Repeater Gain [dB]		
Data Passband [GHz]		
<b>Fiber Specification</b>		
Fiber Effective Area [μm <sup>2</sup> ]		
Fiber Dispersion @ 1550nm [ps/nm/km]		
Fiber Loss (Cabled) [dB/km]		
Fiber Dispersion Slope @ 1550nm [ps/nm <sup>2</sup> /km]		
Fiber Nonlinear Index [m <sup>2</sup> /W]		
<b>Repair Assumptions (BOL to EOL)</b>		
Total SNR <sub>ASE</sub> penalty for Deep Water Repairs [dB]		
Total SNR <sub>ASE</sub> penalty for Shallow Water Repairs [dB]		

# Different $\text{SNR}_{\text{ASE}}$



# Different GSNR

GSNR (dB)



Average GSNR<sub>Commissioning</sub>



From Average to Worst

Worst GSNR<sub>Commissioning</sub>

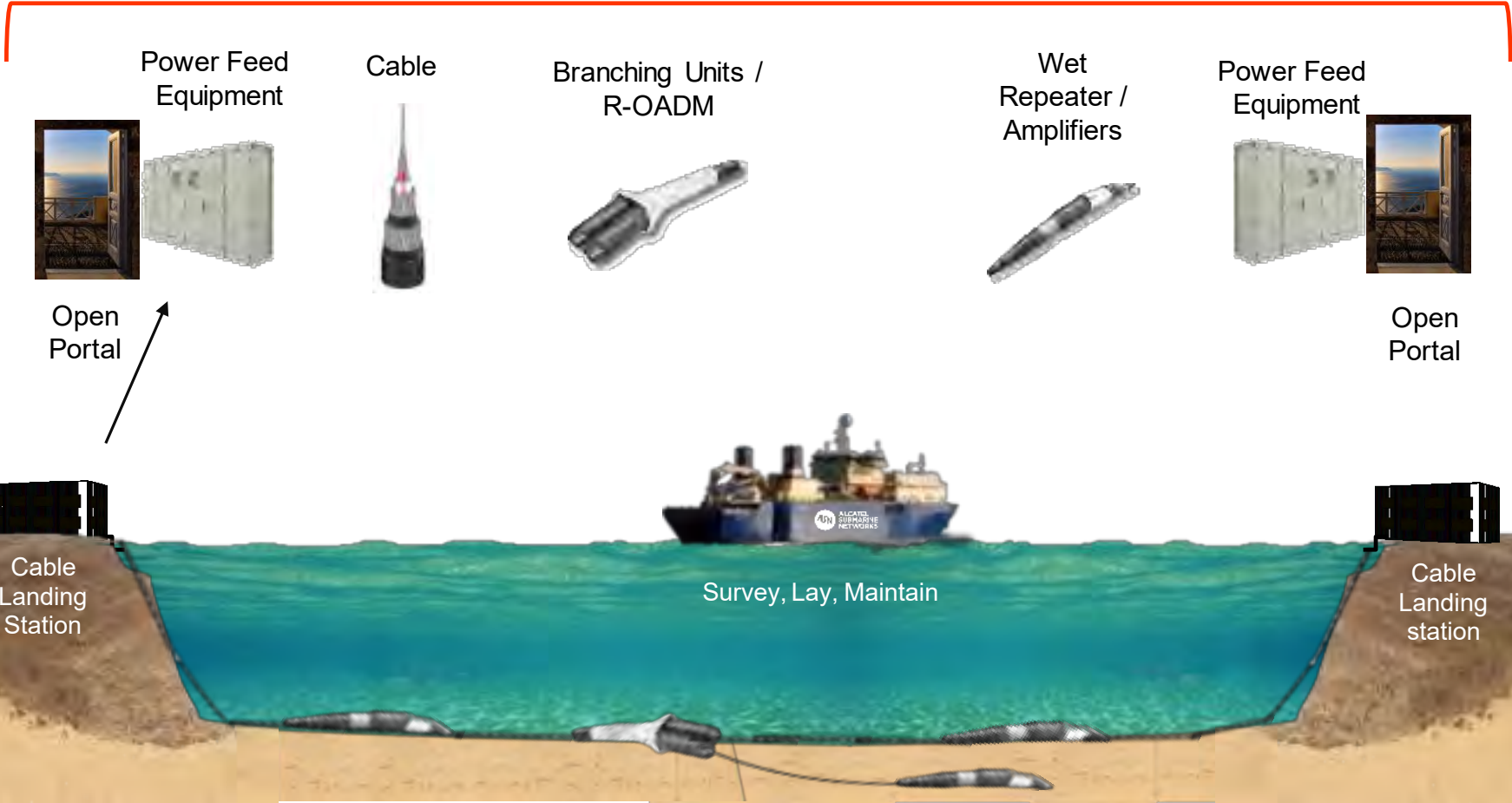
# End of life considerations

- Possible  $\text{SNR}_{\text{ASE}}$  degradations due to
  - Fiber ageing: typ. 0.002dB/km over 25 y
  - Pump failure:
    - Typ. 5% repeaters
    - 2pumps / FP => 3dB extra loss
  - Repairs
    - Deep sea: one repair every 1000km: splice loss + 2-3 times water-depth \* attenuation
    - Shallow water: one repair every ... 20km. Typical 0.5dB loss.

# MASTERCLASS: OPEN SUBMARINE NETWORKS

Name: **Brian LAVALLEE**, Pascal PECCI  
Company: **Ciena**, Alcatel Submarine Networks

**OPEN system**



OSNR

GOSNR

E2E design

# rep ?  
TOP ?

SNR

GSNR

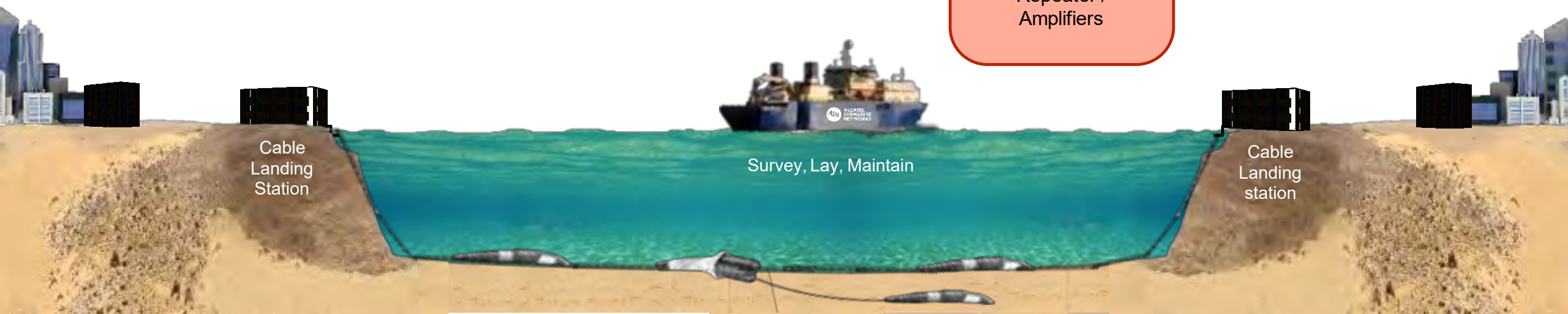
Open Portal



Open Portal



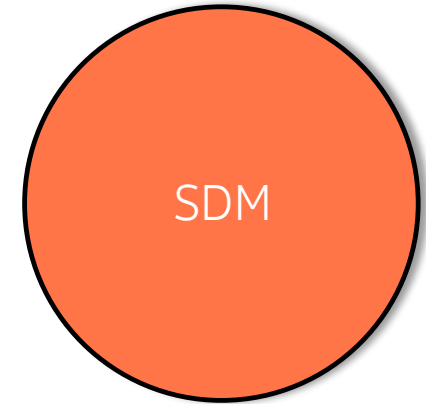
Wet Repeater / Amplifiers







# OUTLINES



- Many solutions to reach it
- SNR<sub>ASE</sub>
- Capacity upper bound limit

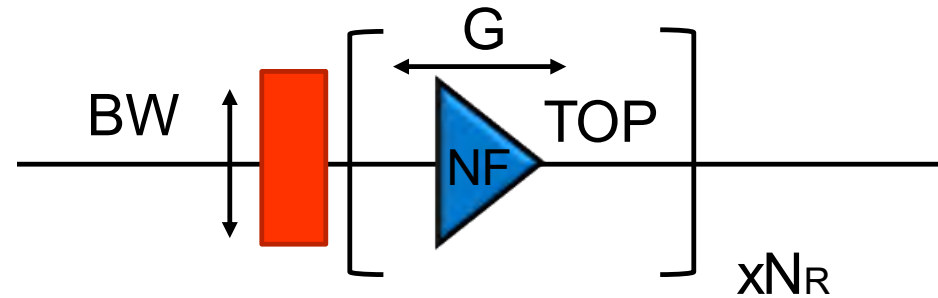
- Definition
- Comparison of 3 solutions
- Optimums

- Fibre
- Repeaters
- Conductor

Fibre capacity

Cable capacity

# OSNR<sub>ASE</sub> and SNR<sub>ASE</sub>



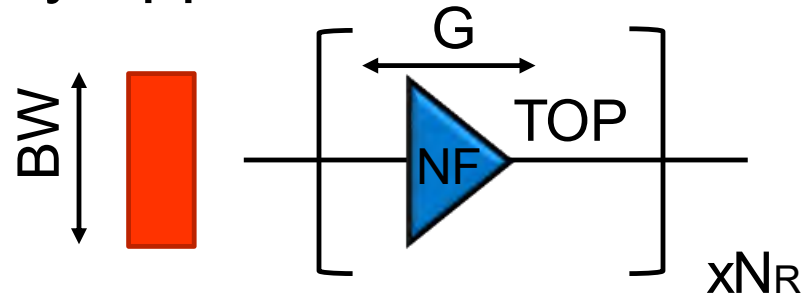
OSNR<sub>ASE</sub> targeted:  $OSNR_{ASE} = 18.0 \text{ dB}/0.1\text{nm}$  for 120ch

↓  $-10 \cdot \text{Log}(37.5/12.5)$

$SNR_{ASE} = 13.2 \text{ dB}$

BW is chosen to be 4500 GHz or 36nm

# SNR<sub>ASE</sub>: Capacity upper bound limit



$$C_{upperbound}(Tb/s) = 2 \cdot B(\text{THz}) \cdot \log_2 [1 + SNR_{ASE}(\text{lin})]$$

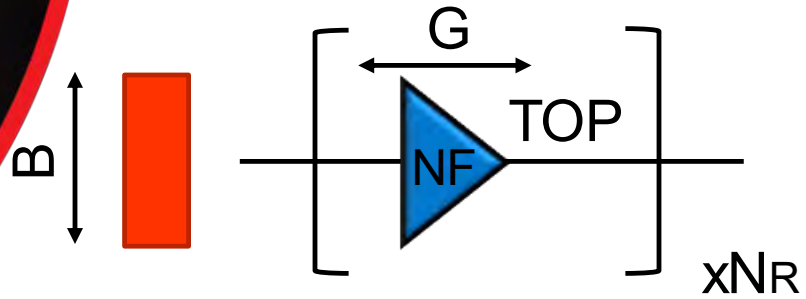
with

$$SNR_{ASE}(dB) = 38.9 - 10 \times \text{Log}(BW_{\text{THz}}) + \text{TOP} - G - \text{NF} - N_R$$

All WET parameters considered in the upper bound capacity : TOP, G, N<sub>R</sub>, NF, BW

0.1nm = 12.5GHz @ 1550nm

SNR<sub>ASE</sub>: Capacity upper bound limit

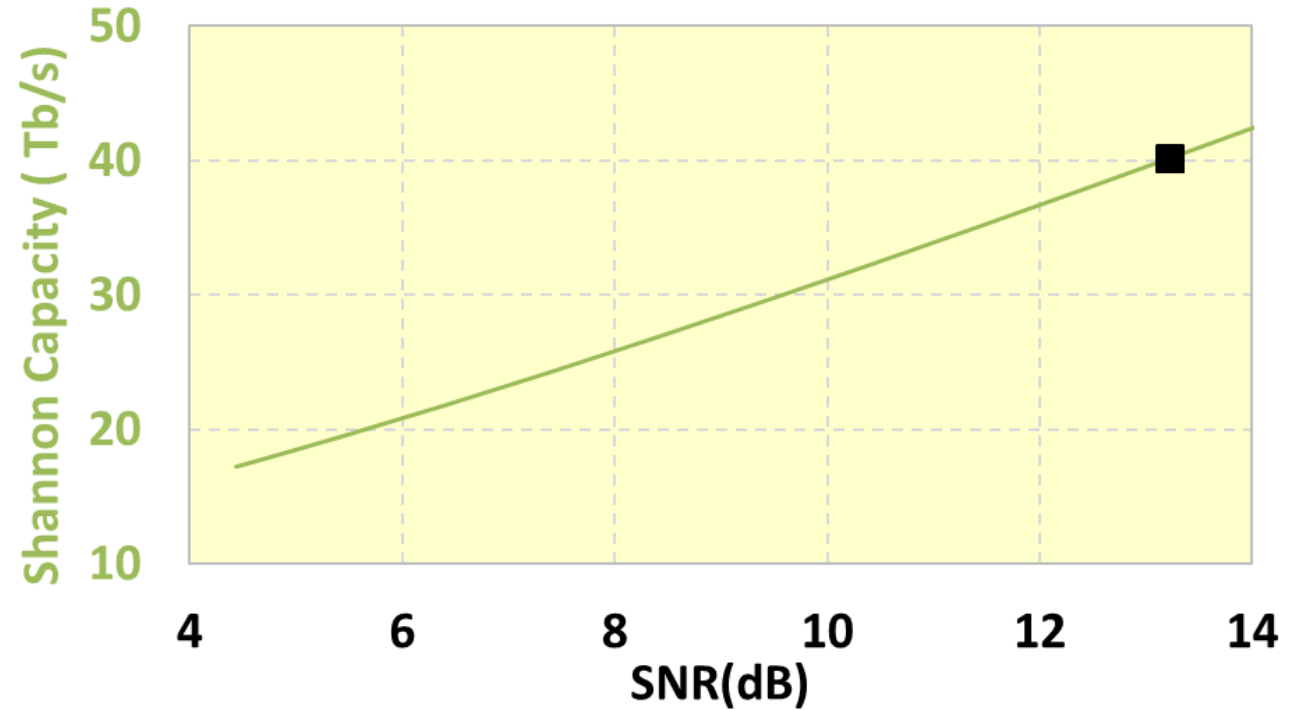


$$SNR_{ASE} = 13.2 \text{ dB}$$



$$C_{upperbound} = 40.2 \text{ Tb/s per fiber}$$

$$SE = C/BW = 8.9 \text{ b/s/Hz}$$



Different solutions to reach the same SNR<sub>ASE</sub>

$$SNR_{ASE}(dB) = 38.9 - 10 \times \log(BW_{THz}) + TOP - G - NF - N_R$$

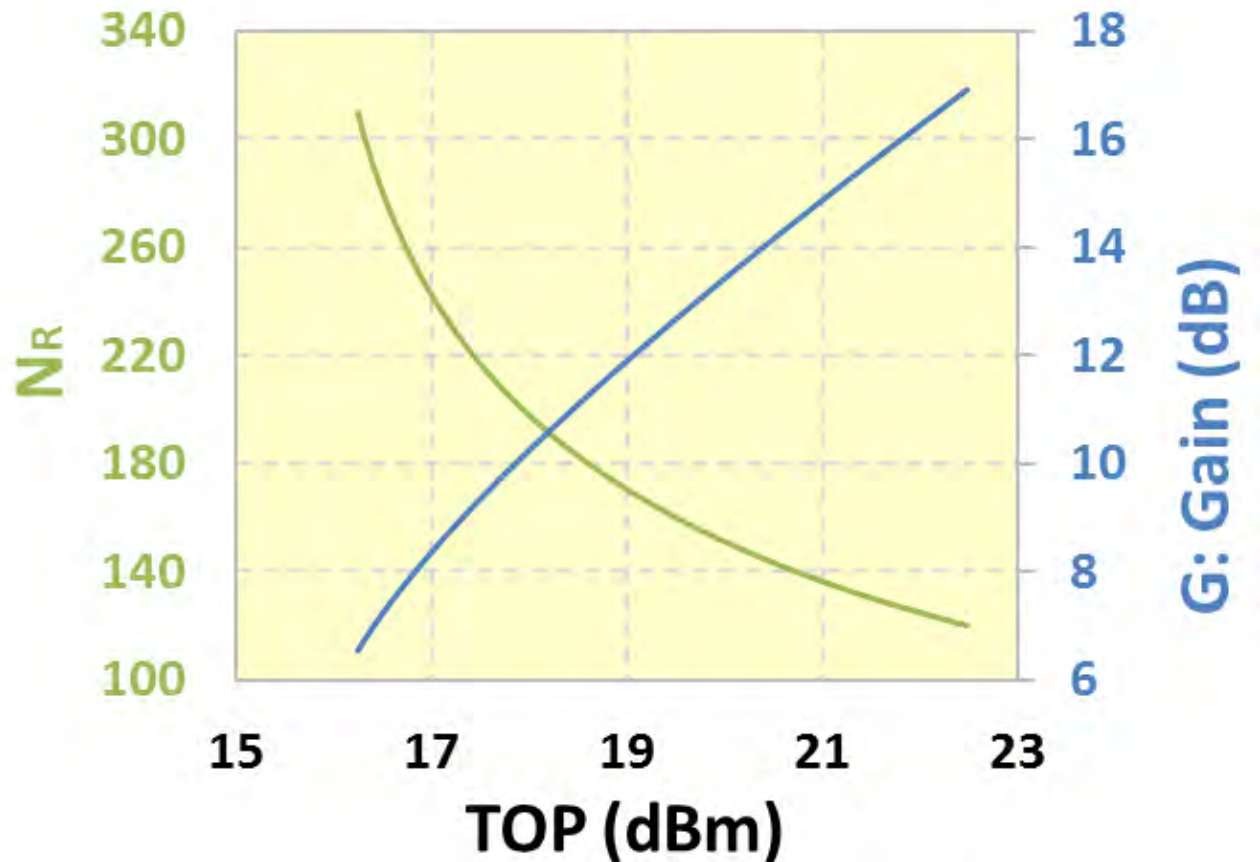
SNR<sub>ASE</sub>(dB) 13.2 dB

Distance = 13 000 km

Fibre losses = 0.156 dB/km

16.0 dBm < TOP < 22.5 dBm

NF = 4.0dB (constant)

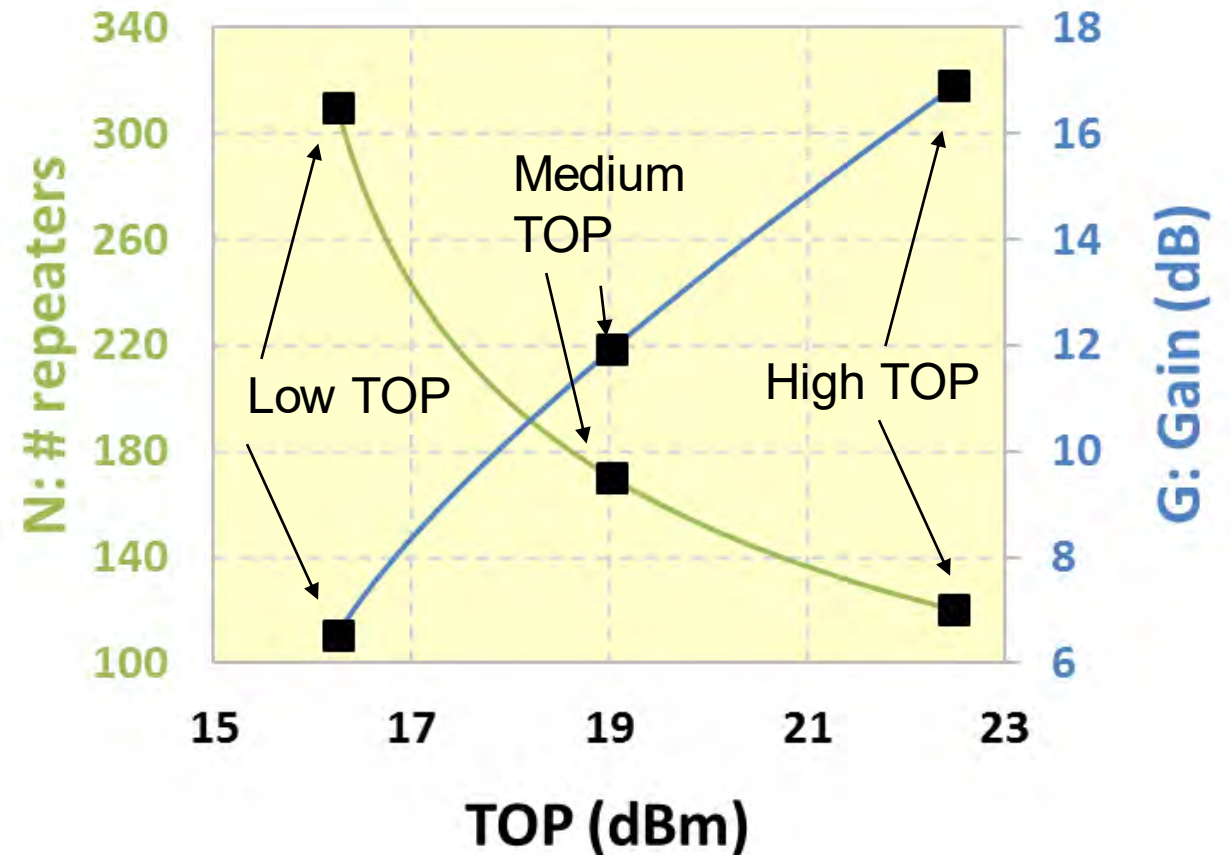


Many solutions: 120 < N < 310 & 6.5 < Gain < 17.0 dB

# Different solutions to reach the same $SNR_{ASE}$

$$SNR_{ASE} (dB) = 13.2$$

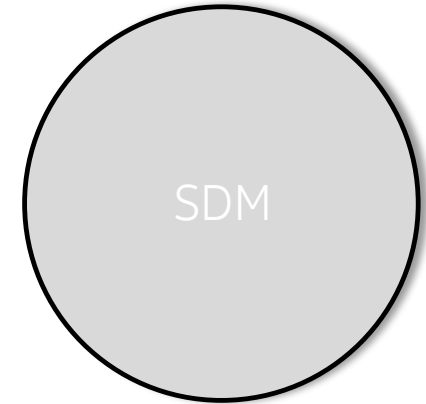
	TOP (dBm)	# rep	Gain (dB)
High TOP	22.5	120	16.9
Medium TOP	19.0	170	11.9
Low TOP	16.2	310	6.5



3 solutions will be studied. How can we differentiate them ?



# OUTLINES



- Many solutions to reach it
- SNR<sub>ASE</sub>
- Capacity upper bound limit

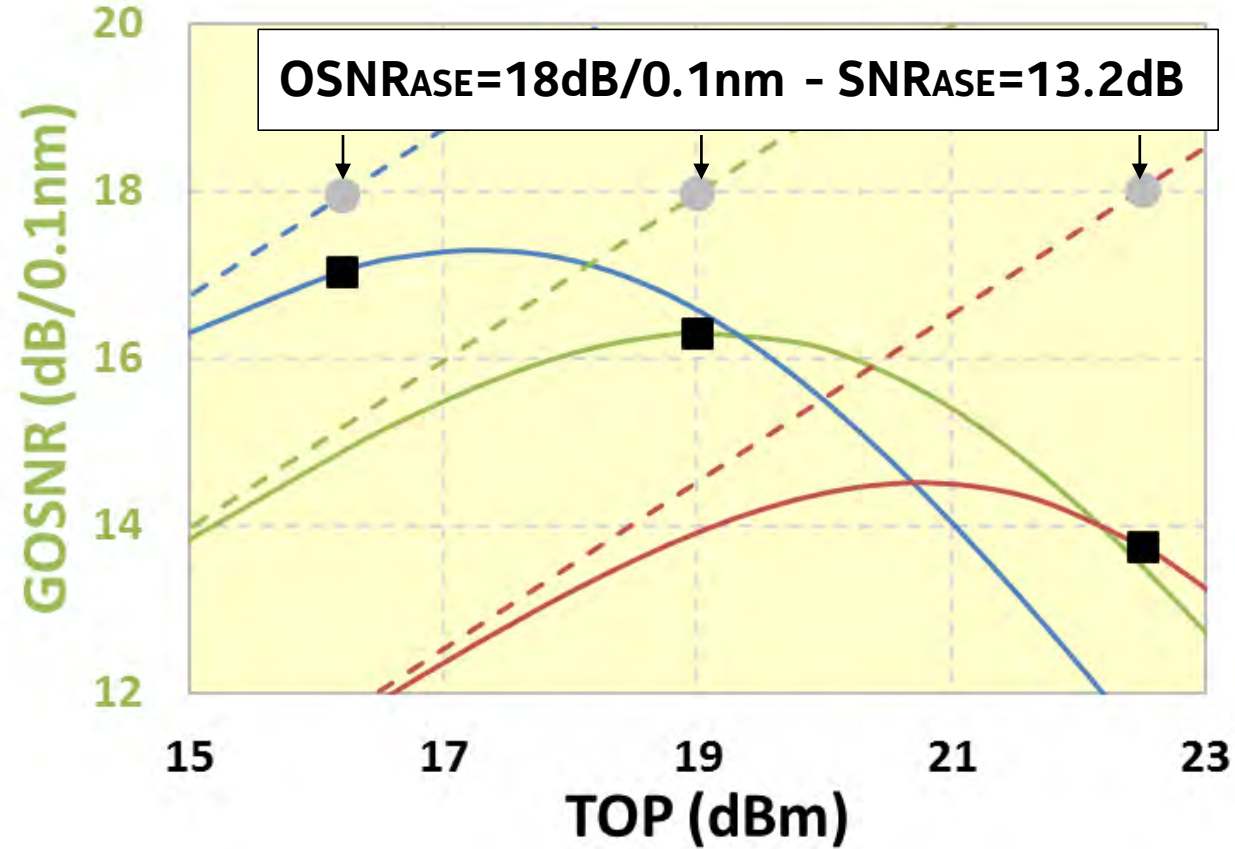
- Definition
- Comparison of 3 solutions
- Optimums

- Fibre
- Repeaters
- Conductor

Fibre capacity

Cable capacity

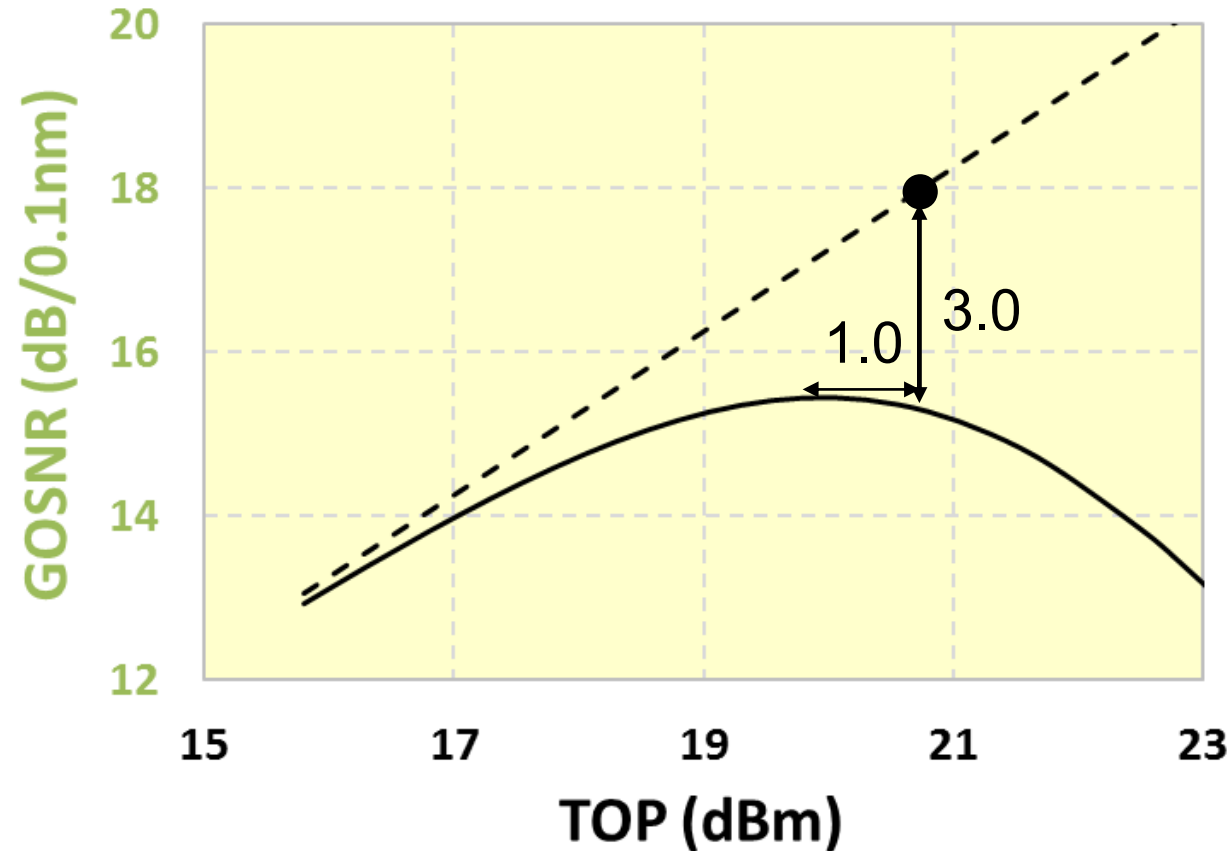
# Different solutions to reach the same SNR<sub>ASE</sub>



	TOP (dBm)	# rep	Gain (dB)
High TOP	22.5	120	16.9
Medium TOP	19.0	170	11.9
Low TOP	16.2	310	6.5



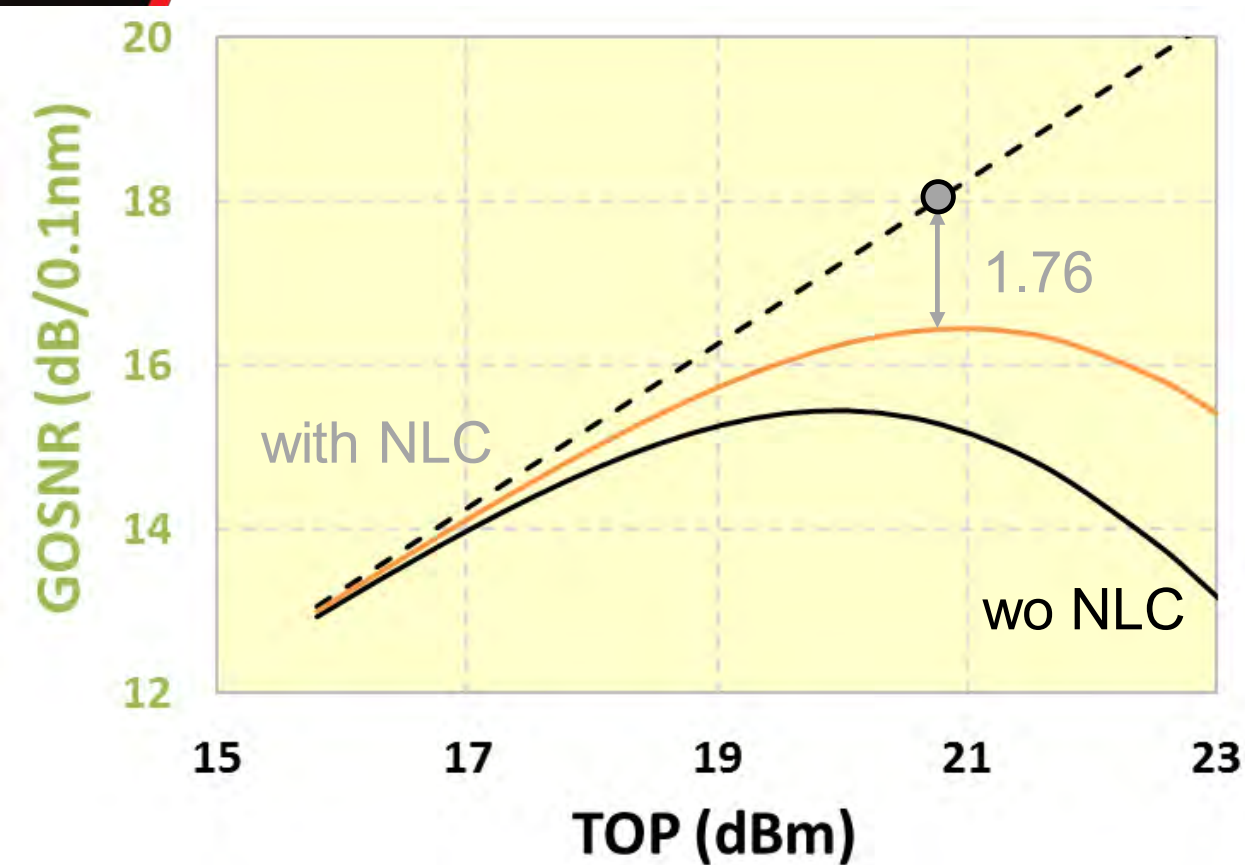
## Design rule



Define a  $SNR_{ASE}$

Define the max amount of NLE based on the amount of NLE that transponders will compensate in X years

-> Only one solution



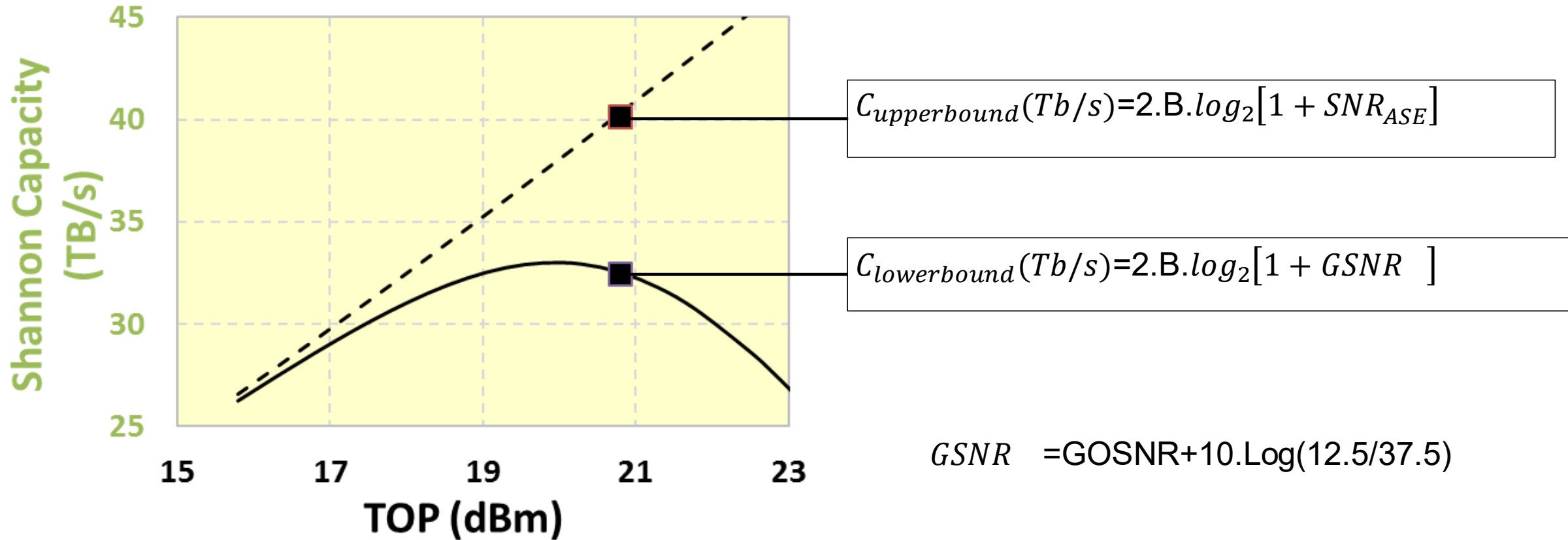
Define an SNR<sub>RASE</sub>

Define the max level of NLE

-> Only one solution

13.2 dB	TOP (dBm)	N	Gain (dB)
Opt TOP	20.8	14 0	14.5

# Shannon capacity: Lower and upper bounds



Upper and lower capacities can characterize the WET part of submarine network

# Optical Design reached

## Inputs:

- 13 000 km
- $SNR_{ASE}=13.2$  dB
- $BW=4500$  GHz or 36nm
- Max level of NLE=3dB
- $150\mu m^2 / 0.156$  dB/km

## Outputs:

- 140 repeaters
- $TOP=20.8$ dBm
- $Gain=14.5$ dB
- Capacity per FP=32.4 Tb/s

## Hypothesis:

Today's SLTE can reach 60% of Shannon capacity.

Our cable is a 5FP cable.

## Cable capacity:

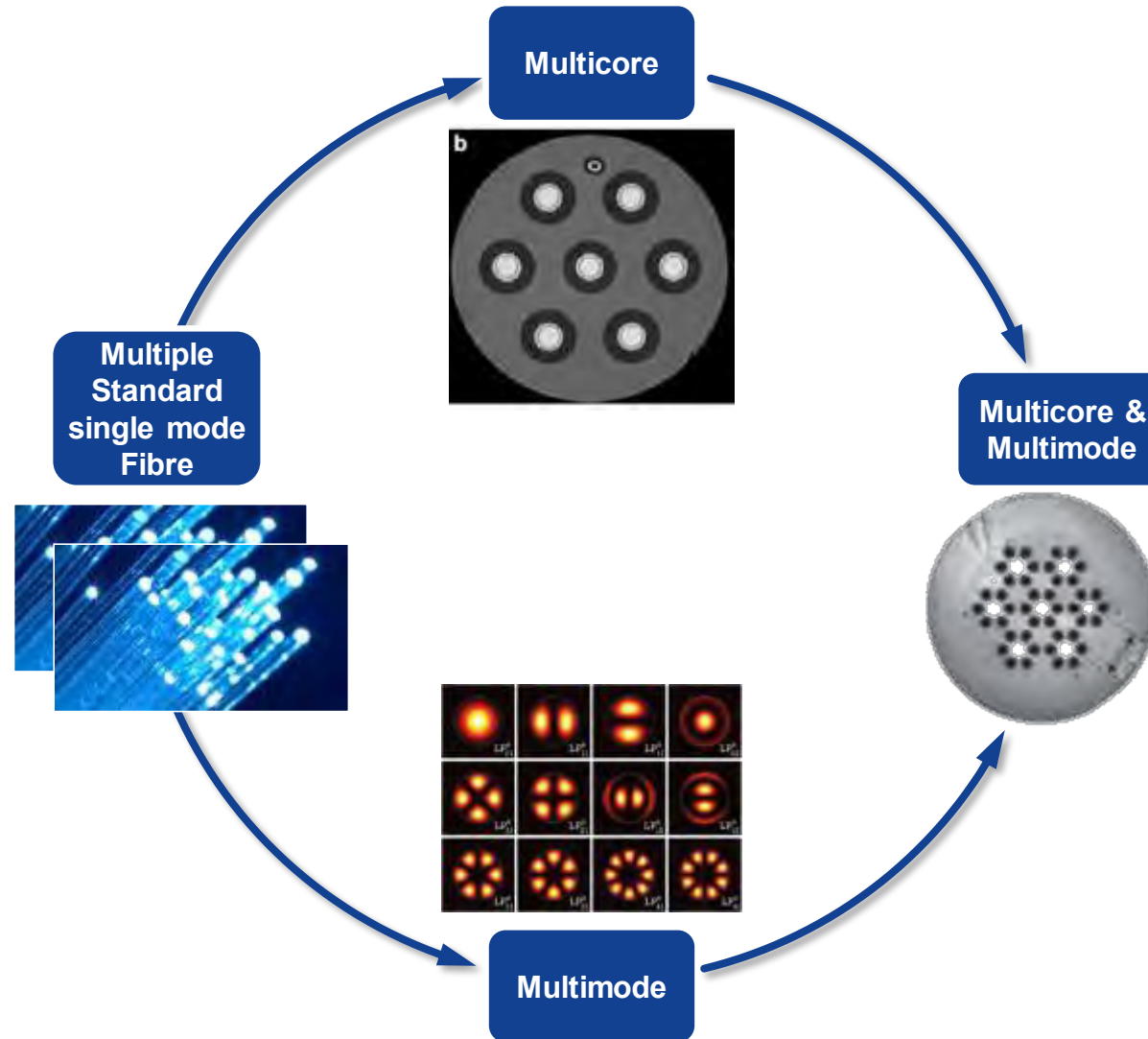
Cable capacity=5 x 60% x 32.4T

**Cable capacity~100 Tb/s**

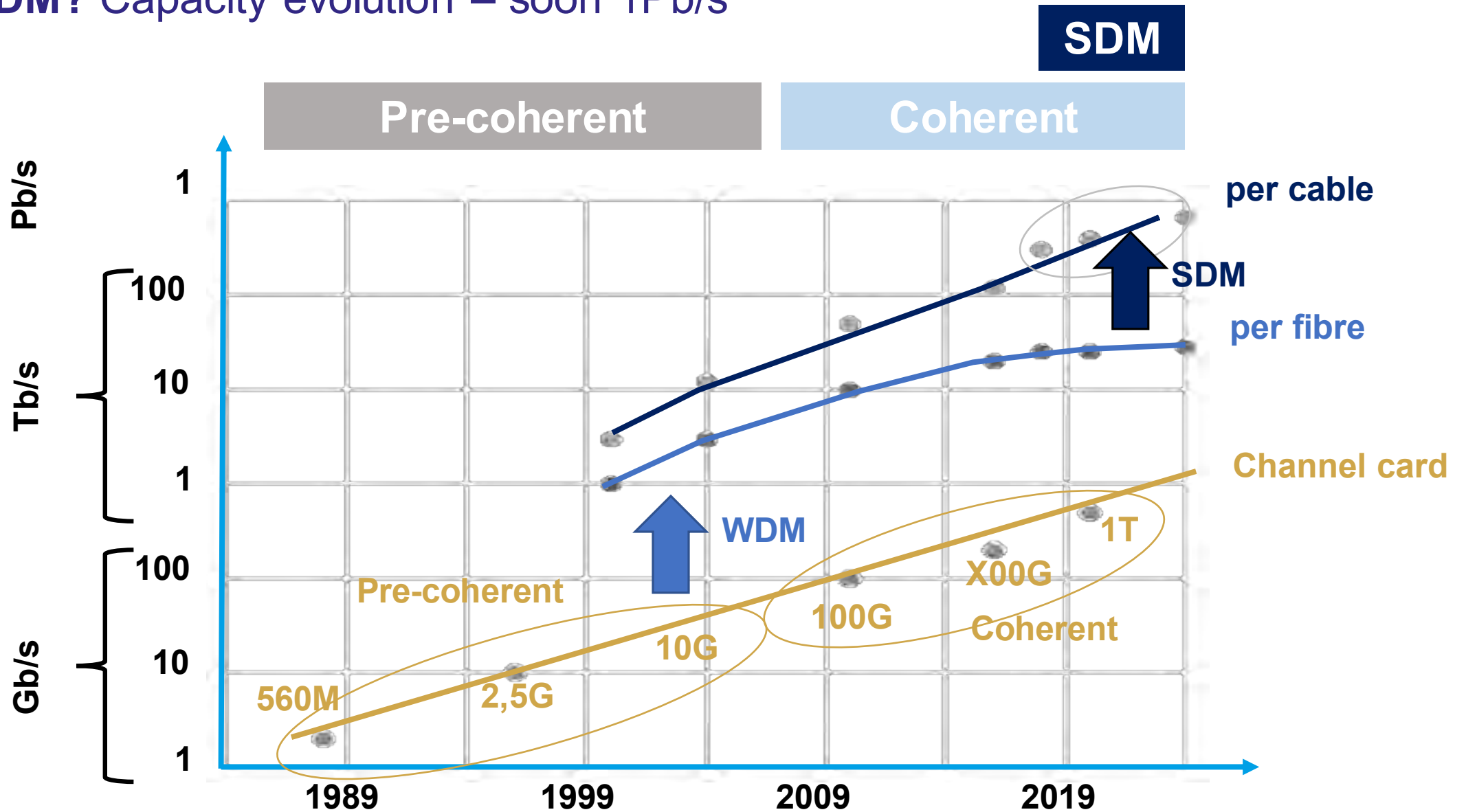
**What about power efficiency ?**

# INCREASING SYSTEM CAPACITY & EFFICIENCY WITH SDM

How can SDM be achieved?



# WHY SDM? Capacity evolution – soon 1Pb/s



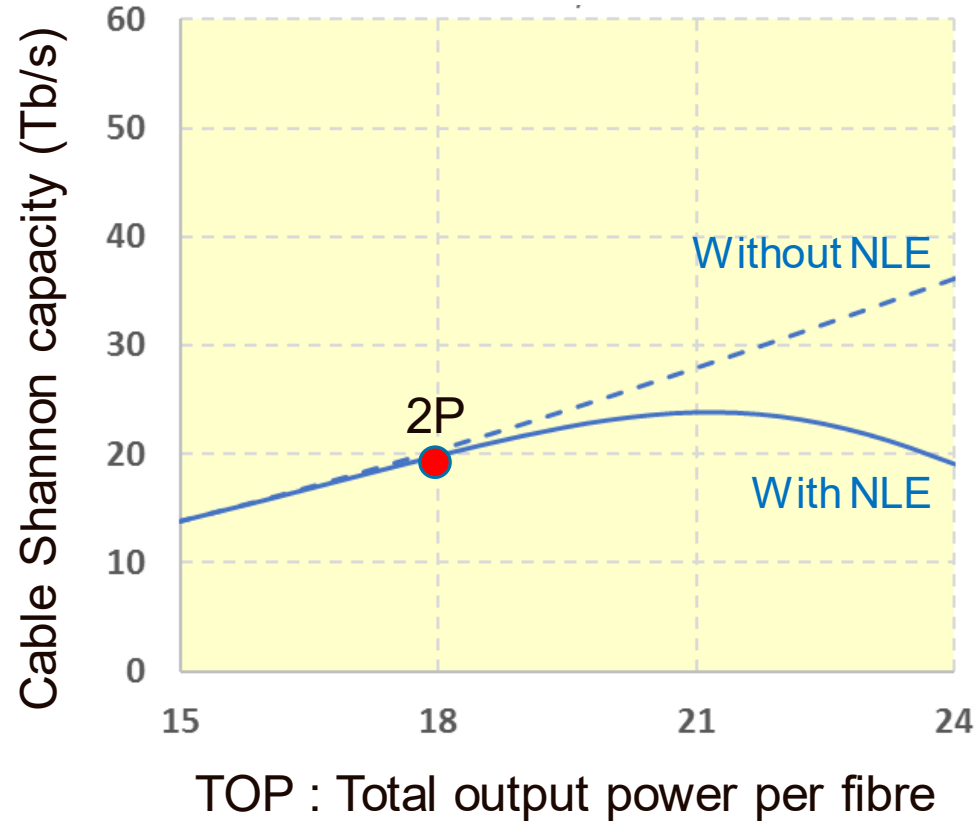
# WHY SDM?

Higher capacity for the same power

Cable with  
1 fibre pair



● 20Tb/s



What are the options to increase capacity by doubling the # of pumps ?

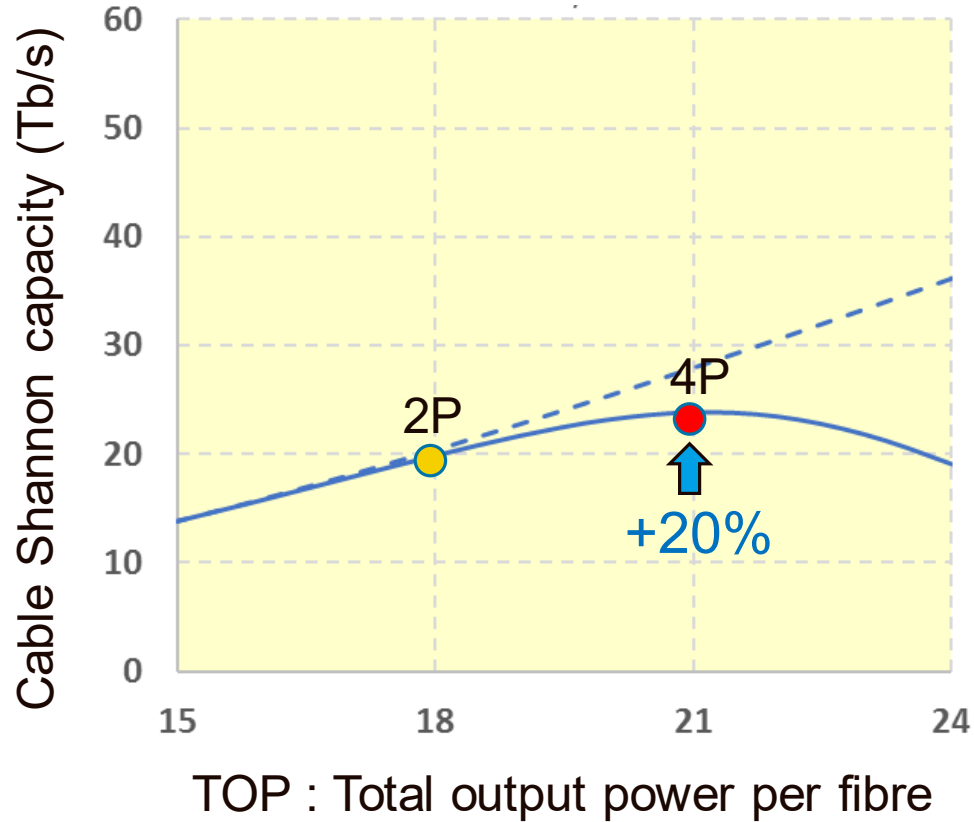
# WHY SDM?

Higher capacity for the same power

Cable with  
1 fibre pair



● 24Tb/s



## Option 1:

Increase the Power (TOP, OSNR<sub>ASE</sub>)

→ +20% fibre capacity (best case)



# WHY SDM?

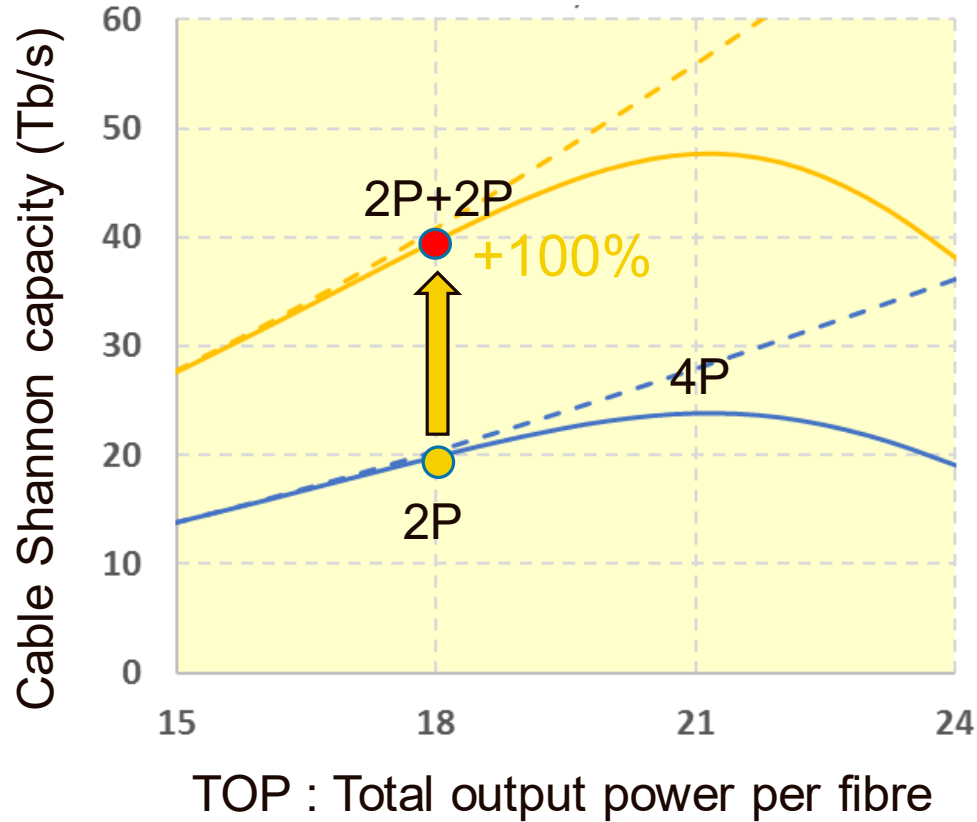
Higher capacity for the same power

Cable with  
2 fibre pairs



$A_{\text{eff}} 150\mu\text{m}^2$

● 40Tb/s



**Option 2a:**

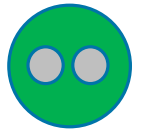
+ Add a fibre

→ +100% fibre capacity (best case)

# WHY SDM?

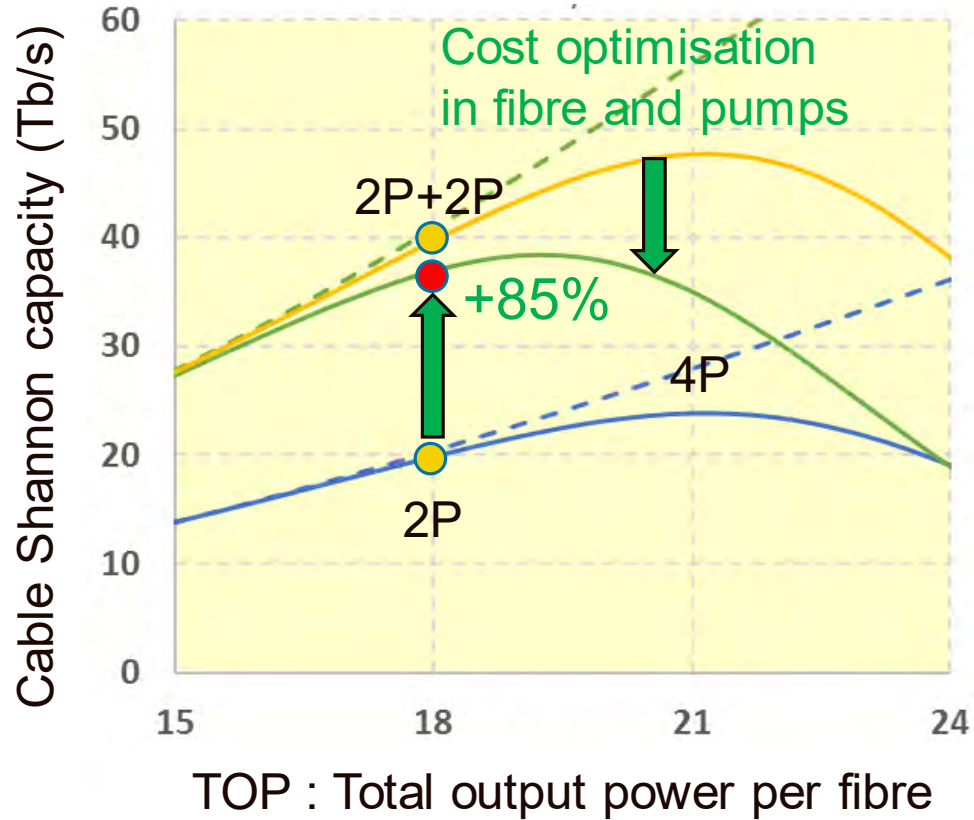
Higher capacity (+50%) for the same power

Cable with  
2 fibre pairs



$A_{\text{eff}} 80\mu\text{m}^2$

● 37Tb/s



## Option 2b:

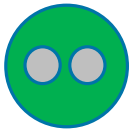
- + Add a fibre
- + Change type of fibre

→ +85% fibre capacity (best case)

# WHY SDM?

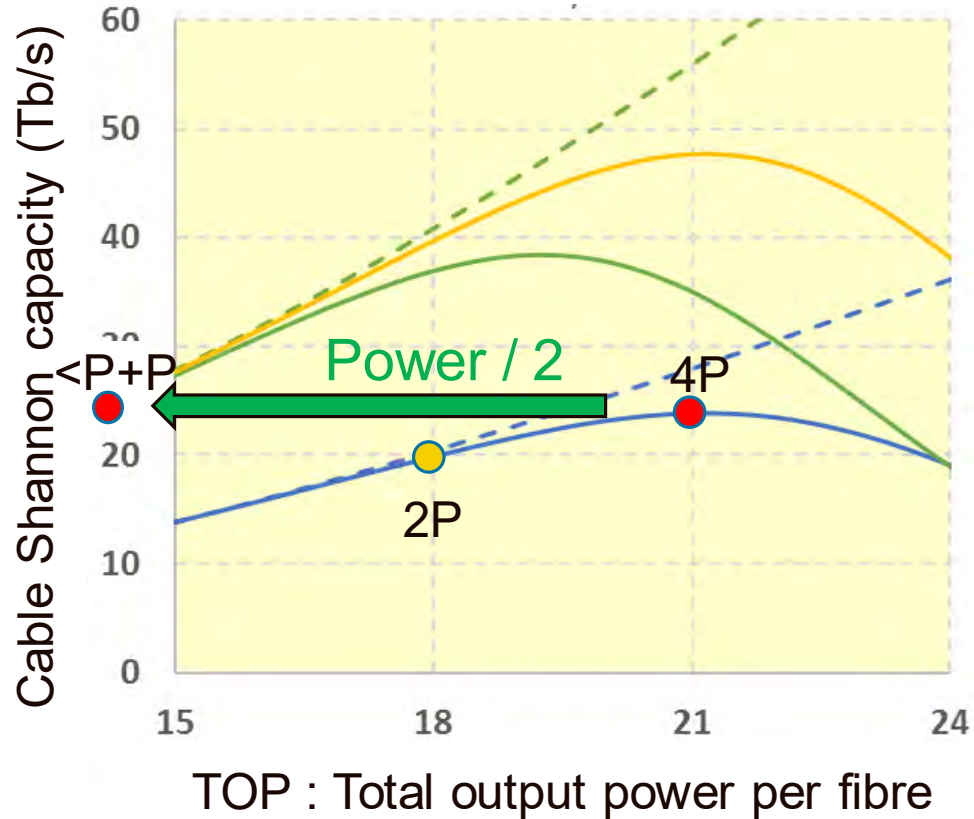
Same capacity for lower power (-50%)

Cable with  
2 fibre pairs



$A_{\text{eff}} 80\mu\text{m}^2$

● 24Tb/s



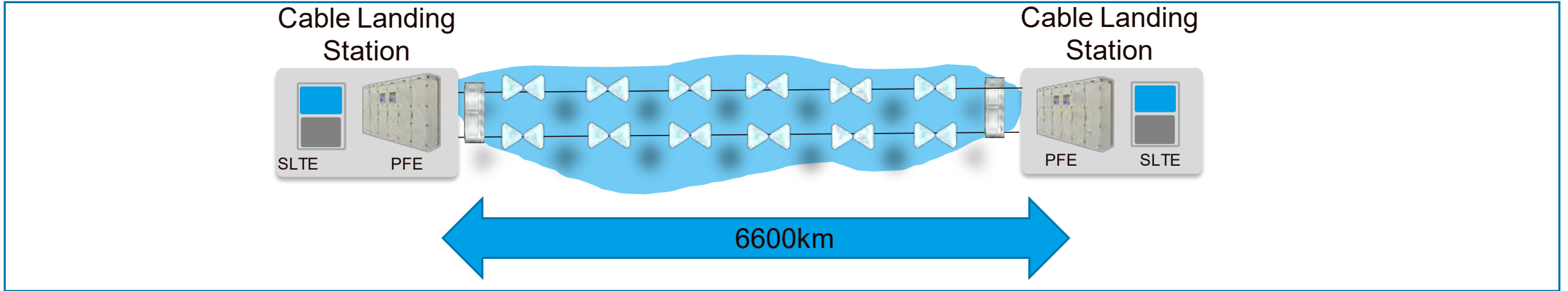
## Option 3:

- + Add a fibre
- + Change type of fibre
- + Share the pump power
- + Reduce the current
- same cable capacity

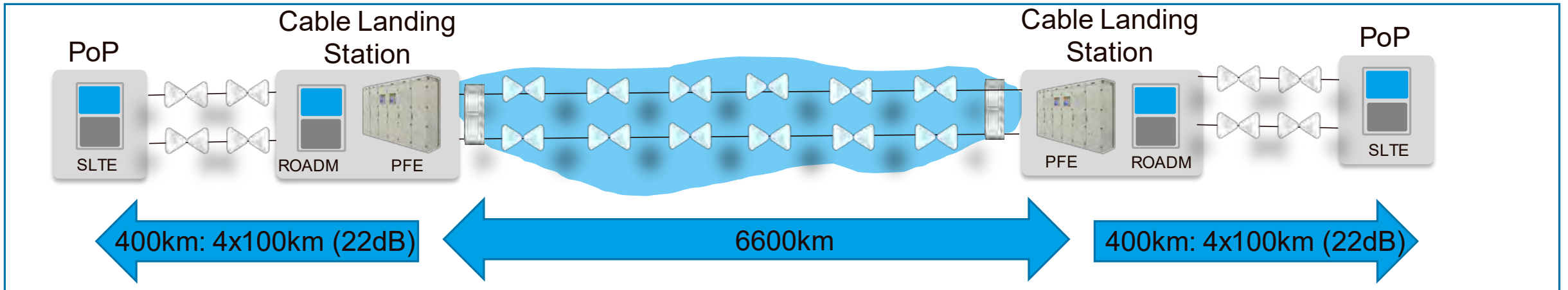
# WHY SDM?

Extension to POP

## Standard - 8FP – 160 T cable

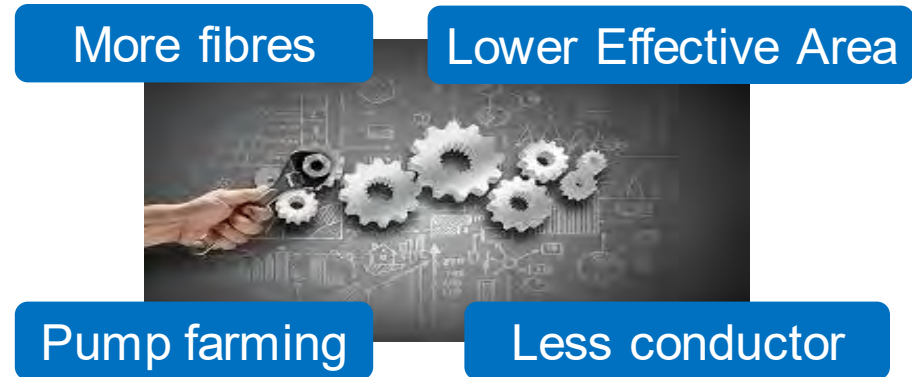


## SDM - 12FP – 160 T cable



# SDM Benefits

- Optimised \$/bit compared to traditional approach (max OSNR per fiber pair)
- Technical: Extend the limit of traditional approach
  - Cable capacity increase
  - Higher reachable distance
  - Increase speed of manufacturing
- Business
  - Fiber pair as a new granularity: Easier to swap/sell/manage
  - POP to POP connectivity



# Future challenges of subsea optical cables

- Higher and higher capacities
- At reduced cost / bit
- Power efficiency
- Spatial parallelism
- Integration
- More monitoring and automation
  
- Global optimization: wet + dry + marine + ...

Zero loss “fibers”  
Zero margin operation  
Zero nonlinearities

# Thank you

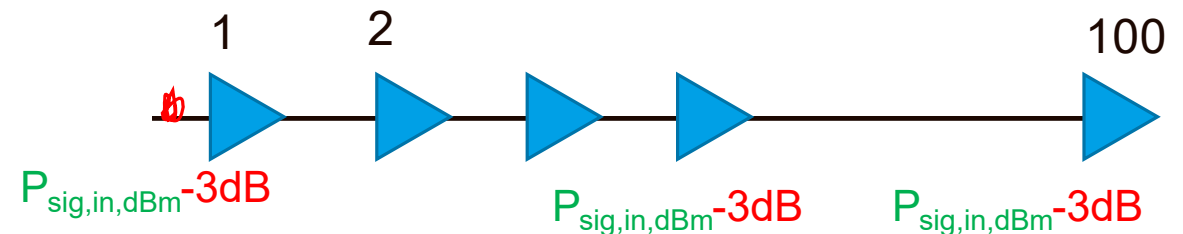
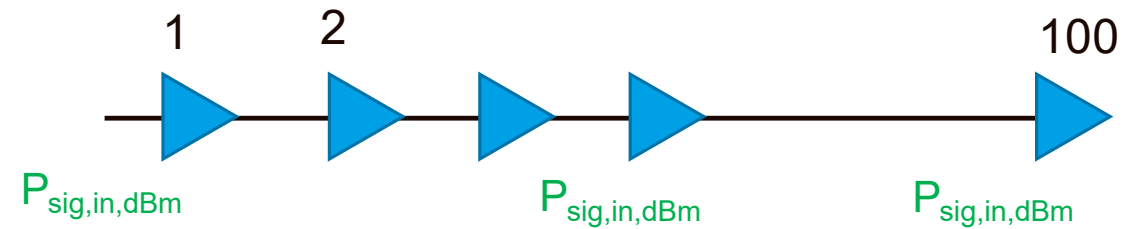
---

# Constant total power vs constant gain amplifiers

## Case study: 100 repeated sections, 3dB extra loss at first section

### Gain mode amplifiers

- **Nominal :**
  - Constant signal power
  - $SNR_{ref,dB} = K + P_{dBm} - 20dB$
- **Degradation at span 1**
  - Signal power -3dB at each span
  - Doubled noise per span
  - **SNR penalty = 3dB**



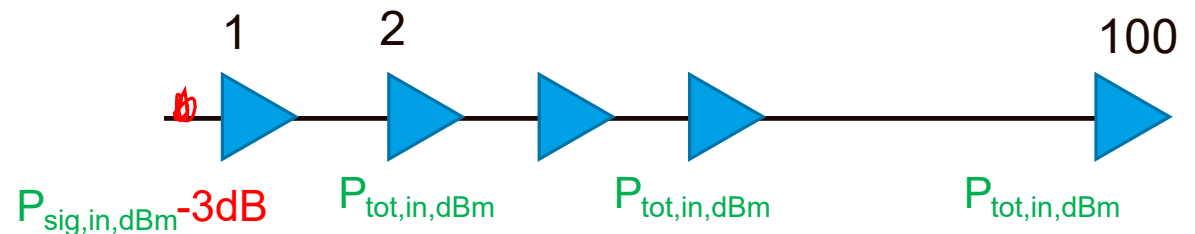
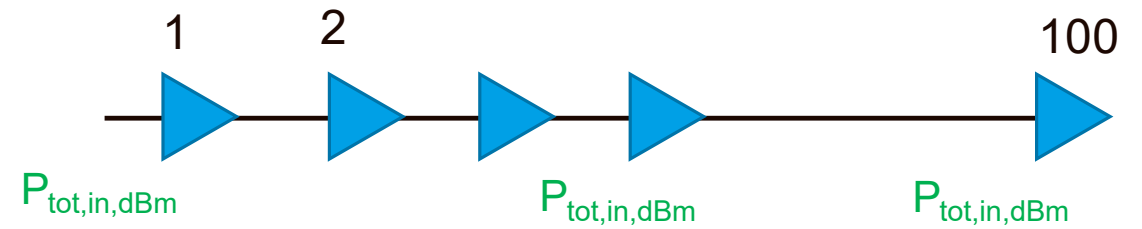


# Constant total power vs constant gain amplifiers

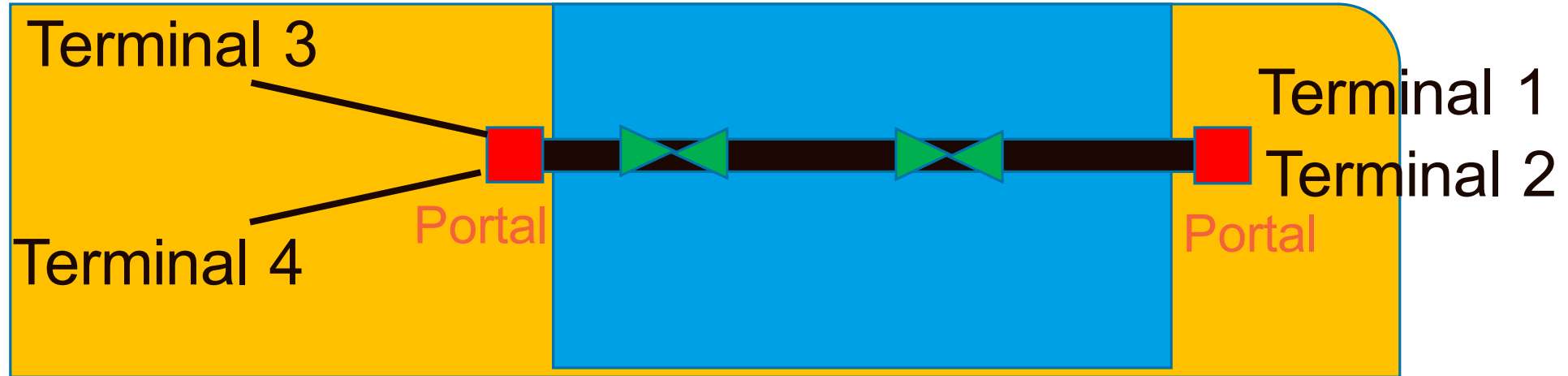
## Case study: 100 repeated sections, 3dB extra loss at first section

### Gain mode amplifiers

- **Nominal :**
  - Slight signal + ASE droop
  - $SNR_{power} = SNR_{gain} - 0.5$
  - Typically 0.1dB penalty
- **Degradation at span 1**
  - Signal power -3dB at 1<sup>st</sup> ampli
  - Equivalent to 1 more section
  - $Pen = 10 * \log\left(\frac{101}{100}\right) = 0.04dB$



# Submarine portal



The portal is the frontier between the open cable from one vendor  
And terminals, extensions from other vendors

Primary mission: supervision of the cable, (band loading with ASE)  
Can be adapted to multi-terminals per cable/fiber, extensions



# System Planning in Developing Markets

# Table on Contents - System Planning in Developing Markets

1. Economic Market Analysis today and in 10 years
2. Telecoms Market Analysis today and in 10 years
3. Cable Station Design
4. Cable Station Operations
5. Government / Licensing Relations
6. Marine Maintenance
7. System Design Considerations

# Market Analysis Today and in 10 years

1. GDP trends
  - a. Be aware of any technology, demographic, legal changes that can change your model.
  - b. Trends linear or polynomial?
2. STEM graduates per annum
  - a. University expense per anticipated income trends
  - b. Innovation from technology or demographics that can change your model.
3. Mobile broadband available to population\*
4. Kms of fiber per person ratio
5. Internet exchange maturity, traffic ratio per population, traffic ratios in country vs. international.

# Market Analysis Today and in 10 years - cont.

## 1. Carrier Neutral Data Centers

- a. Amount of critical IT load (MWs) available in country trend
- b. Power sustainability (% renewable and green)
- c. Power availability (timelines and MTBF)
- d. Land ownership
- e. Geography, environmental, weather, sustainability

## 2. Literacy rates

- a. Reading literacy rate
- b. Rate graduating with at least a grade 12 education
- c. Coding literacy rate\*

## 3. Existing cable market

- a. Price trends per 10G / 100G / 1T
- b. Telcos willing to swap and trade

# Market Analysis Today and in 10 years - cont.

Do the previous two slides with your futures hat on - how will this country / region change in 10 years?

- Trendline from previous data.
- Inject strategic initiatives discounting for probability of success.
- Run Monte Carlo simulations to narrow down your assumptions.

# Cable Station Design - Developing Markets

## Site Selection and Land Choice

- a. Zoning
- b. Ownership
- c. At coast or PFE at coast with CS inland?
  - i. \$150,000 / km for concrete encased conduit x two paths
  - ii. \$50,000 / km for direct burial but this is a risk for critical infra.
  - iii. ROW fees.
- d. Expansion space around your cable station for future use.
- e. BMH and conduits to your station / PFE
- f. Access to skilled labor
- g. Diversity from other assets
- h. Minimize distance to continental shelf and BU
- i. Insurance on the property and annual cost



# Cable Station Design - Developing Markets Cont

## Electrical

- a. Deviation and trend of power costs.
- b. Availability of high voltage feeds.
  - i. HV via tower tends to have higher reliability than LV delivered by pole.
  - ii. Timing for construction of the substation
- c. Substation (build yourself or have power company manage - trade-offs)\*
- d. Genset (minimum dual gensets - N+N / Active + Active)
- e. Power storage
  - i. Two tanks if possible to clean old fuel while still providing protection.
  - ii. Determine tank size by fuel consumption rate over 96 hours + buffer.
  - iii. Filtering/warming if needed.
  - iv. Choose gensets that have trained local experts + supply chain for parts.
- f. Power distribution
  - i. Battery strings should be available for 8 hours
  - ii. N+N

# Cable Station Design - Developing Markets Cont

## Mechanical

- a. Choose a cooling technology for the market
  - i. DX for high humidity markets
  - ii. Chillers can be used for medium to low humidity markets.
  - iii. Choose technology based on the environment (sand, humid, dry, artic)
  - iv. Building Management System (BMS) should be tied into OSS if possible.
- b. Seismic zone considerations, engineer based on the zone
- c. Install and monitor leak detection sensors around electrical gear inclusive of roof.
- d. Choose materials to match the useful life of the asset and environment
- e. Ensure your drainage can move water away from the site at 1.25x peak historical amounts.
- f. Be aware of climate change - PFE / CS should be a few meters above sea level if possible and engineered to withstand more dramatic temperature / weather shifts than historical.
- g. Local permitting should be studied.
  - i. The best designs sometimes cannot be implemented because of construction code challenges.
  - ii. Choose architecture of sites that match the environment or have positive historical significance.

# Cable Station Design - Developing Markets Cont

## Security

- a. Have a physical perimeter around the site.
  - i. Concertina wire / barbed tape on top of a two meter high fence.
  - ii. Automobile blocking bollards
  - iii. Motion sensors around the security perimeter.
  - iv. Mantraps to control entry
  - v. Biometrics for recording
- b. Cloud based security system with local backup.
  - i. Cameras should not have any non-monitored areas.
  - ii. Cameras should be hard wired to a security office.
- c. Use a cloud based OSS to prevent cyber attacks.

# Cable Station Design - Developing Markets Cont

## Local Telecoms Considerations

1. Have 8 x 4" / 100mm duct times two diverse paths to the property boundary
  - a. Insert pull ropes / lines for ease of install later
  - b. Build a large lockable vault near the cable station property line and near telecoms ROW.
2. Site should be carrier neutral for anyone to pull fiber into
3. Dual right of way (ROW) for local telcos to enter (road, rail, gas pipe, or OPGW)
4. Call before you dig and/or civil penalties for fiber disturbance should be sponsored and/or advocated for with government.
5. Fiber should be sourced / placed to other cable stations in market for backup and restoration.

# Cable Station Design - Developing Markets Cont

## Seaward telecoms considerations

1. Maintain route position lists and marine maps.
2. Liaise with fisherman in market.
3. Audit and maintain BMH, ROW, and any HDD
4. Armoring considerations

# Cable Station Operations

1. Operations support software should be in the cloud with a local backup
2. Security (physical and cyber) should be audited annually.
3. Training courses should be recorded for future new employees.
4. Mechanical, Electrical, and Telecoms equipment should follow regular maintenance schedules.
5. Attend supplier training and be tested on operations & maintenance. Have a succession management plan.
6. CAD / Document building allocations, as-builts, and designs.

# Cable Station Operations - Cont

1. Own methods and procedures for the site.
2. AIS monitoring for marine outages
3. Monitor backhaul fiber (either via OTDR or Acoustic sensing)
4. Maintain outage escalation list as well as methods and procedures.
5. Audit outside plant (BMH, beach erosion, backhaul) regularly.
6. Maintain, test, and replenish spares. If supply chain is lengthy, maintain a spare of all critical components on site.
7. Train on any power work with the marine NOC as well as supplier trainers.
8. Each station should maintain a power safety officer as well as deputy PSO.

# Government, Licensing Analysis

- 1) How many telcos and wireless operators, what are the barriers to entry?
- 2) How has the regulator made decisions over the past 10 years? What is the head of the regulators CV / Resume?
- 3) What are the government's goals now and in 10 years?
- 4) What are societal goals now and in 10 years?
- 5) What are import / export laws and supply chain health?
- 6) Meet with the local economic development ministry / bureau.
- 7) What is the history of nationalization of cables or default on sovereign debt?
- 8) What is the mean time between coups (ie non peaceful transitions of power)?
- 9) What is the process to receive a new license (if needed)



# Marine Maintenance

1. AIS monitoring for marine outages
2. Maintain outage escalation list as well as methods and procedures.
3. Audit outside plant (BMH, beach erosion, backhaul) regularly.
4. Distribute accurate route position list / coastal marine maps once per year.
5. Develop relationship with marine NOC, monitor utilization, location of repair vessels, DMOQ with repair vessels using AIS.
6. Monitor marine laws (especially for Cabotage / flagging regulations). Be aware of marine permitting process for survey, build, and repair).
7. Monitor environmental laws (sea bed, coastal, and any time of year restrictions). Which agencies need to be notified and which timelines are needed.

# System Design

1. Single landing or dual landing
  - a. Do you have two in country players who want the cable to land in their CS?
  - b. Can you build a “Y” landing for increased protection?
2. Cable armoring
  - a. Plough / bury where possible within budget
  - b. Repair with armor (what has been cut likely to be cut again)
3. Type of landing or branch?
  - a. Full landing
  - b. Full BU
  - c. Full BU with ROADM / WSS (part of a fiber)
  - d. Fiber switched BU (can route around a shore end cut)

The background of the slide is an underwater scene with sunlight rays filtering through the water. A large, semi-transparent teal diamond shape is overlaid on the right side of the image.

# Submerged Plant Equipment Lecture I

Georg Mohs

August 6, 2019

Confidential and Proprietary

# Submerged Plant Equipment Characteristics

## High performance:

- Ultra-long transmission distance up to 14,000 km!!
- High data capacity: 250 Tb/s across the Atlantic!

## Space & Power Limitations:

- All functionality must fit inside an undersea body.
- Equipment must be powered from shore through the cable conductor.



## Reliability for a 25 year lifetime in the undersea environment:

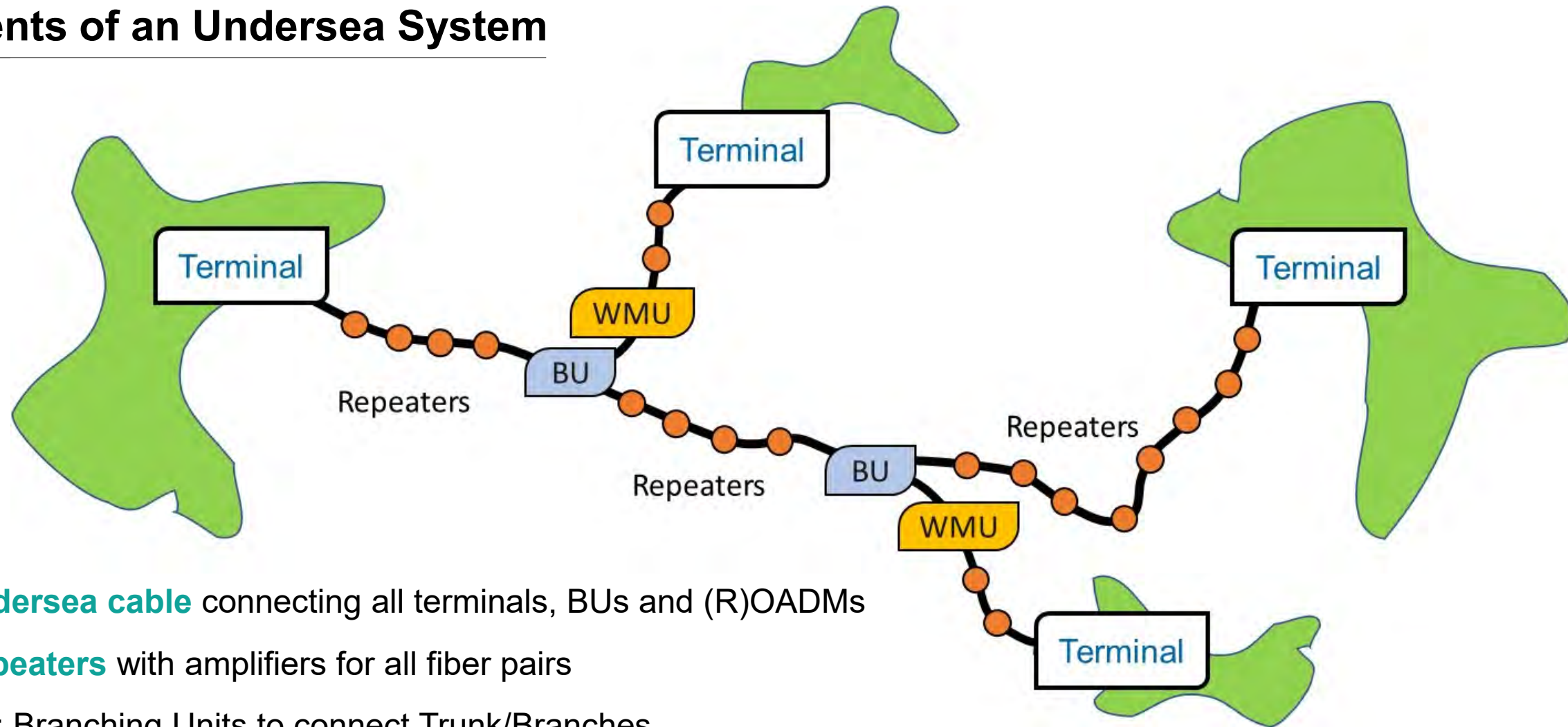
- Water-proof and pressure-stabilized body
- High reliability optics/electronics.

## Deployment:

- Equipment must support shipboard storage, deployment, and retrieval for repairs.

*Unique technology for a unique environment*

# Elements of an Undersea System

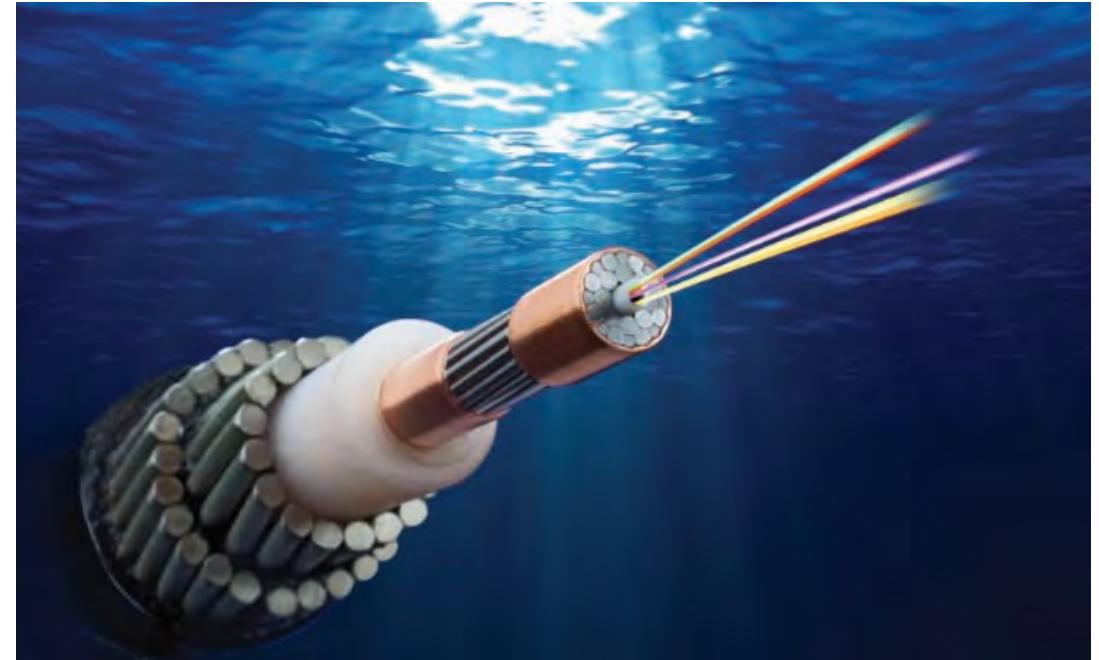


- **Undersea cable** connecting all terminals, BUs and (R)OADMs
- **Repeaters** with amplifiers for all fiber pairs
- **BU**: Branching Units to connect Trunk/Branches
- **WMU**: Wavelength Management Units – (R)OADM

# Outline

---

- Cable
- Repeaters
  - Amplification and gain equalization
  - Self-healing of a chain of amplifiers; gain tilt
  - Pump manifold and reliability
  - Line Monitoring and High Loss Loopbacks (HLLBs)
  - L-band amplification
  - The pressure vessel
- Branching Units
  - Fiber routing and optical switches - Why only one branch leg (3 port BUs)?
  - Electrical reconfiguration – Recovering from shunt faults
- Wavelength Management Units: (Reconfigurable) Optical Add Drop Multiplexing
- System Reliability

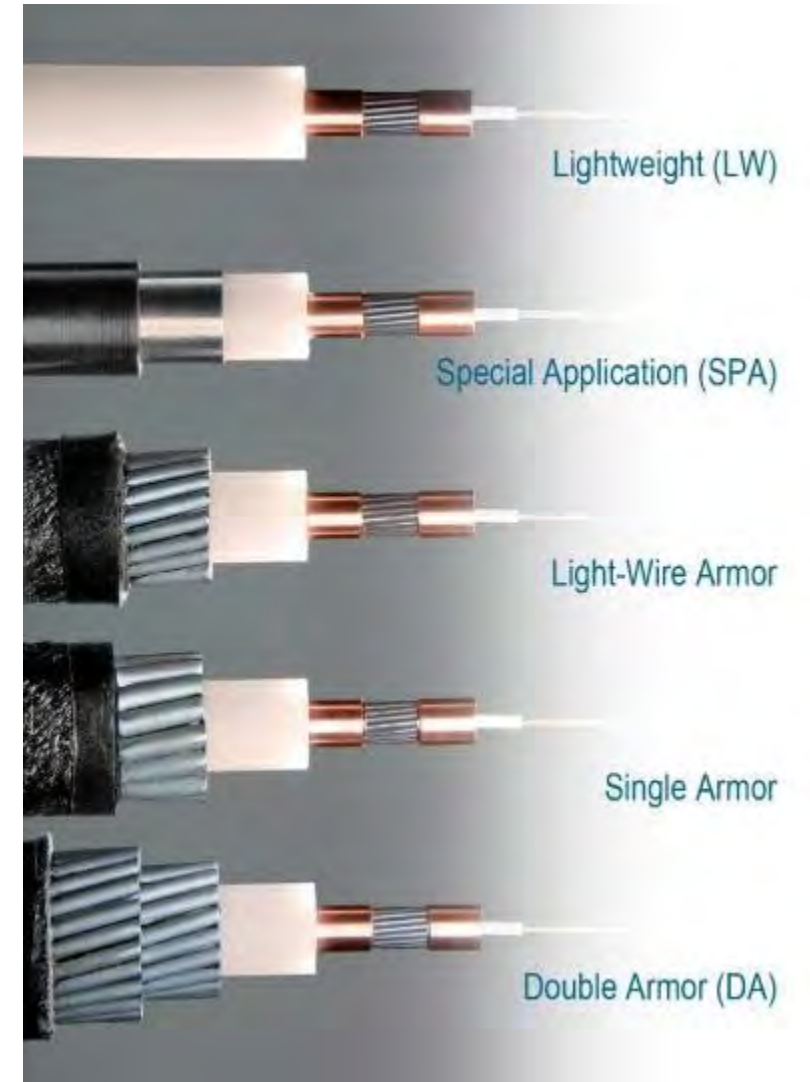


# Undersea Fiber-Optic Cable

## Cable Characteristics:

- **Fibers:** Benign environment for optical fibers
- **Strength:** For deployment and retrieval
- **Electrical:** Power for repeaters and network elements
- **Armoring:** Protection against external aggression

More on cable  
next by Marsha!



# Repeater

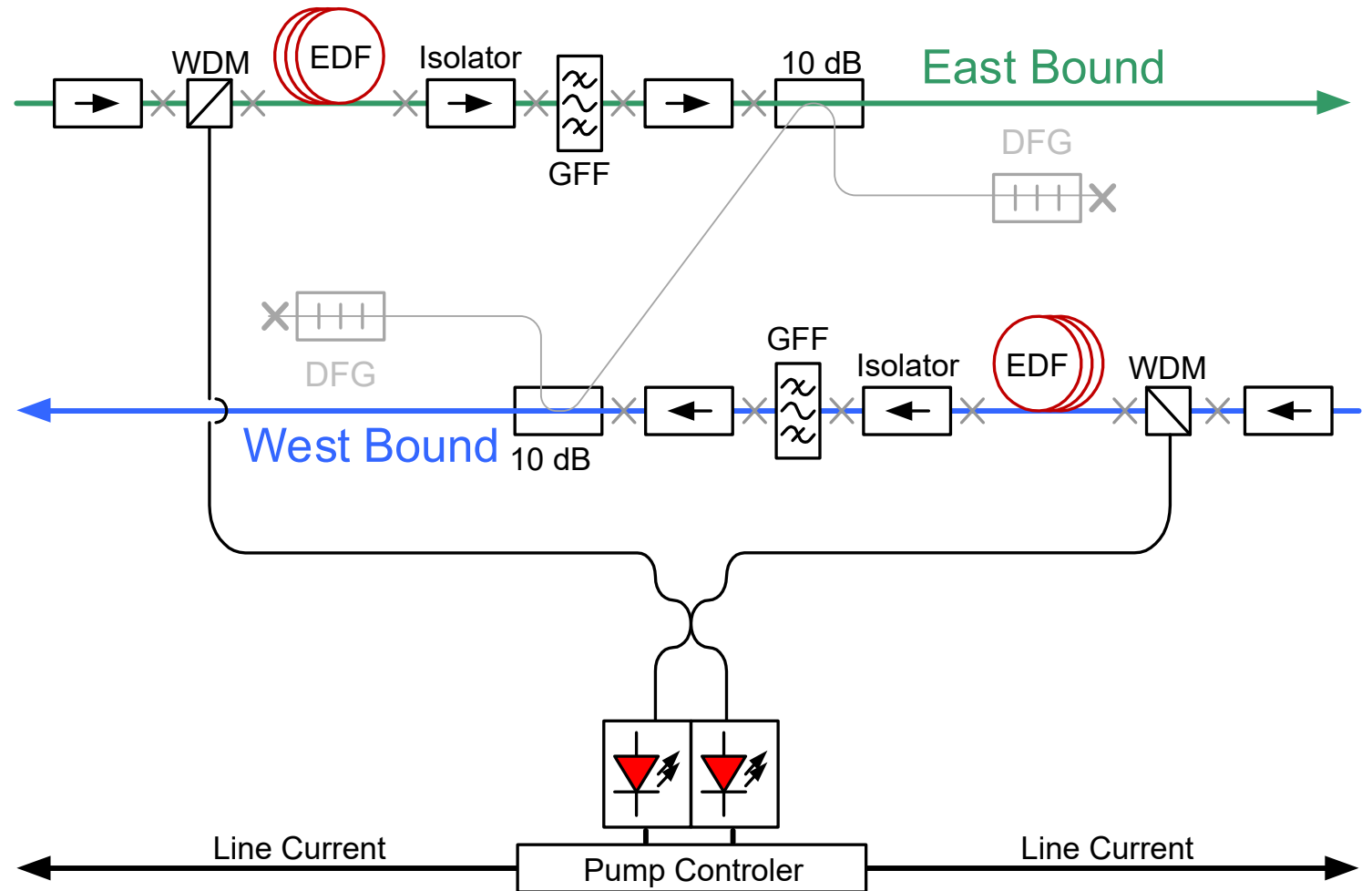
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# The Repeater

- The modern repeater is an amplifier for the optical data signals on the fiber
- Amplification for fiber pairs
  - both directions of traffic: east and west bound
- High performance design for ultra-long distance transmission
  - Forward pumping for low noise figure
  - Single stage design
- 25 year design life
  - High reliability components
  - Higher order pump manifold
- COTDR path for fault localization



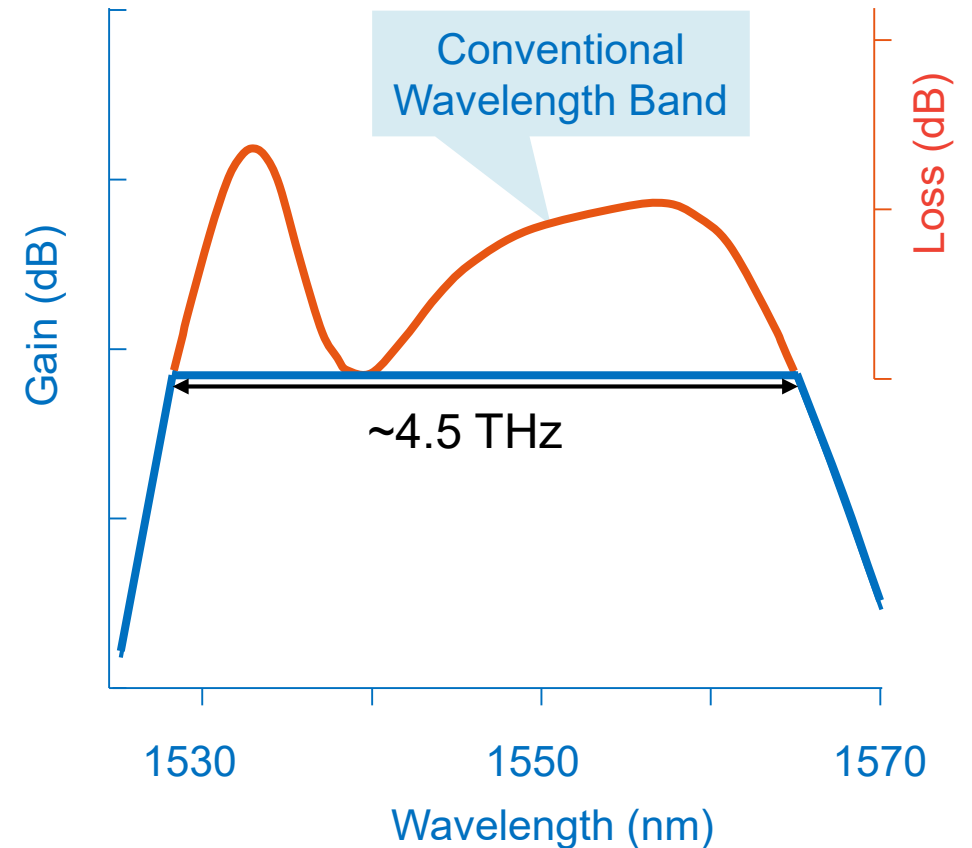
# Amplification

## Erbium Doped Fiber (EDF):

- Amplification around 1550 nm
- Bandwidth around 4.5 THz (1529 – 1565 nm)
- Optical pumping near 980 nm
- Significant gain variation across the amplification bandwidth (gain shape)

## Gain Flattening:

- Gain flattening filter (GFF) to minimize gain variation across the amplification band
  - GFF is typically a Fiber Bragg Grating (FBG)
  - FBG reflection tuned to follow the EDF shape
  - Optical isolators suppress reflections and avoid lasing of the amplifier
- 0.1 dB gain variation leads to 10 dB across 100 repeaters (ignoring spectral-hole burning – more later)

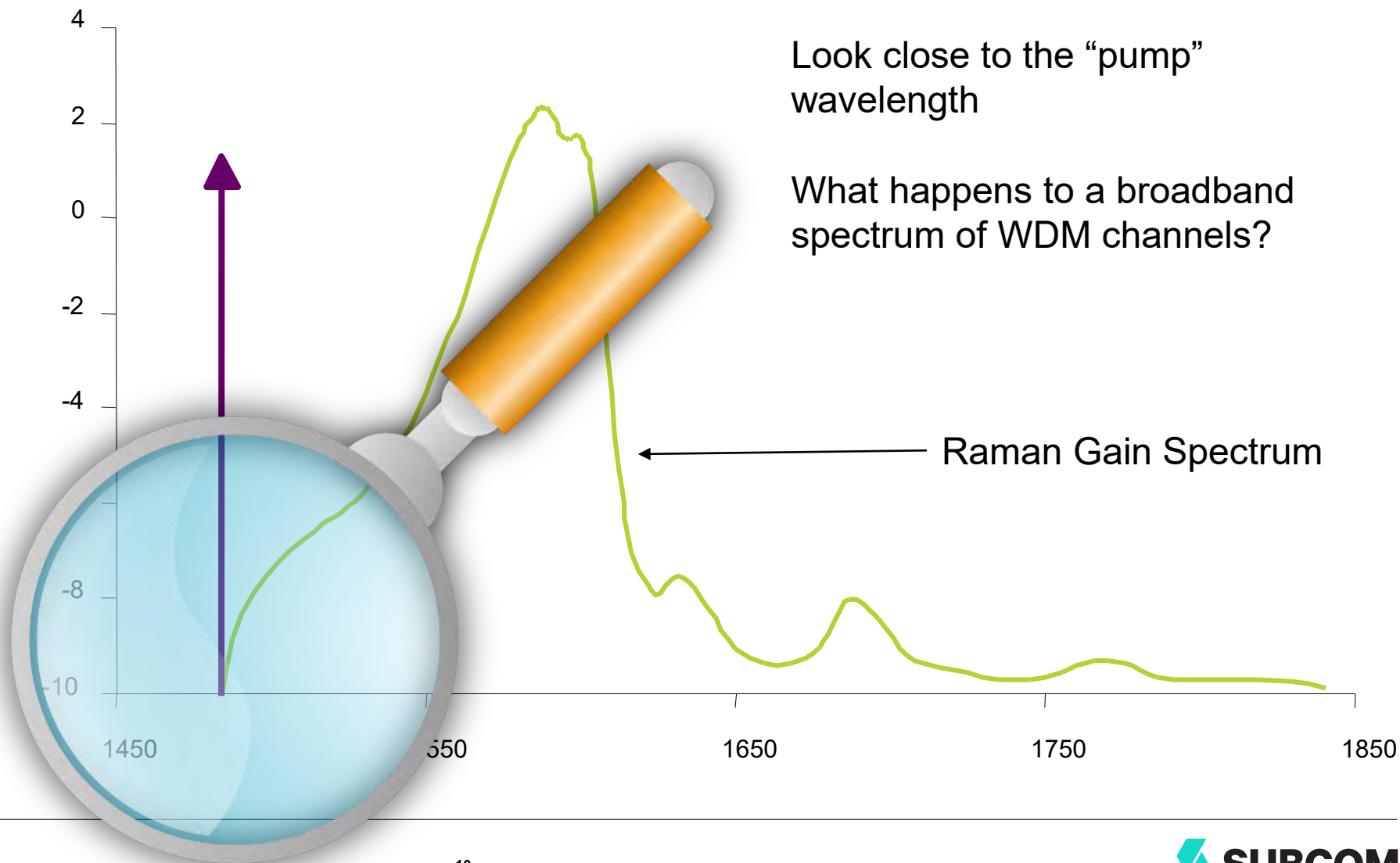


## Gain Equalization

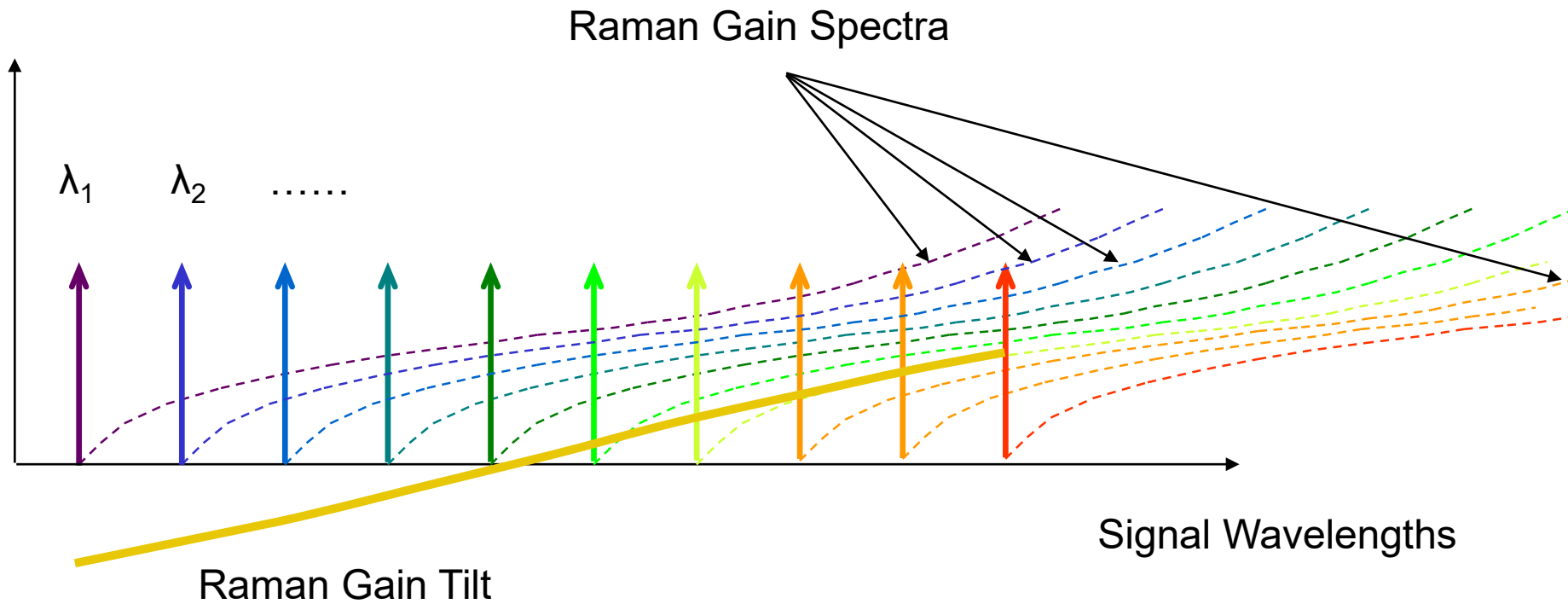
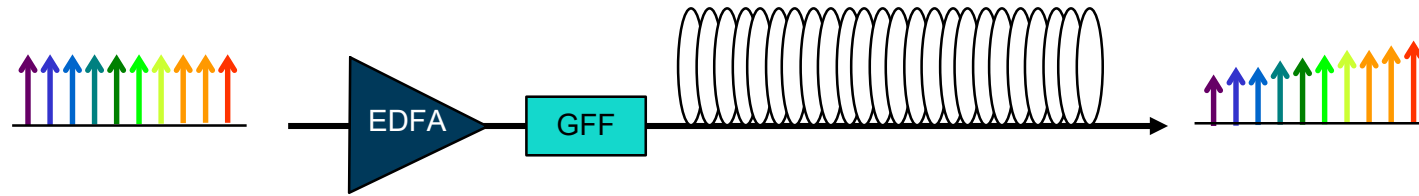
- EDF Shape
- Fiber Loss Shape
- Raman Gain
- Spectral-Hole Burning

# Stimulated Raman Scattering

- Nonlinear scattering of light with optical phonons (lattice vibrations)
- A higher energy photon is scattered creating a phonon and lower energy photon

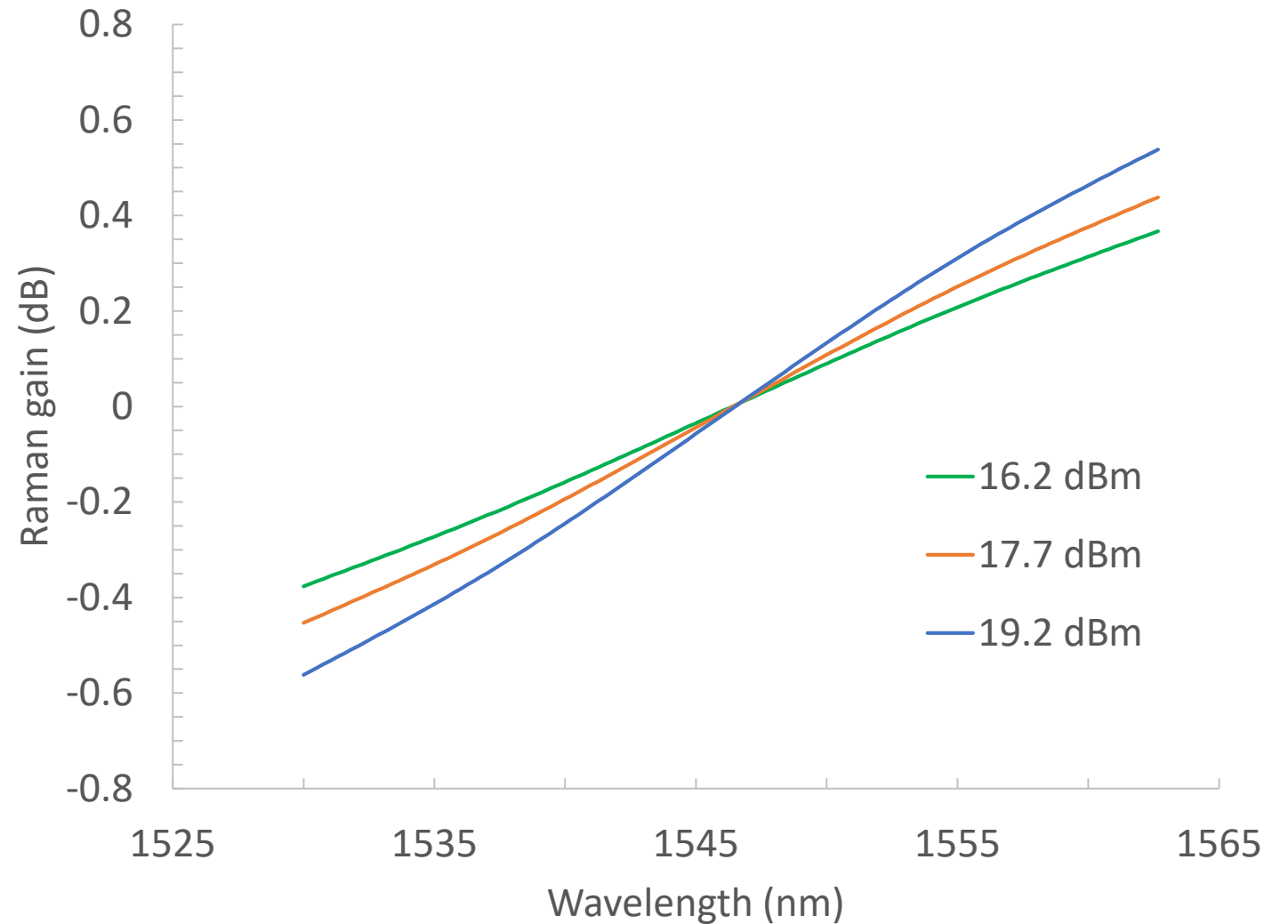


# Intra-Band Raman Effect



# Raman Gain Tilt

- Power transfer from short to long wavelengths
- Amount of power transfer depends on
  - Repeater power level (nonlinear)
  - Fiber (effective area)
  - Span length



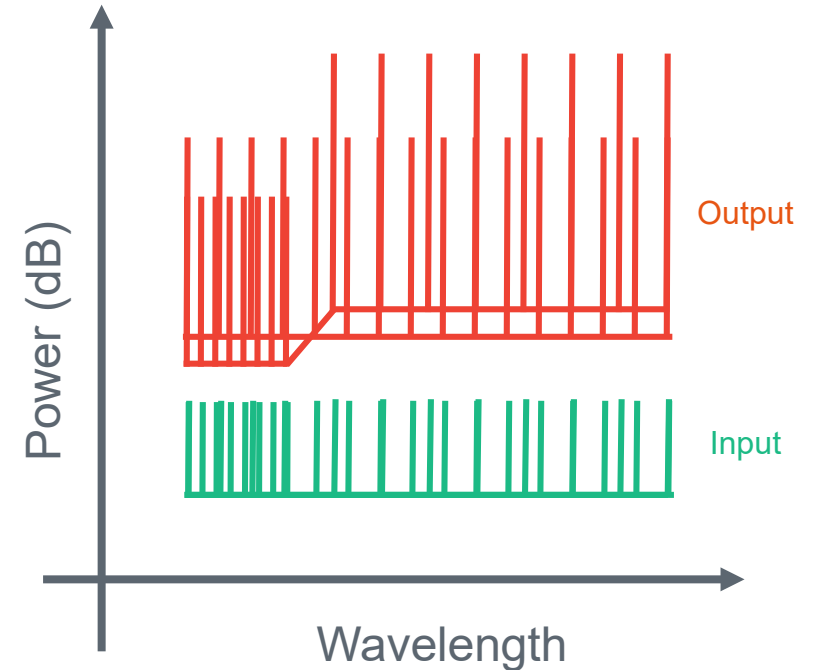
## Gain Equalization

- EDF Shape
- Fiber Loss Shape
- Raman Gain
- Spectral-Hole Burning

# Spectral-Hole Burning

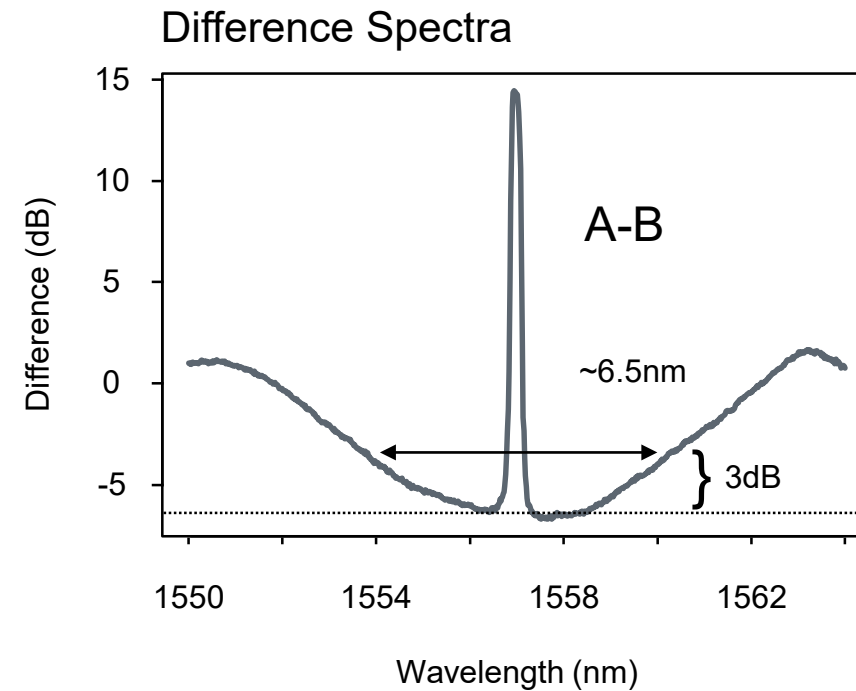
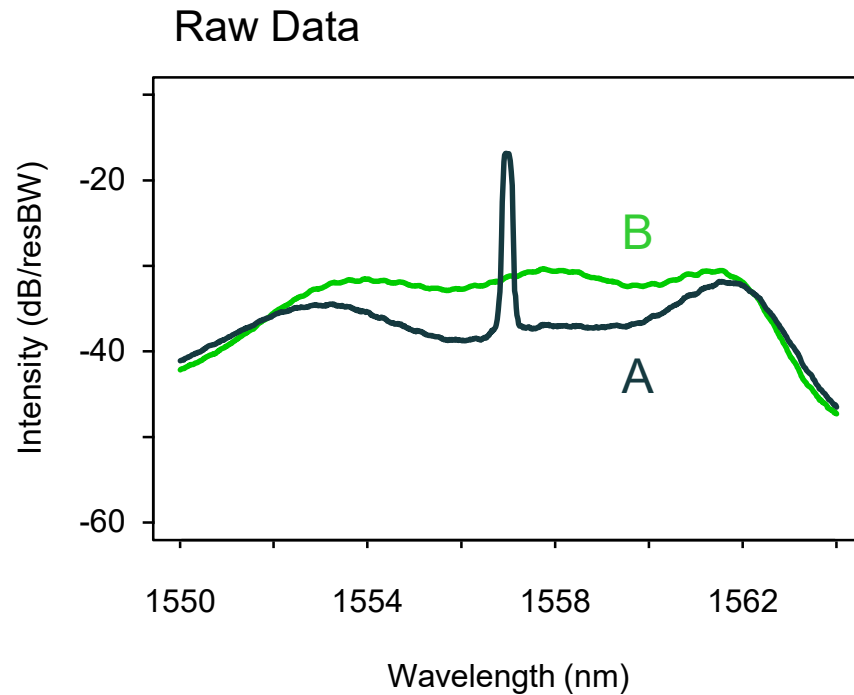
EDFAs tend to equalize power spectral density across the band

- Amplification depends on spectral loading of the EDFA
- Lower amplification where the power is high and higher amplification where the power is low
- Nonlinear effect
- Must be included when designing the gain management
- Tends to mitigate any residual gain error
- Tends limit effectiveness of pre-emphasis



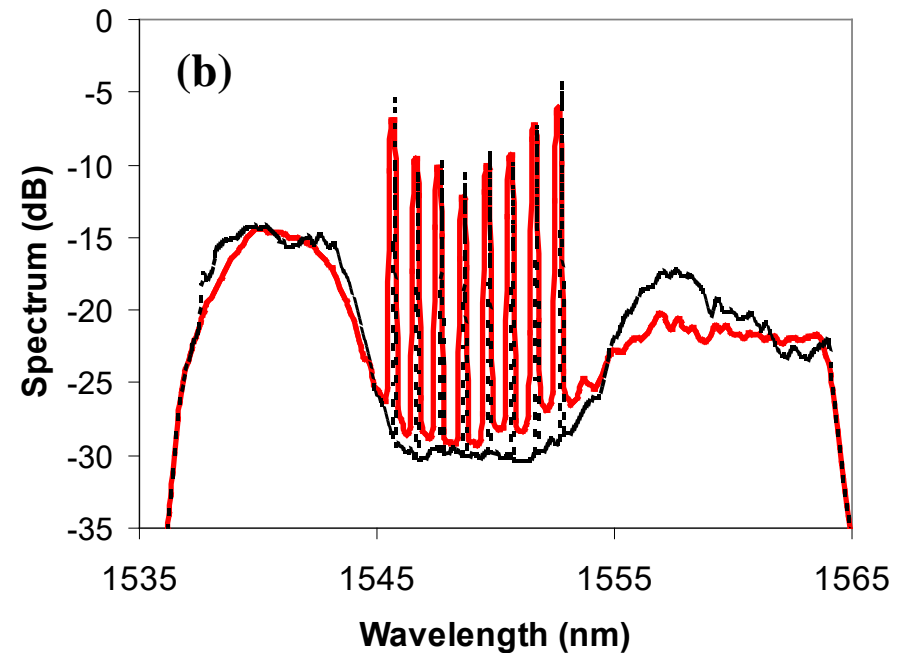
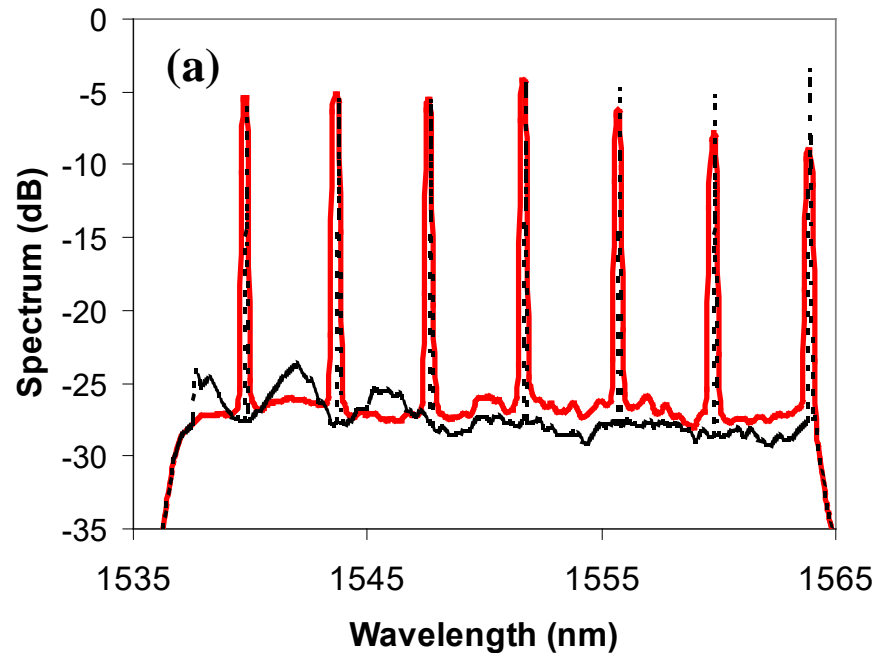


# Spectral Hole-Burning in a 5,000km Amplifier Chain



# Spectral Hole-Burning in WDM Systems\*

Measured and simulated gain vs. wavelength using an installed 6,650km undersea cable system



\* A. N. Pilipetskii et al., OFC'03

# Gain Management in System Assembly

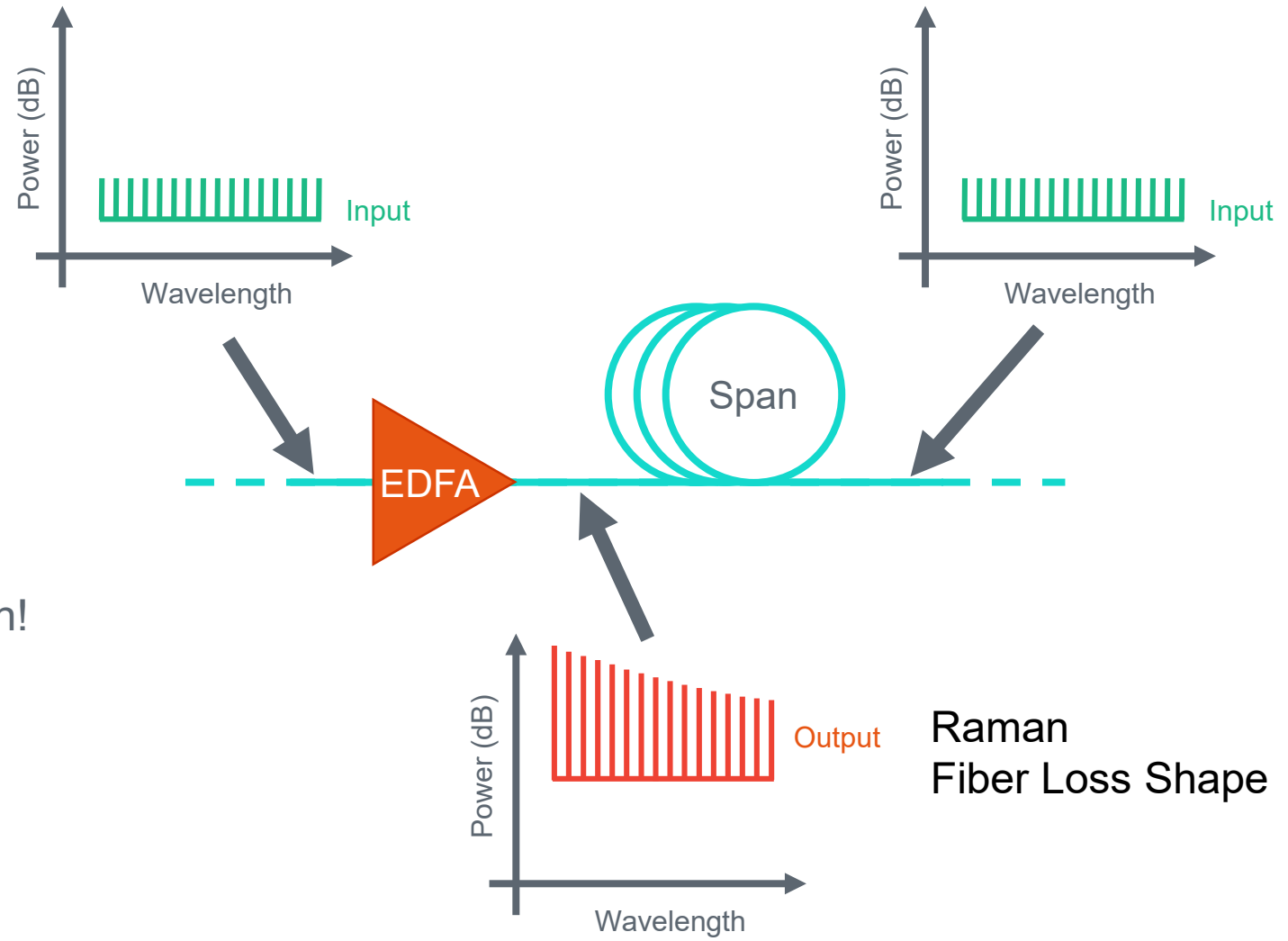
# Repeater Design

## Main Contributors to Gain Variation

- EDF shape
- Fiber loss shape (see Marsha)
  - Fiber loss minimum near 1565 nm
- Intra-band Raman effect
- Spectral-hole burning

## Gain Equalization for amplifier/span combination!

- Precise characterization and custom gain flattening filter for each system design
- Results in nominal amplifier design



# Gain and Loss

What happens with manufacturing variations?

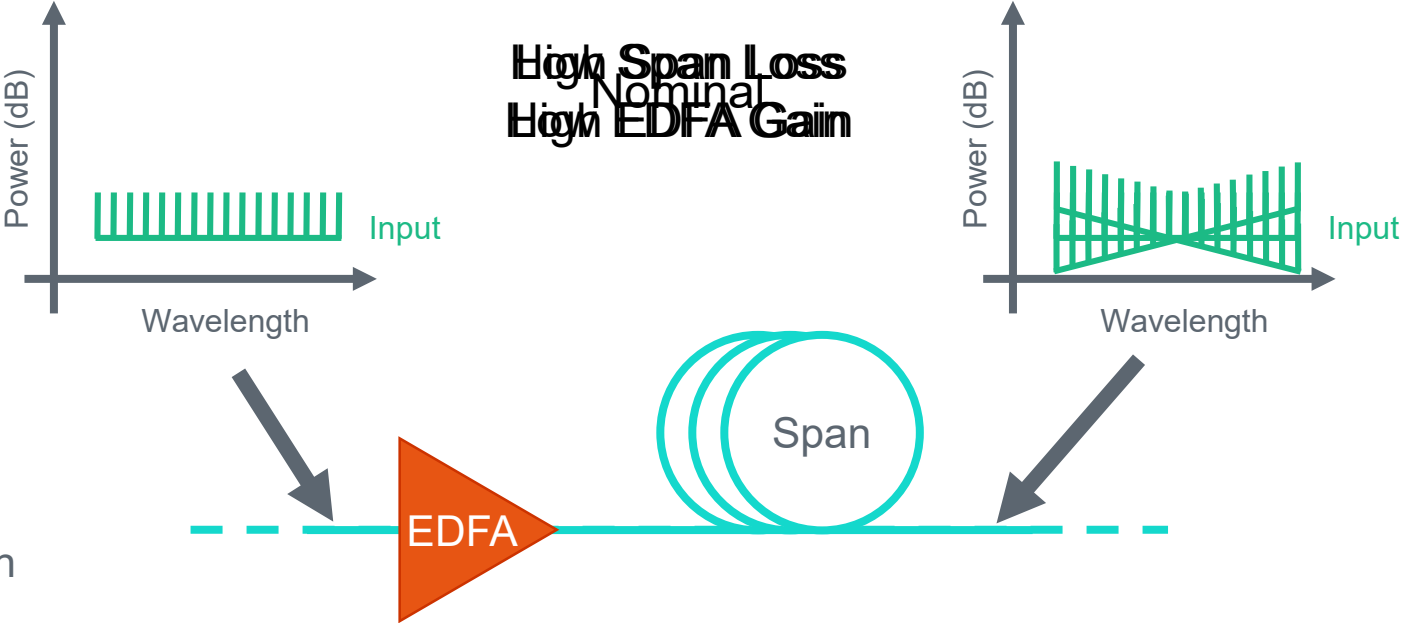
- Span loss is higher/lower than nominal
- EDFA gain is higher/lower than nominal

Repeaters run is constant pump power mode

- Output power set by pump power
- Nominal gain set by EDF length
  - Average inversion determines optical bandwidth

## Spectral Tilt

- Deviation from nominal gain and/or loss leads to a spectral tilt (first order, also some shape)



# Gain Management

## 1. Gain equalization per amplifier/span combination

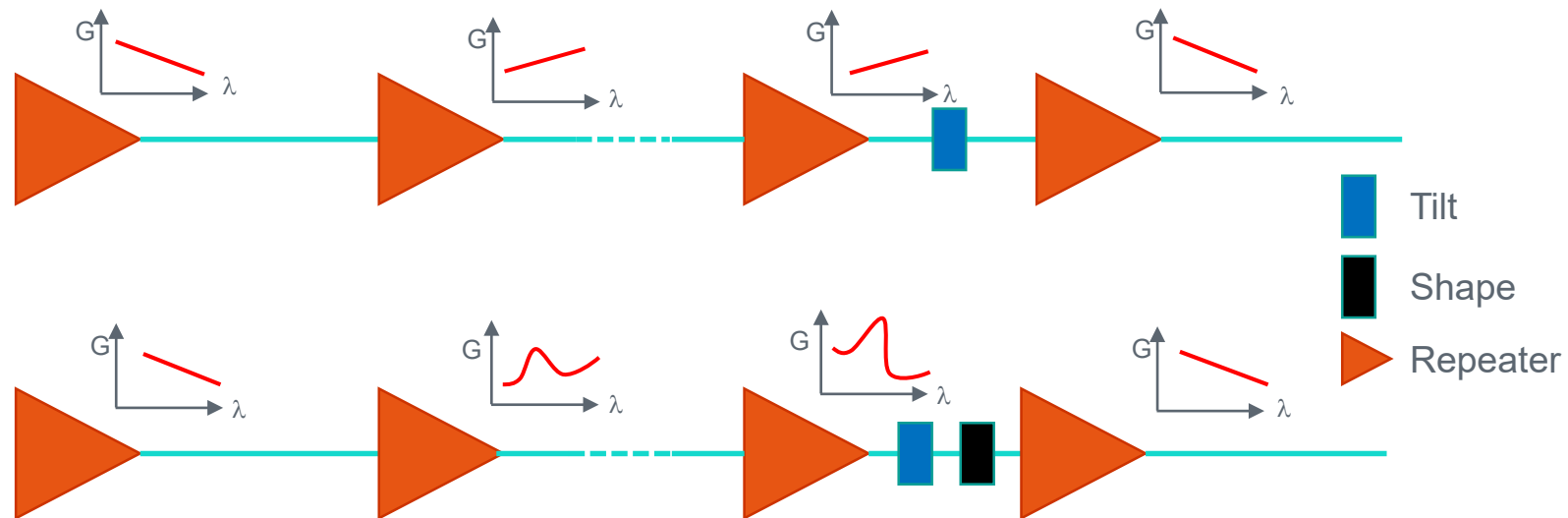
- Gain flattening filter (GFF) – Typically a Fiber Bragg Grating

## 2. Gain tilt equalization

- Adjustable (during system assembly) loss point (Loss Build Out – LBO) every several spans

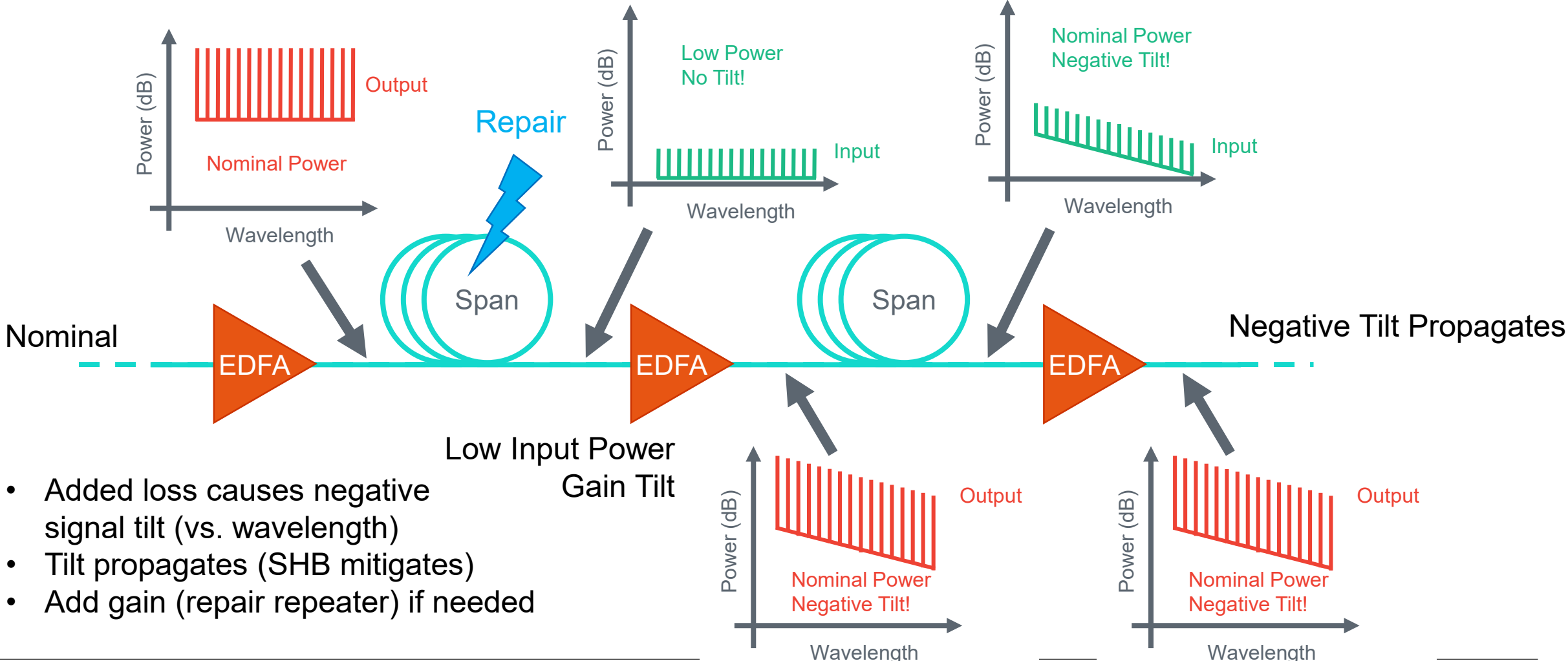
## 3. Second order gain shape correction to address systematic GFF shape error

- Shape Correction Unit (custom gain equalization filter)



# Gain Management During System Life

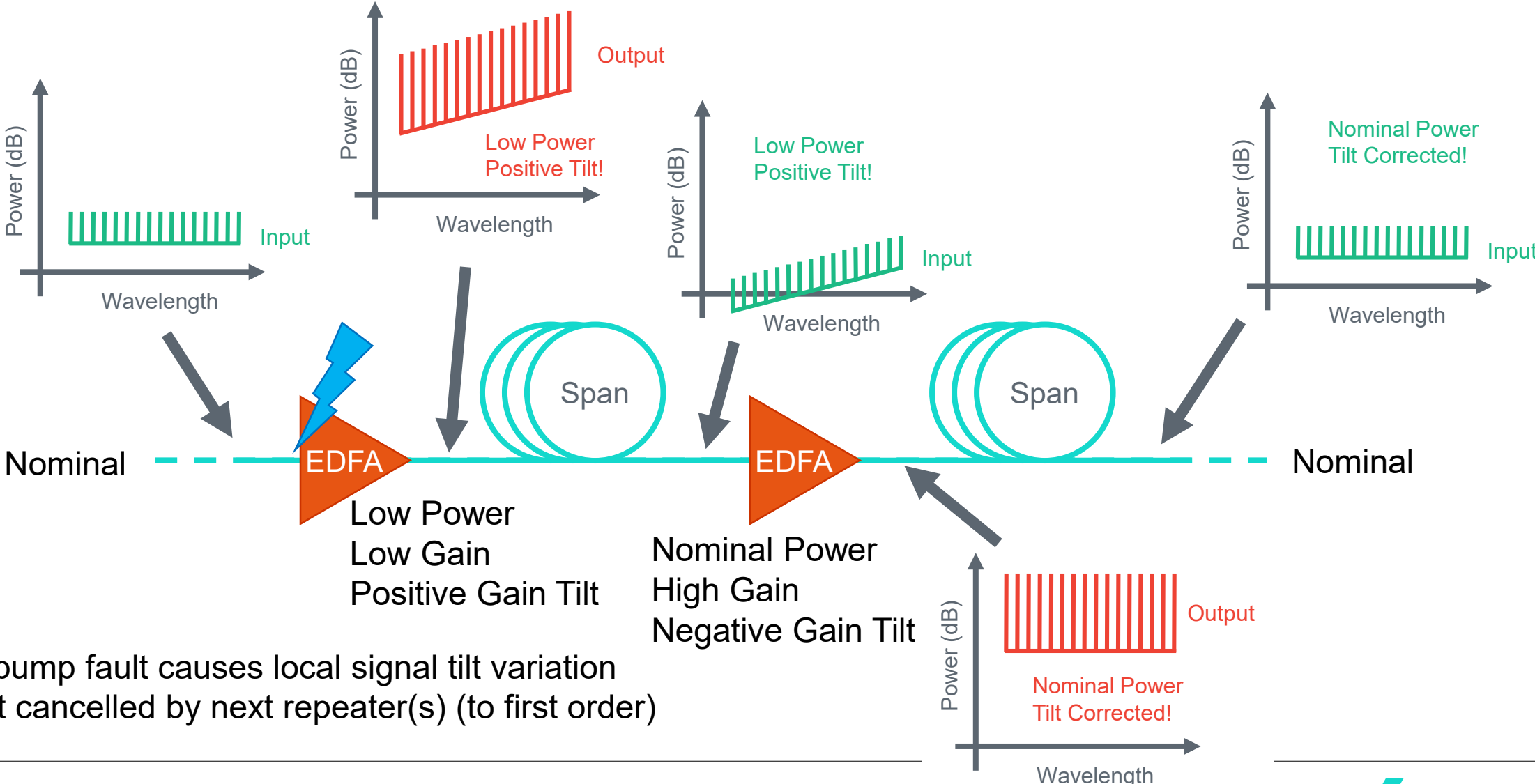
# Loss Fault



- Added loss causes negative signal tilt (vs. wavelength)
- Tilt propagates (SHB mitigates)
- Add gain (repair repeater) if needed



# Pump Fault in a Chain of Repeaters

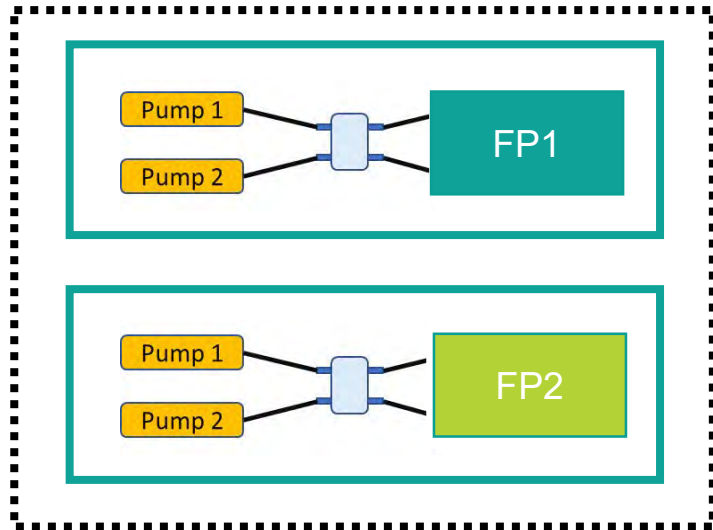


- A pump fault causes local signal tilt variation
- Tilt cancelled by next repeater(s) (to first order)

# Repeater Pump Manifold

# Pump Sharing: Higher Reliability

2 FPs = 2 Sets of “2 pumping 2 Fibers”:

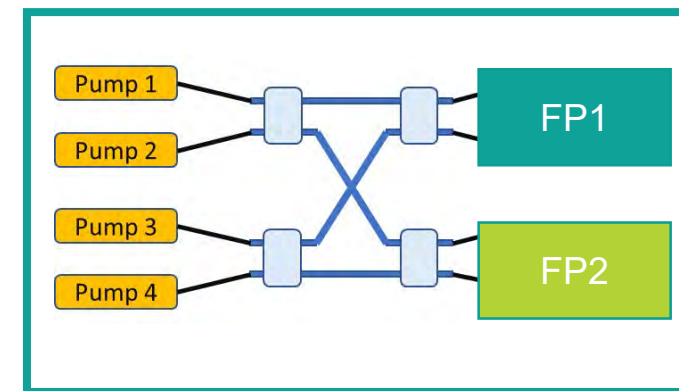


*Traditional:*

*“Fiber Pair Independence”  
(One pump-pair per FP)  
(2.6 FIT per FPs)*



2FP = 1 set of “4 pumping 4 Fibers”:



*New “Pump Sharing / Farming”*

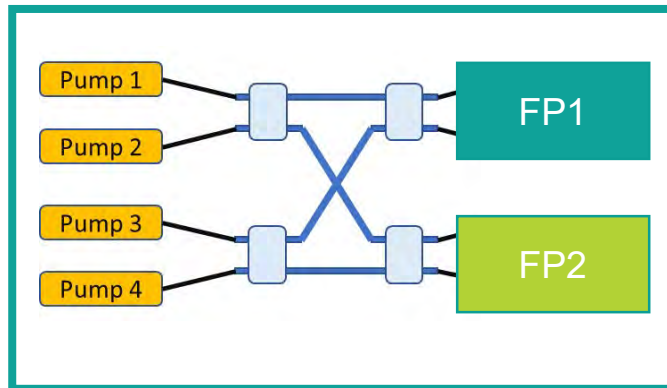
*(Power shared over 2 FPs)  
(0.001 FIT per FP)*

**Higher Reliability**

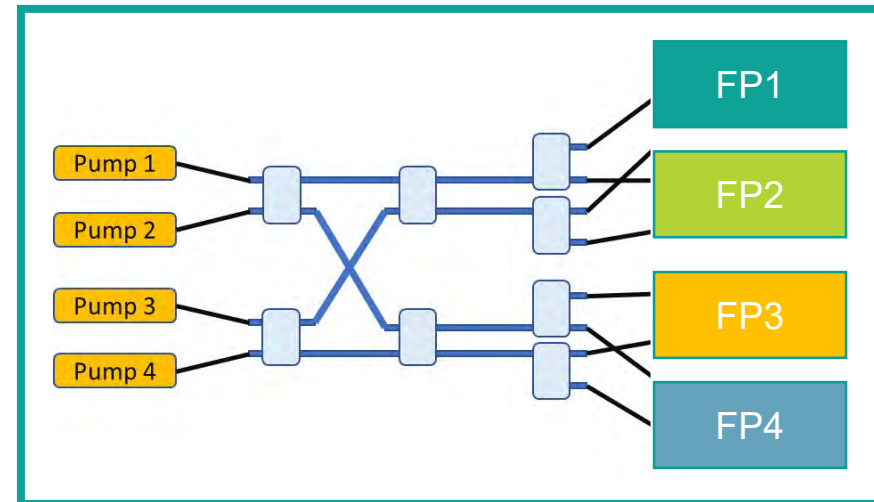
# Pump Sharing: SDM / More Fiber Pairs

*Pump Lasers are combined and shared in sets of four*

“4 pumping 4 Fibers”



“4 pumping 8 Fibers”:



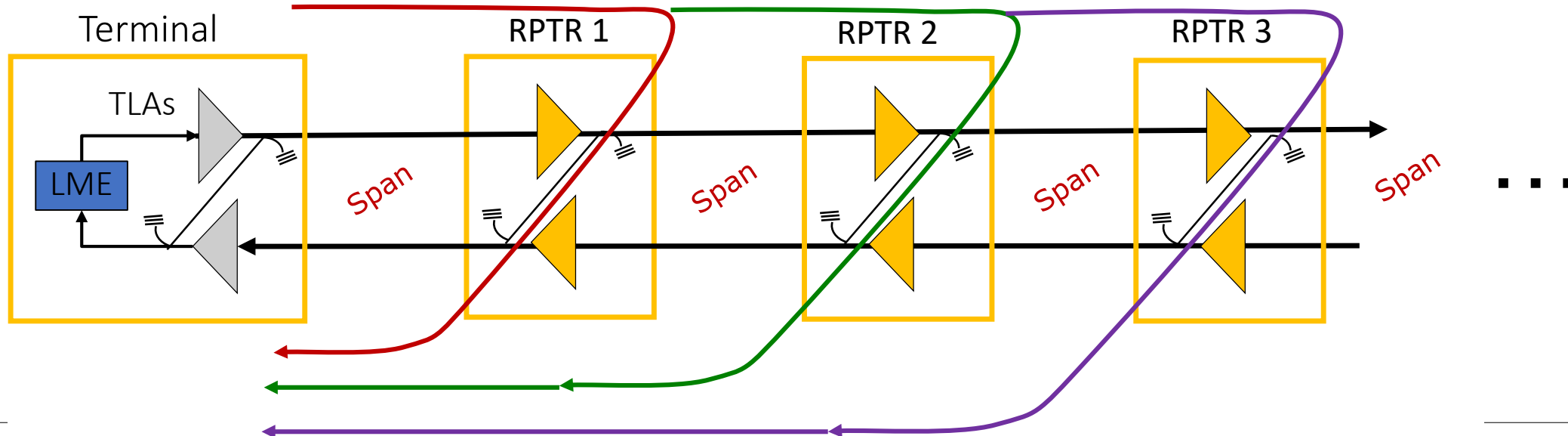
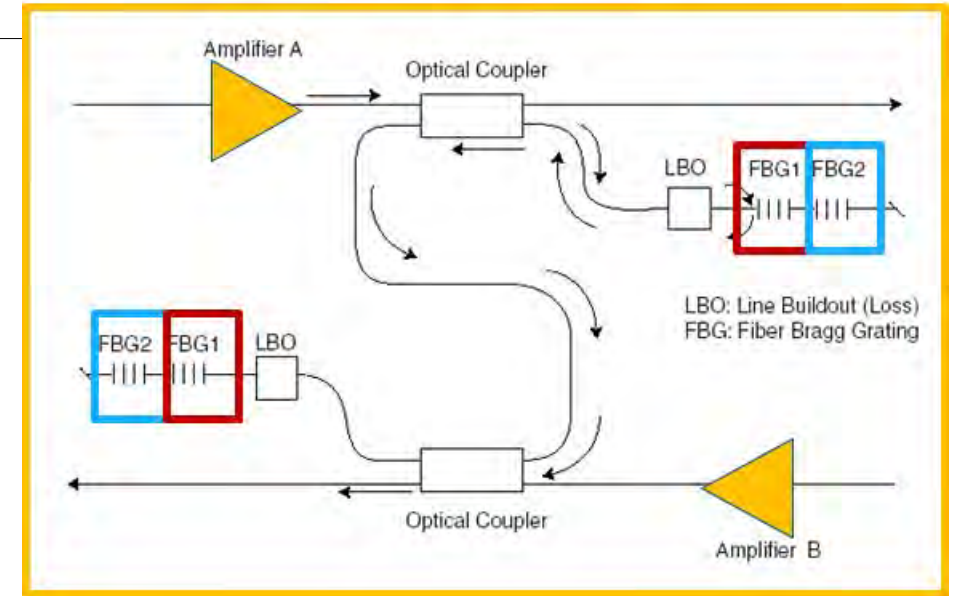
**Support for twice as many FPs, with higher reliability**

# Line Monitoring System

# Line Monitoring System

- Provides Undersea Monitoring and Fault Detection
- All optical principle, no active components in the repeaters
- Two operating modes: HLLB mode and COTDR mode

## High-Loss Loopback Circuit For one Amp-Pair



# In-Service Line Monitoring

## Line Monitoring System Signals

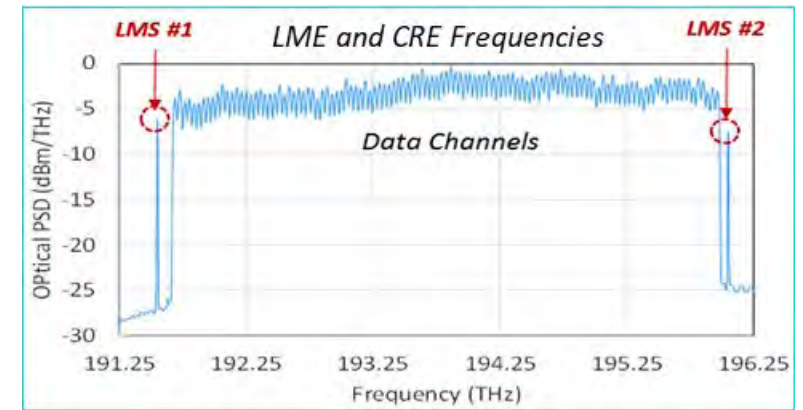
- LMS tones on the short and long wavelength side of the data transmission band

## Automated Signal Interpretation

- Automatic Signature Analysis detects changes in loop gain and extracts span loss and repeater output powers.
- Reported parameters include span length, span loss, repeater input and output power levels, and tilt

## Active Line Monitoring Systems are also in use

- Input and output power levels detected with photodiodes and reported to shore via command channel



LMP Source	MARS				
Amplifier Name	Span Loss (dB)	P <sub>IN</sub> (dBm)	P <sub>OUT</sub> (dBm)	Gain (dB)	Tilt (dB)
Plot Select	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
R01	7.6	9.8	19.8	10.1	-0.4
R02	9.6	10.2	19.7	9.5	-0.0
R03	9.7	10.0	19.8	9.7	-0.3
R04	9.7	10.1	19.6	9.5	-1.0
R05	9.8	9.8	19.7	9.9	-1.3
R06	9.6	10.1	20.2	10.0	-0.8
R07	9.8	10.3	19.4	9.1	-0.6
R08	9.3	10.1	19.4	9.4	-0.2
R09	9.2	10.2	19.0	8.8	0.2
R10	9.6	9.4	19.5	10.0	0.0
R11	9.7	9.7	19.7	9.9	0.2
R12	10.2	9.5	19.5	10.1	-0.0

Example RPT for One Traffic Direction

# Out-of-Service COTDR Measurements

## Rayleigh Scattering

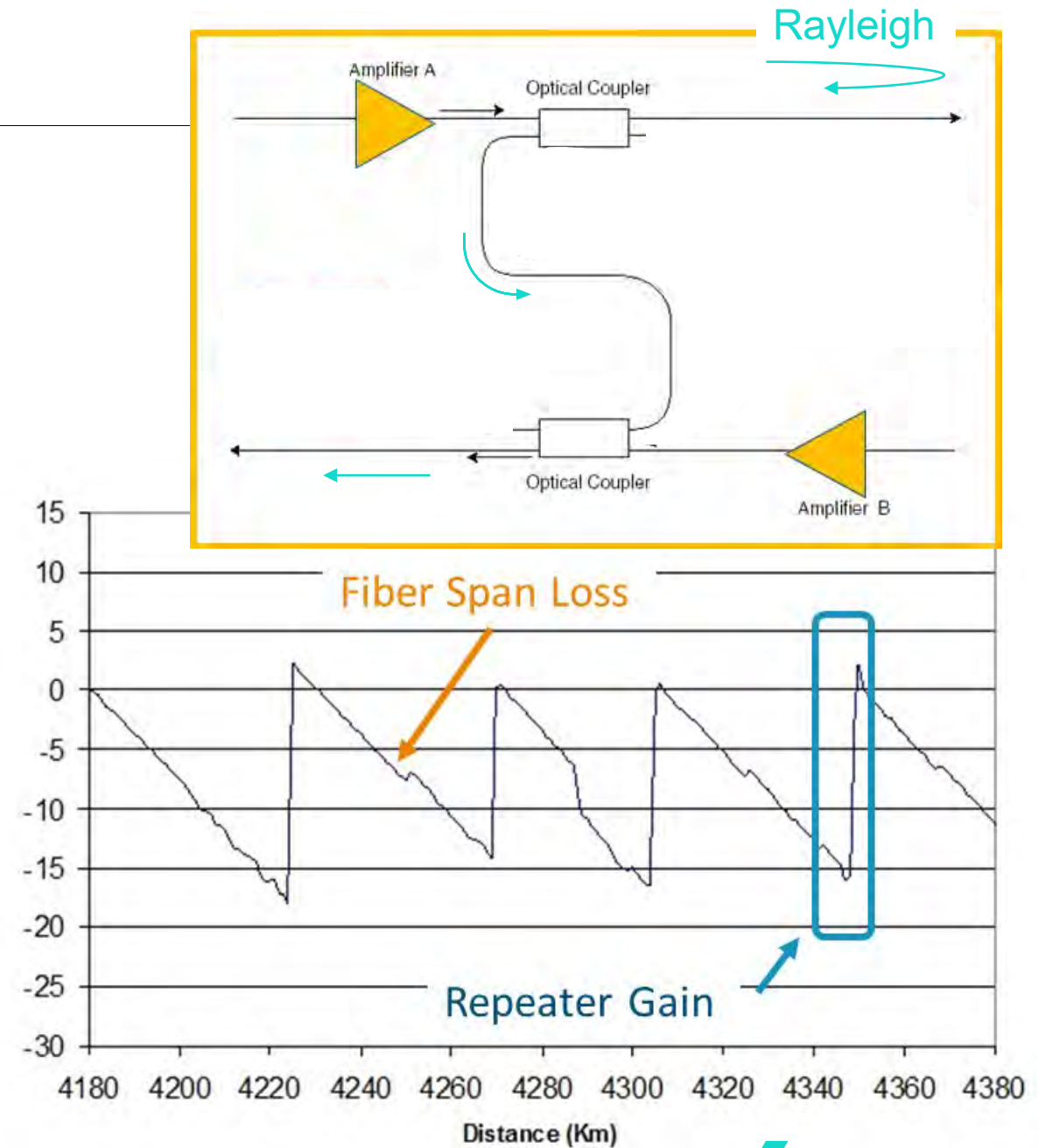
- Fiber reflects optical power back towards the transmitter (< -30 dB)

## Optical Time Domain Reflectometry (OTDR)

- Send pulse, look for reflected signal

## Coherent (Correlation) OTDR (COTDR)

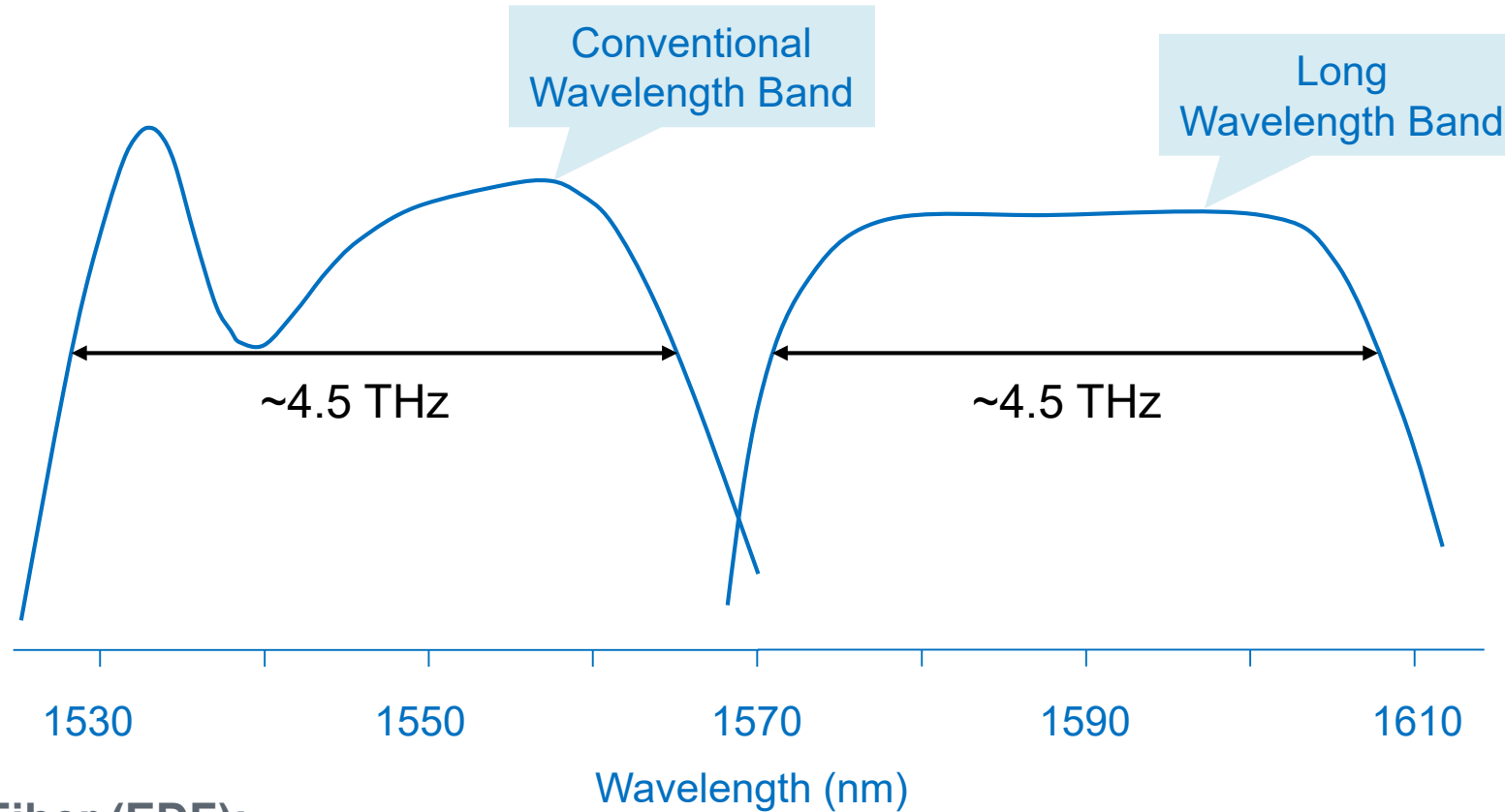
- Send pulse (pattern) on outbound path, look for reflection on inbound path through High-Loss Loopback
- Works over multiple spans for >10,000 km
- **Locate faults with <1km accuracy**







# C+L: Doubling Fiber Pair Bandwidth



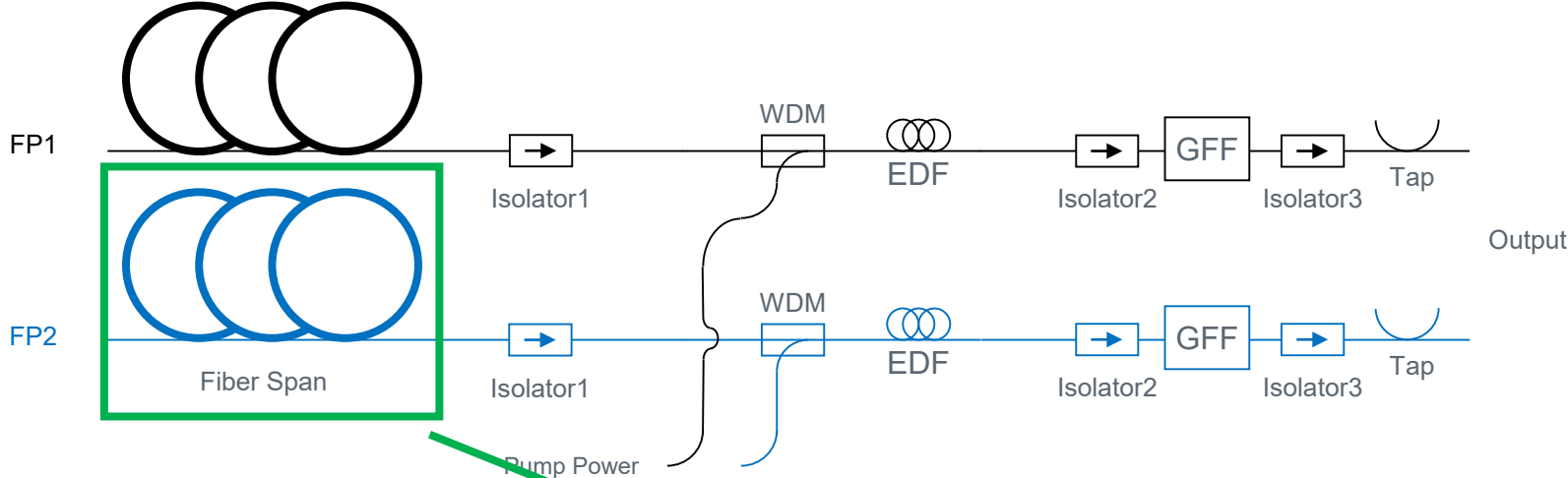
## Erbium Doped Fiber (EDF):

- Amplification in the C-band (1529 – 1565 nm)
- Amplification in the L-band (1570 – 1608 nm) (if no light in C-band)

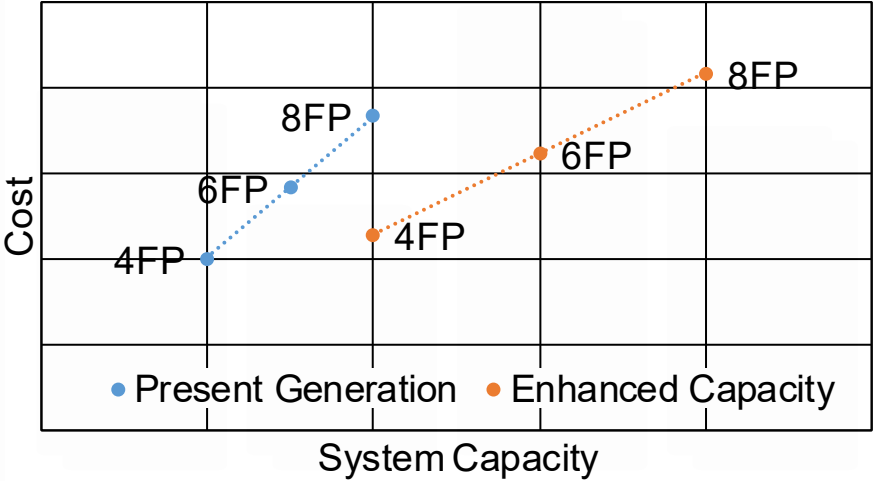
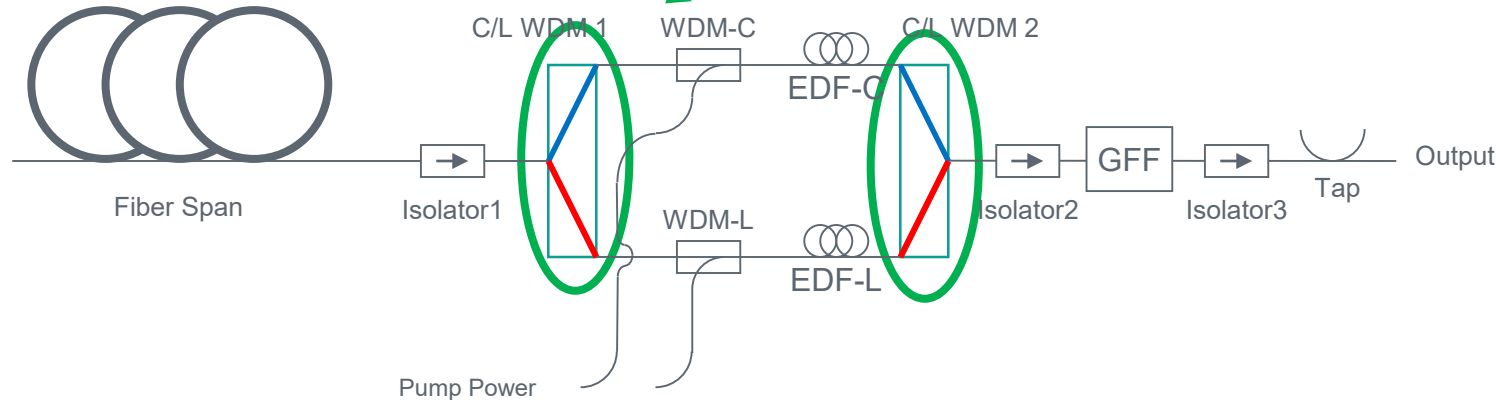
# C+L Architecture

- Nearly double the capacity per fiber pair
- Enables compact cable designs with fewer fiber pairs for the same capacity

2xC:



C+L:

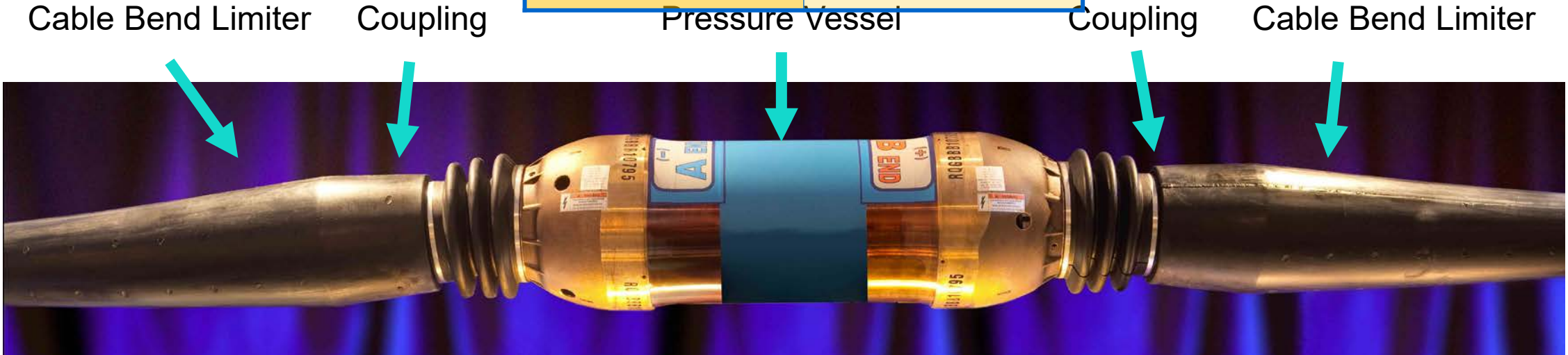


# Repeater Mechanical

# Pressure Vessel

- Cylindrical shape
- Material: BeCu  
(also Stainless Steel or Titanium)
- Good to 8000m

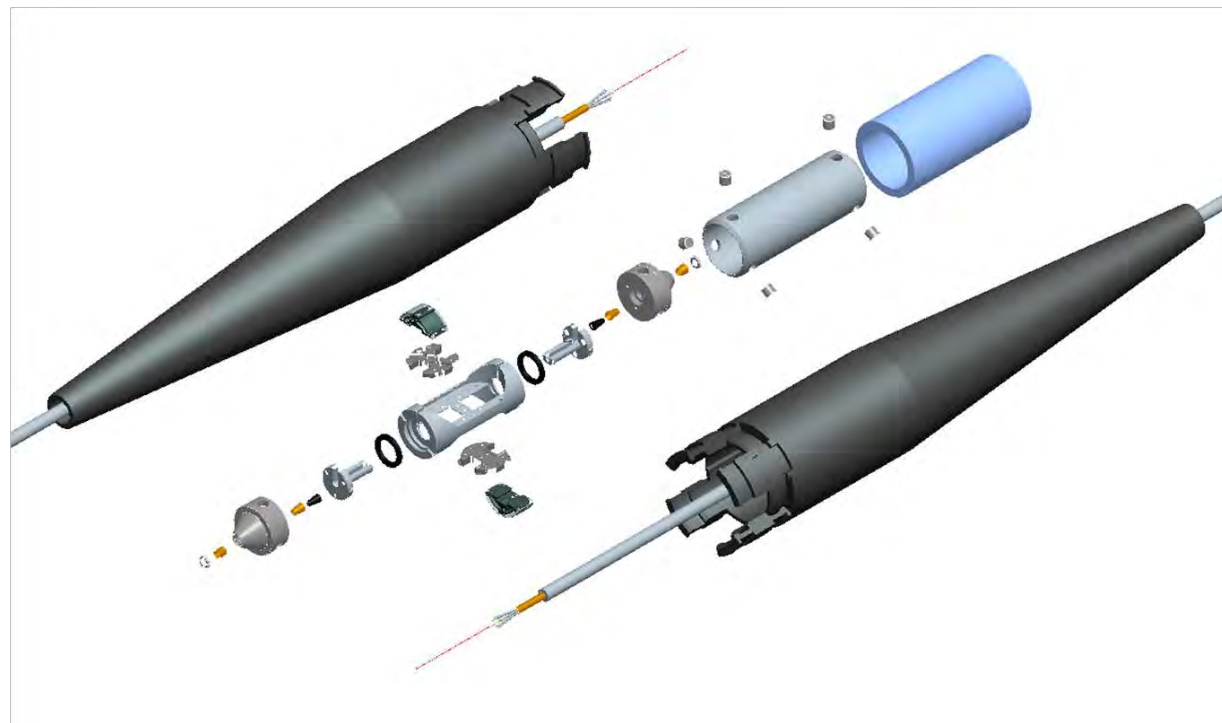
Feature	Nominal Value
Overall Length	498 cm (196 in.) w bend limiting boots
Diameter (largest)	33 cm (13 in)
Design Depth/Pressure	8000 m (~ 12000psi)
Approximate Weight	225 kg (493 lb)
Body with cones	



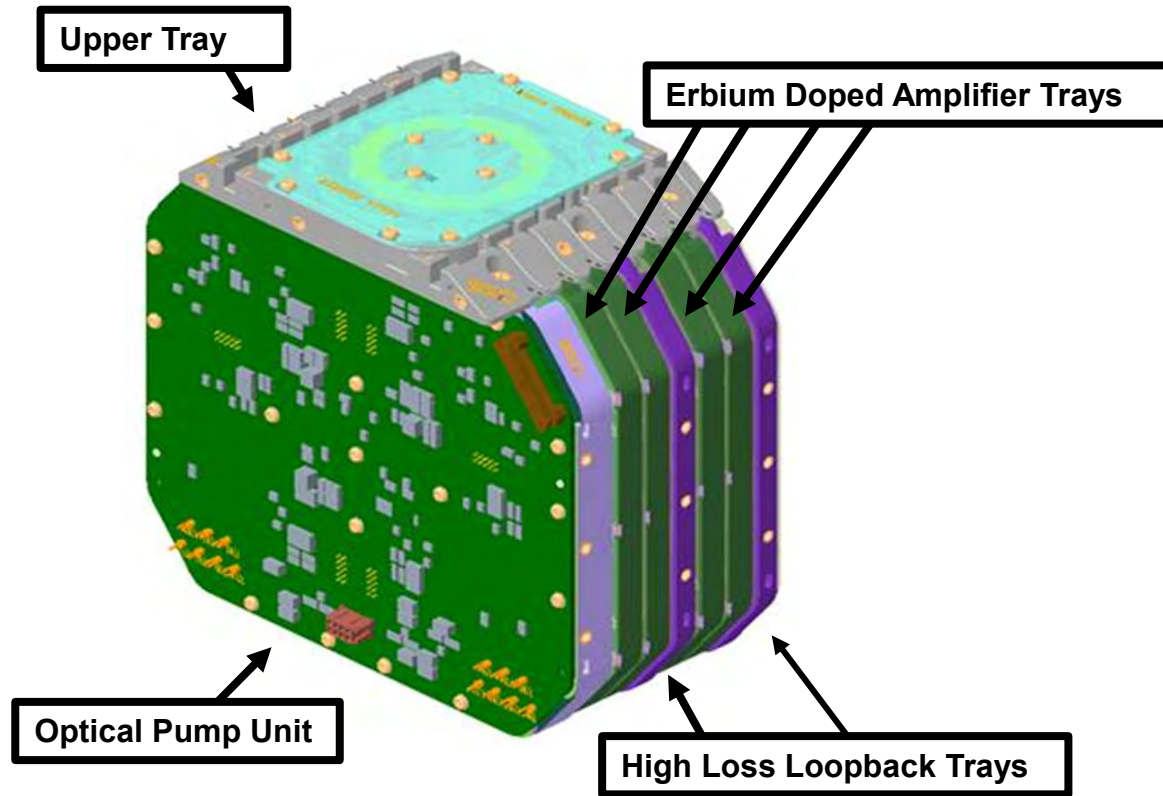
# Cable to Repeater Coupling



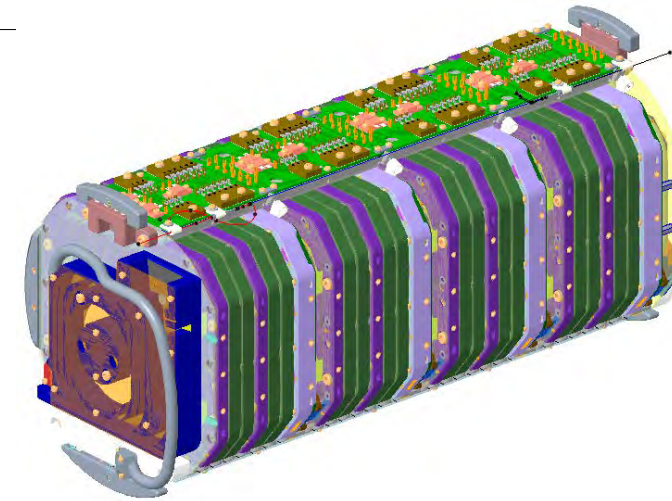
# Millennia Joint



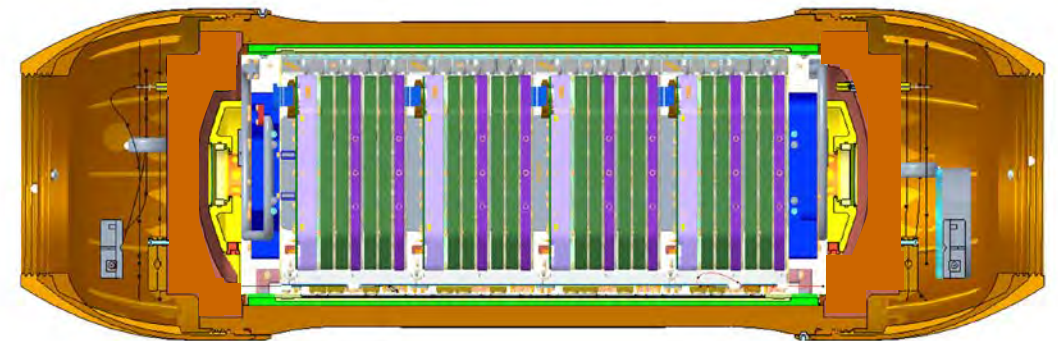
# Repeater Mechanical Design – 16 FP Repeater



Dual Amplifier Quad Supports 4 Fiber Pairs

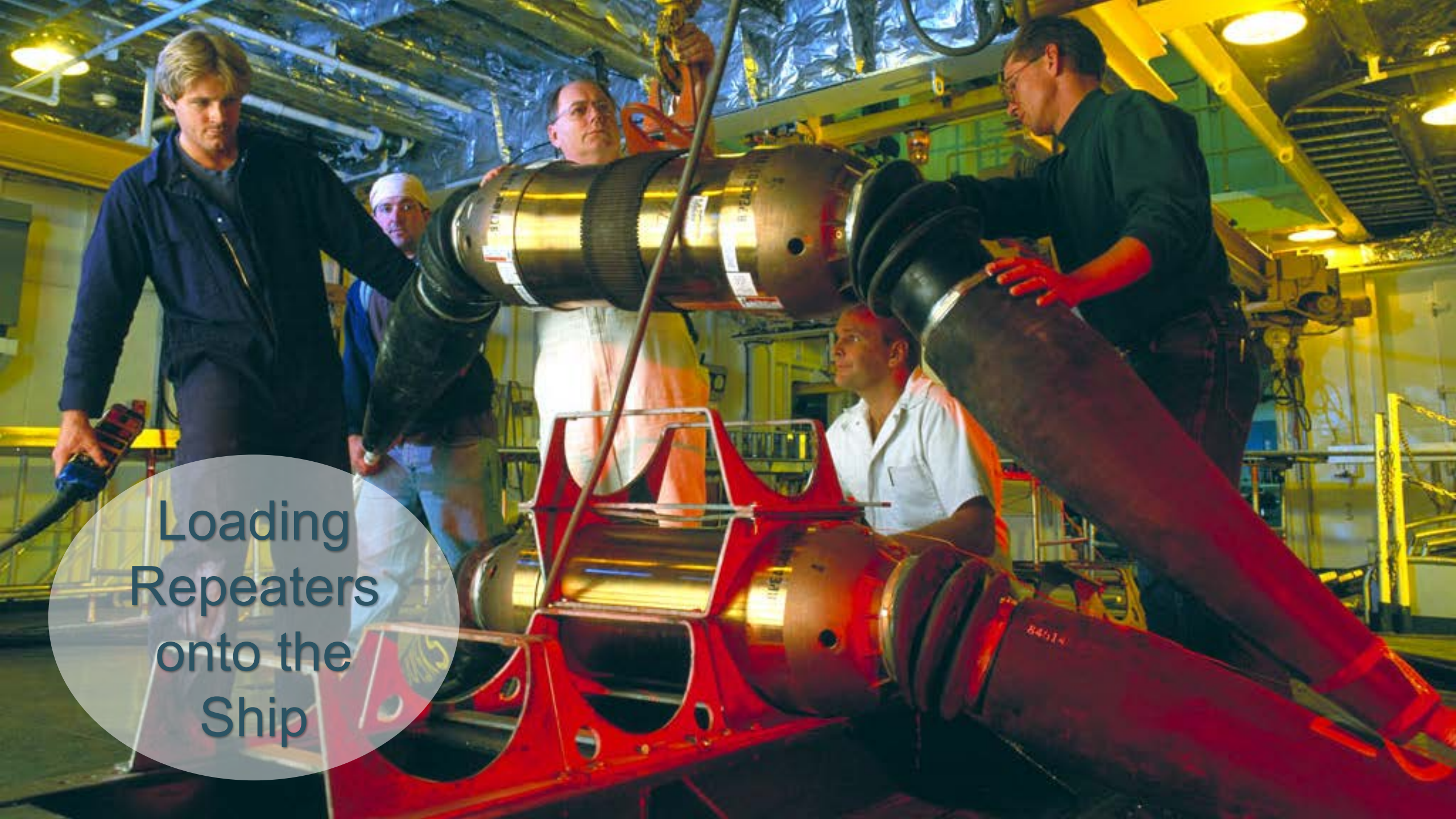


Up to Four Dual Amp Quads in a Network



16 FP Repeater Network in Type 300 Repeater Housing



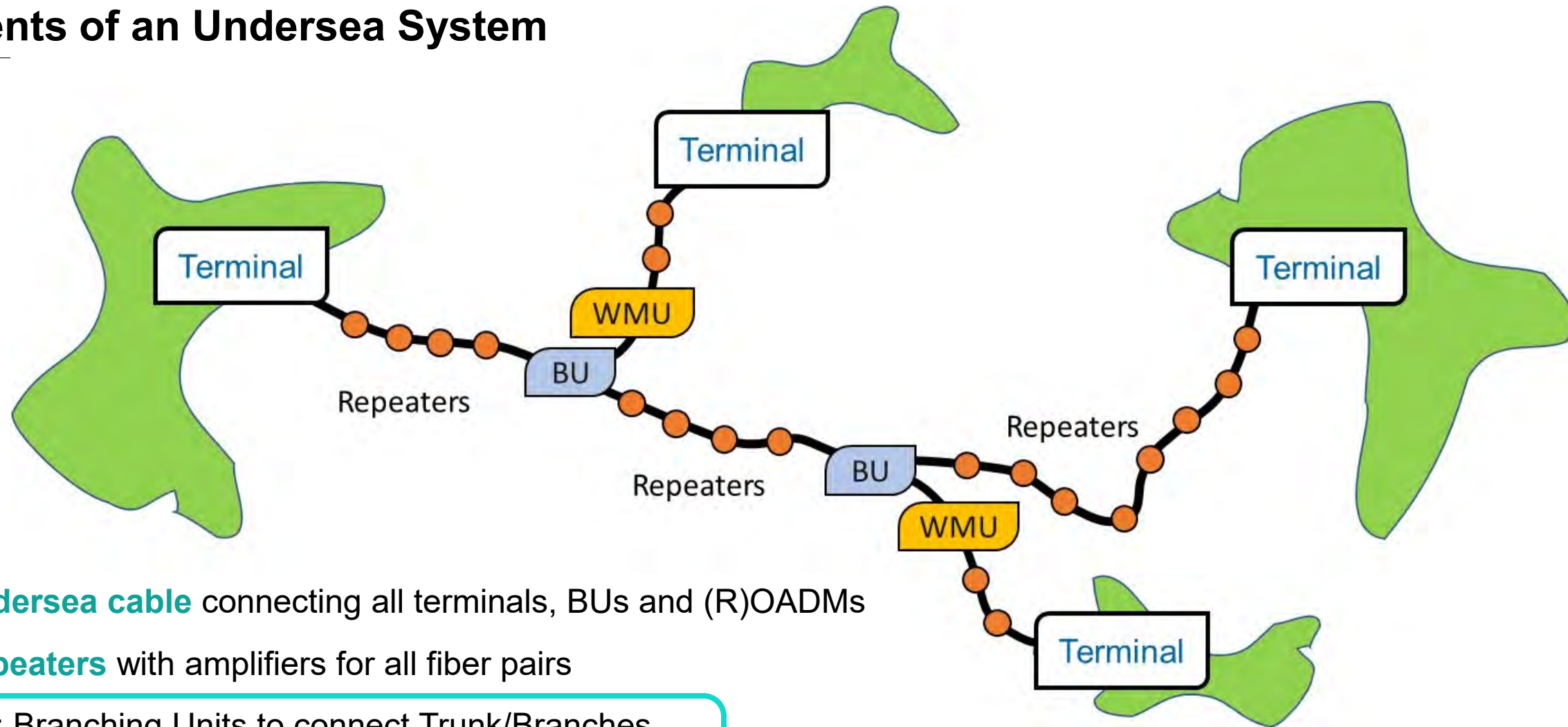


Loading  
Repeaters  
onto the  
Ship



## Repeaters on Board Ship Ready for Deployment

# Elements of an Undersea System



- **Undersea cable** connecting all terminals, BUs and (R)OADMs
- **Repeaters** with amplifiers for all fiber pairs
- **BU:** Branching Units to connect Trunk/Branches
- **WMU:** Wavelength Management Units – (R)OADM

# Branching Units

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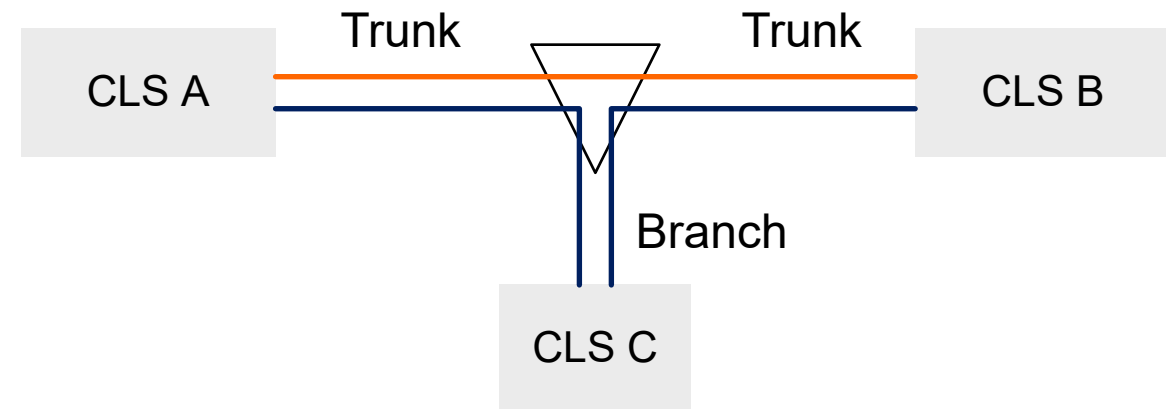
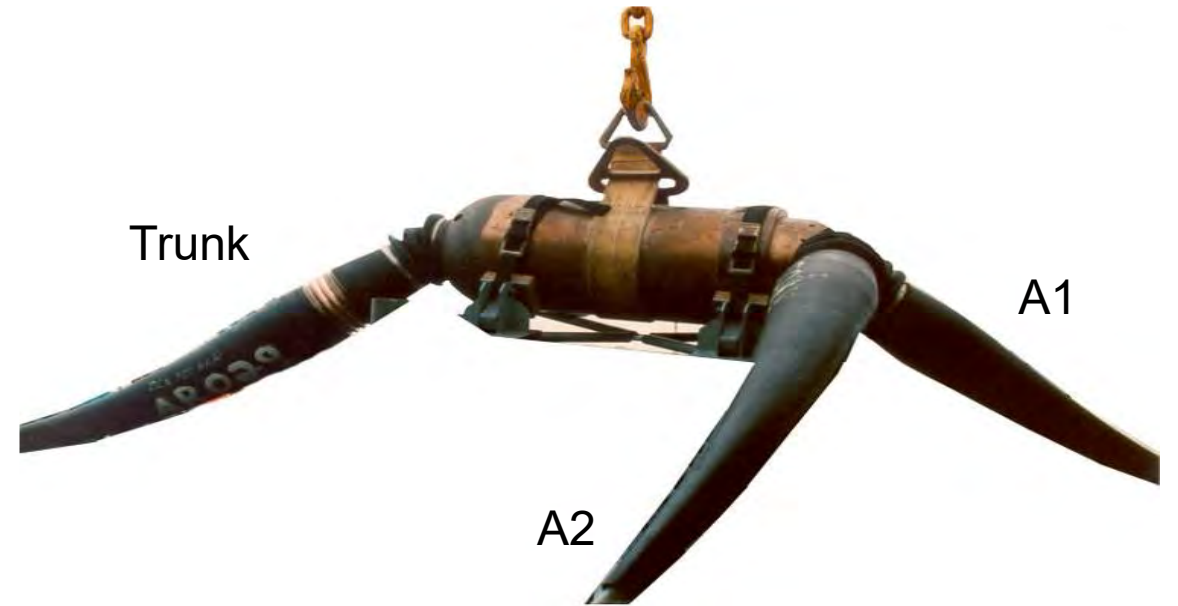


# Branching Unit – Fiber Routing

The branching unit (BU) enables connections other than simple point to point

## The Branching Unit

- A 3-port device: Trunk, A1 and A2
- Enables the creation of a branch of the main trunk
- Provides fiber routing and optical connectivity between 3 points
- Enables later network expansion

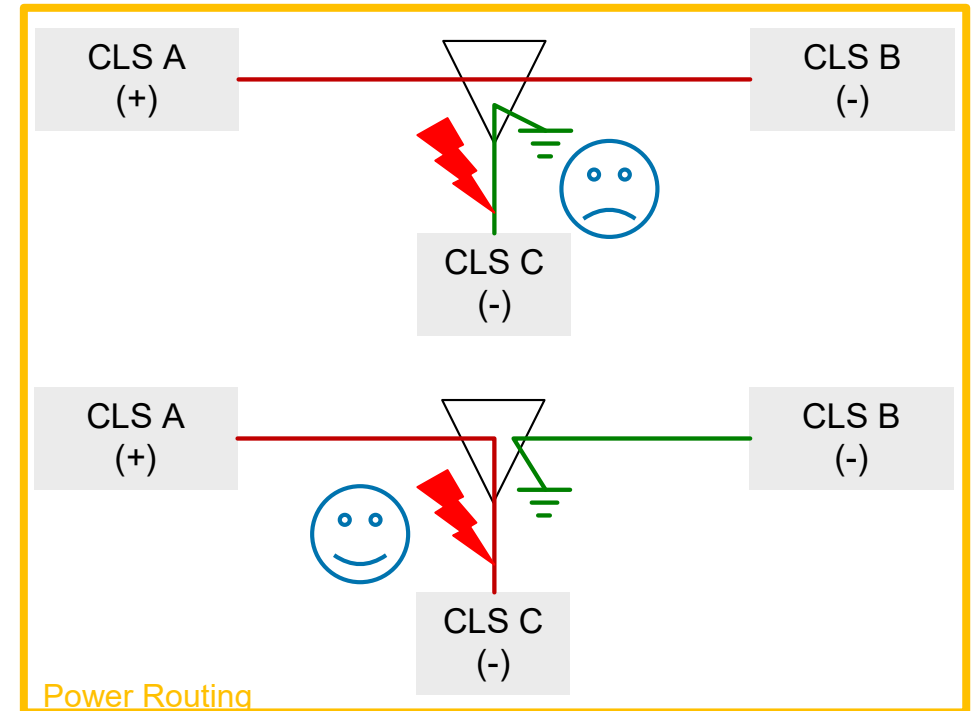


# Power Switched Branching Unit

The branching unit can also contain remote controlled high voltage relays to enable switching of the power path

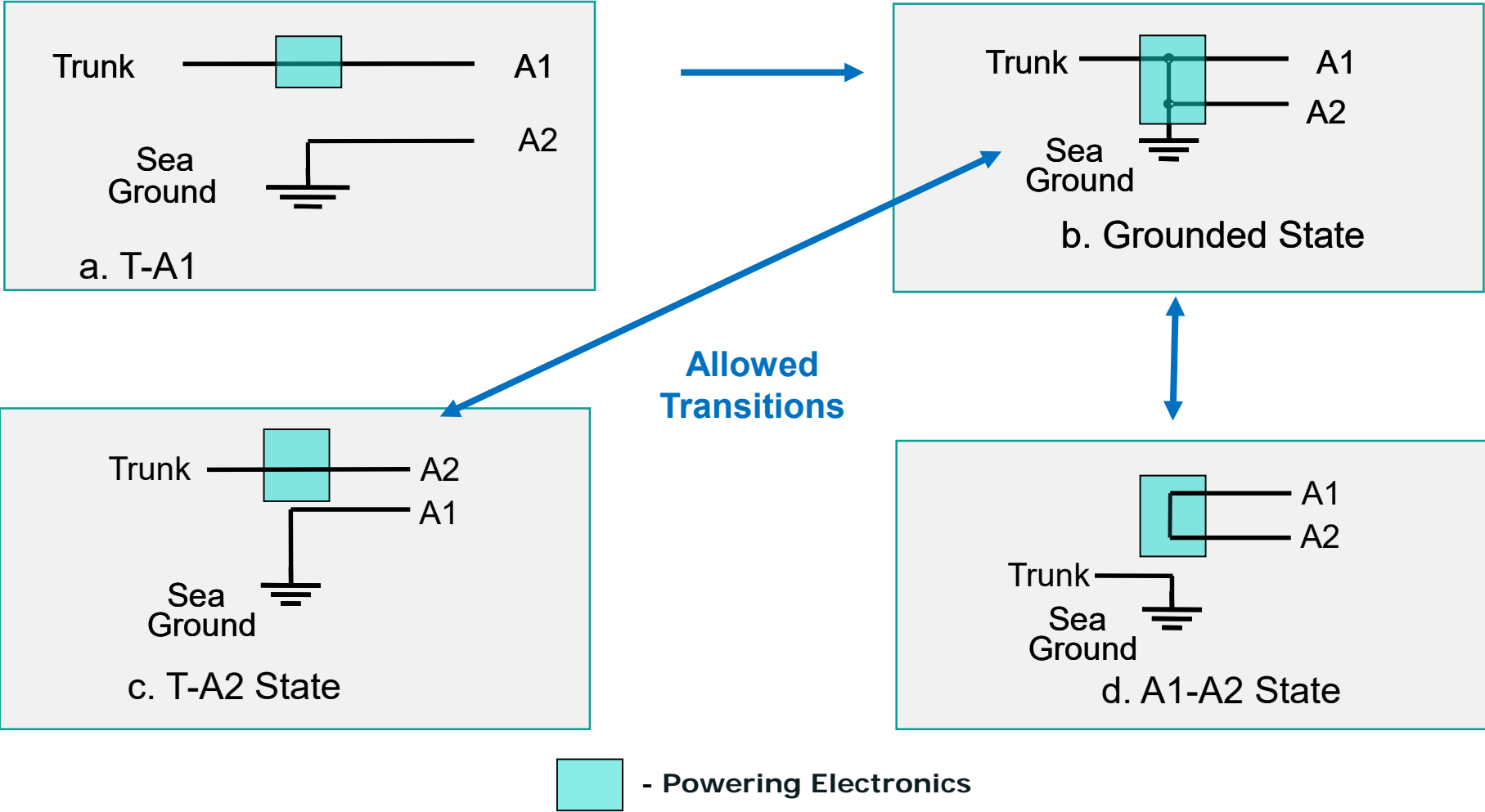
Cable Fault Recovery and Isolation:

- Recover from shunt faults (see also lectures by Katsuji Yamaguchi)
- Maintain traffic on unaffected segments during a ship repair
- Optical command control from shore

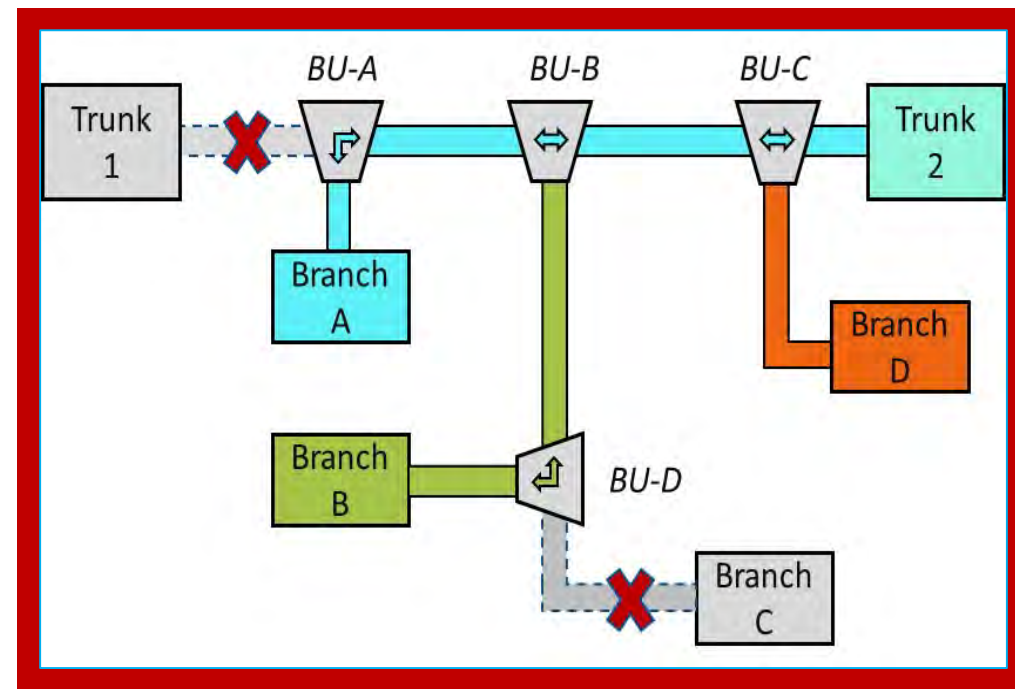
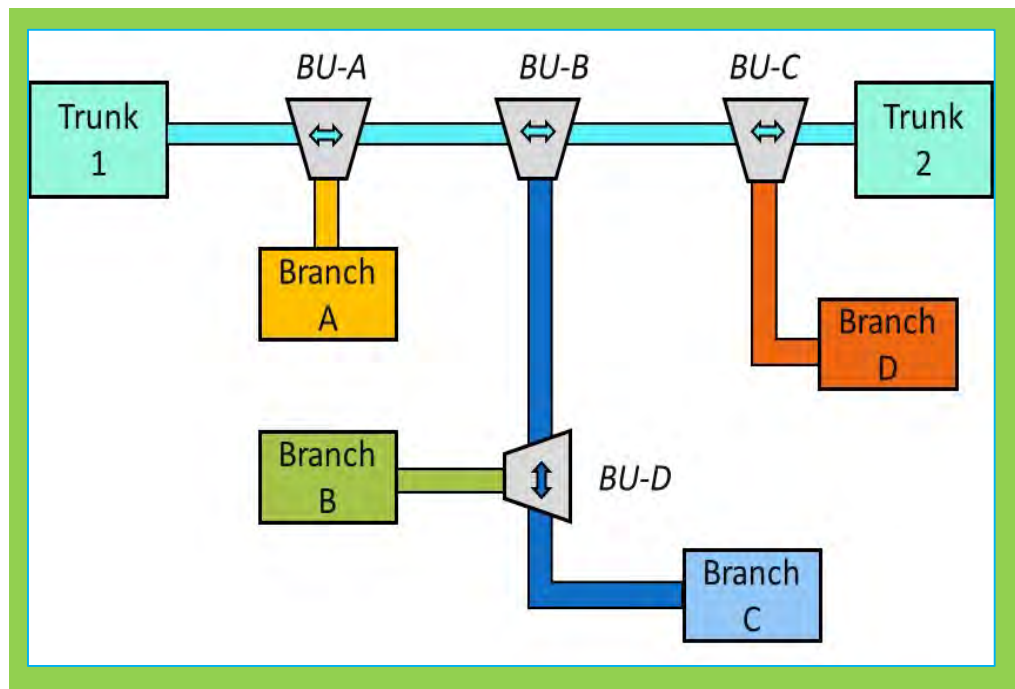


# Power Switching States in the eBU

Power Switching States for Normal System Operation



# Submarine System Powering with Branches

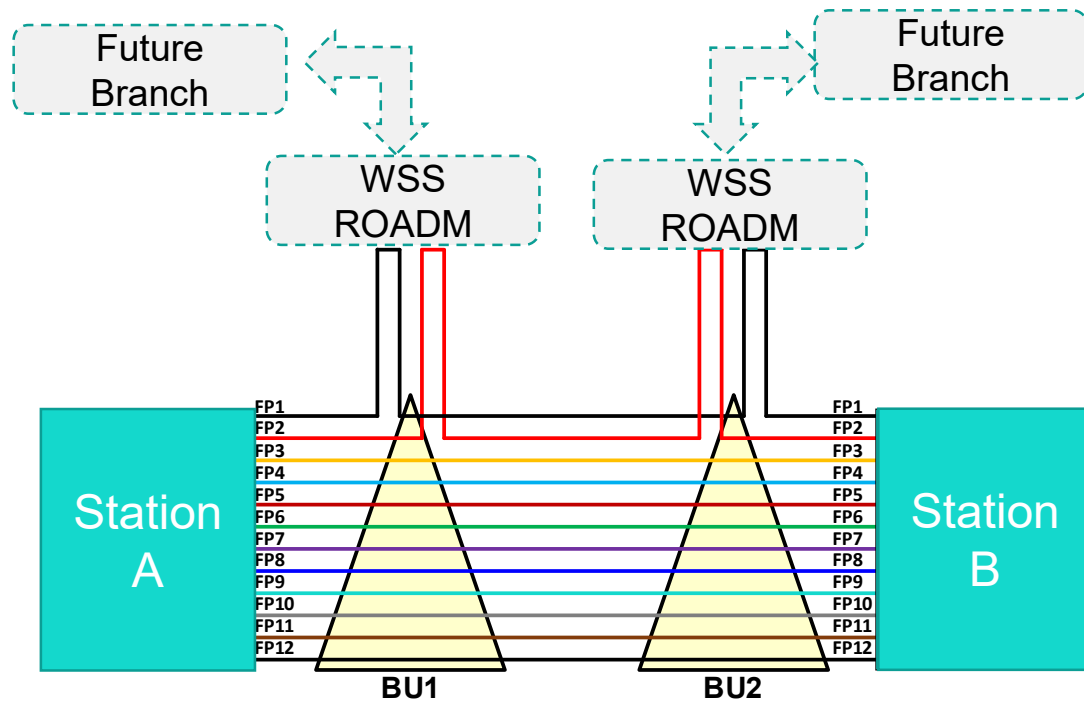


Before / After  
Dual Powering Fault

Powering submarine systems also requires creative architectures.



# Future Network Expansion



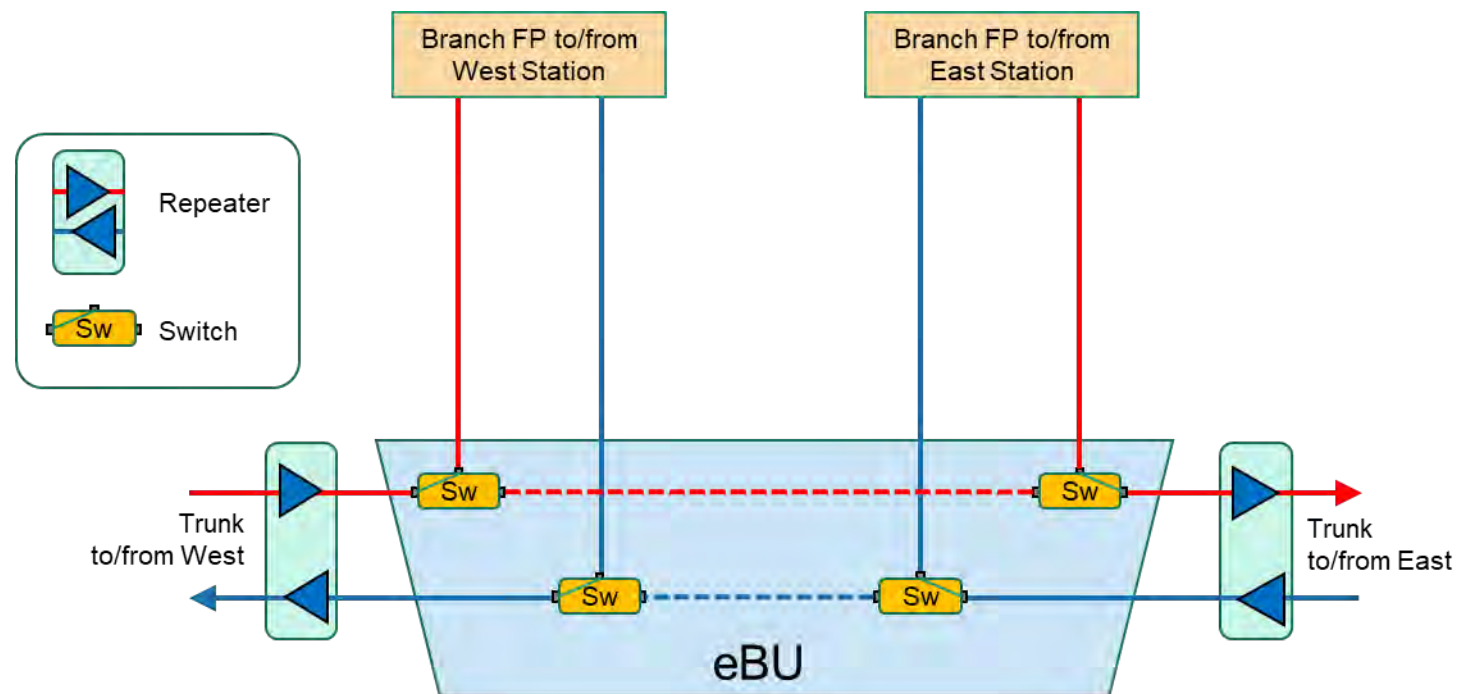
- BUs with stubs can be inserted into a cable to enable future connectivity without cutting into the trunk cable
- Any number of trunk FPs can be accessed for connection to a branch state
- Stubs can also support later addition of WSS ROADM or Dry ROADM.

# Branching Unit – Fiber Switching

Today's branching units also contain remote controlled optical switches for even more functionality

User configurable remote fiber switching allows

- Autonomous or/and manual fault recovery
- Isolating the branch for a repair or later network expansion
- Adding and/or re-routing traffic in a branch



# Cross-Cable Architectures

## Fiber Switched BUs can provide intra-cable connectivity.

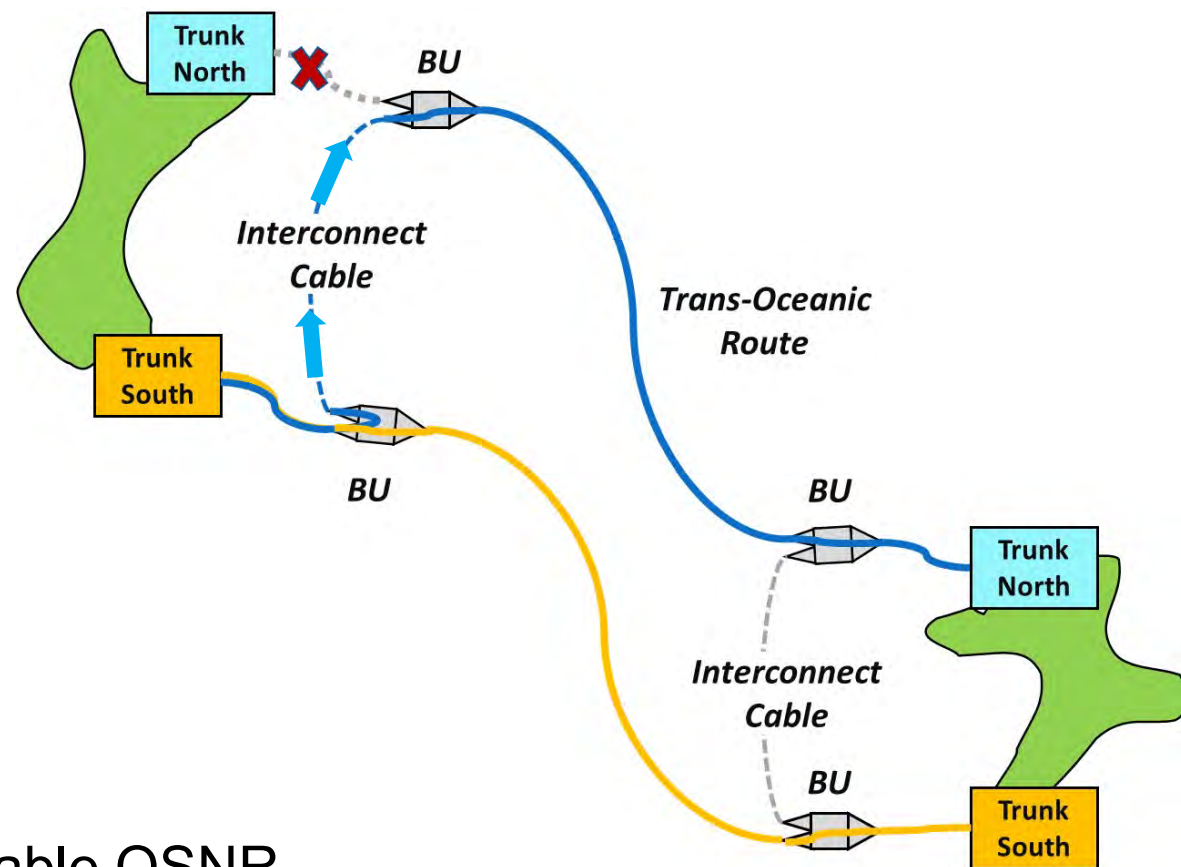
- Use for fault recovery, or for capacity routing flexibility.

## Increases overall network availability.

- Protect on a FP basis, or use ROADMs to prioritize spectrum.

## Increases path length:

- Could adjust channel data rates to match available OSNR.



# Why Only 3-Port BUs?

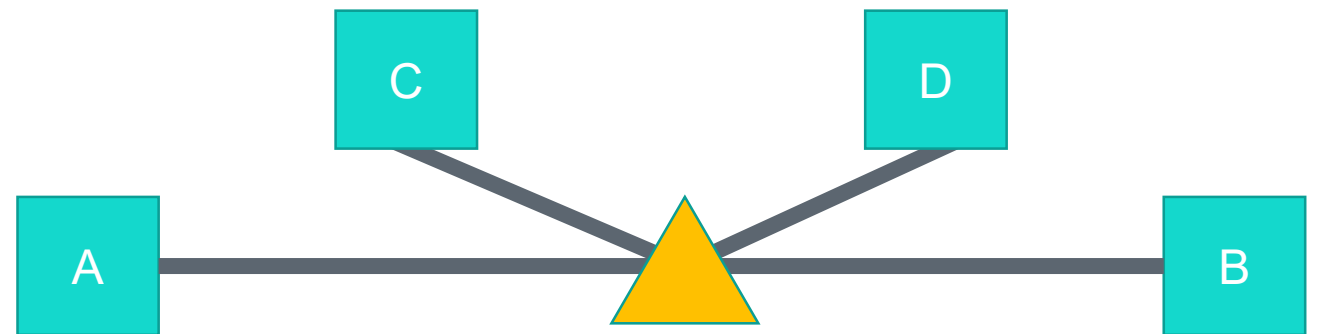
BU placement is typically optimized for overall cable length

- Lower cost
- Lower latency

There are additional marine considerations to best protect the BU

- Seafloor conditions

(4-Port BUs exist for special applications)



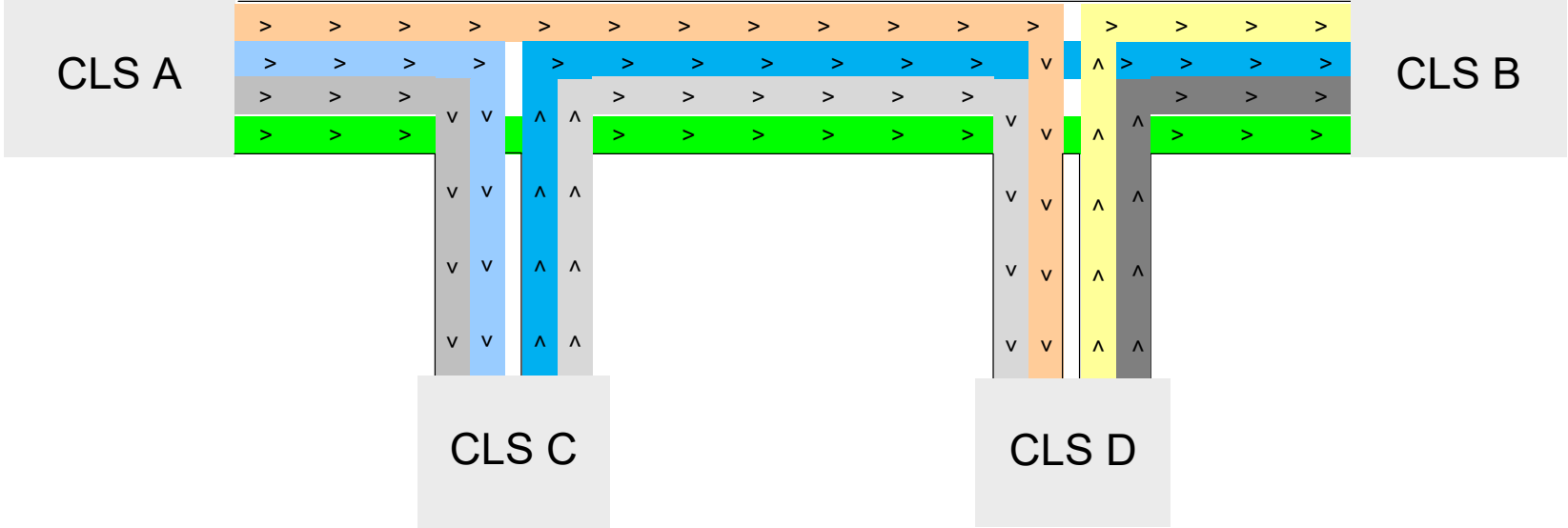
4-Port BU

# Optical Add Drop Multiplexing

# Undersea Optical Add Drop Multiplexing (OADM)

## Enhanced Connectivity options

Multiple DLS on a single fiber pair



## Wavelength Re-use

Bandwidth on a trunk fiber pair can be used for multiple DLS

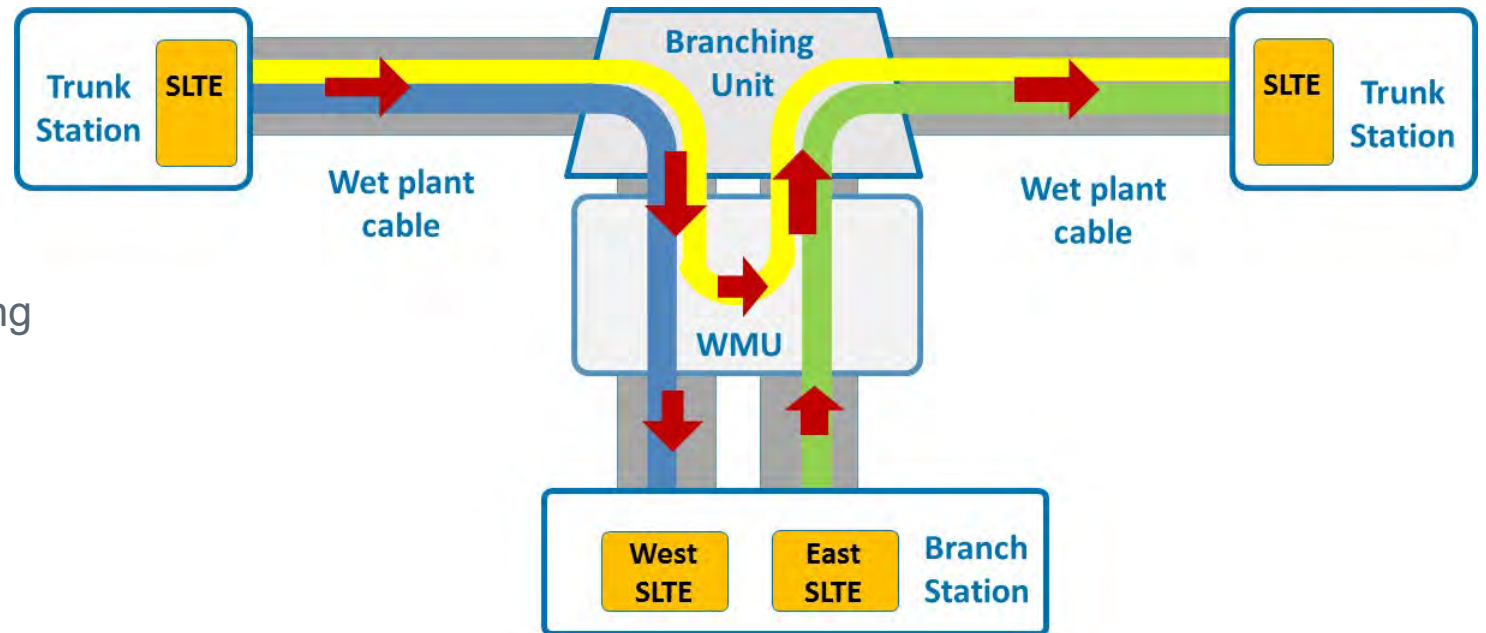
# Optical Add/Drop Multiplexing (OADM) Node

## Components in an OADM Node include:

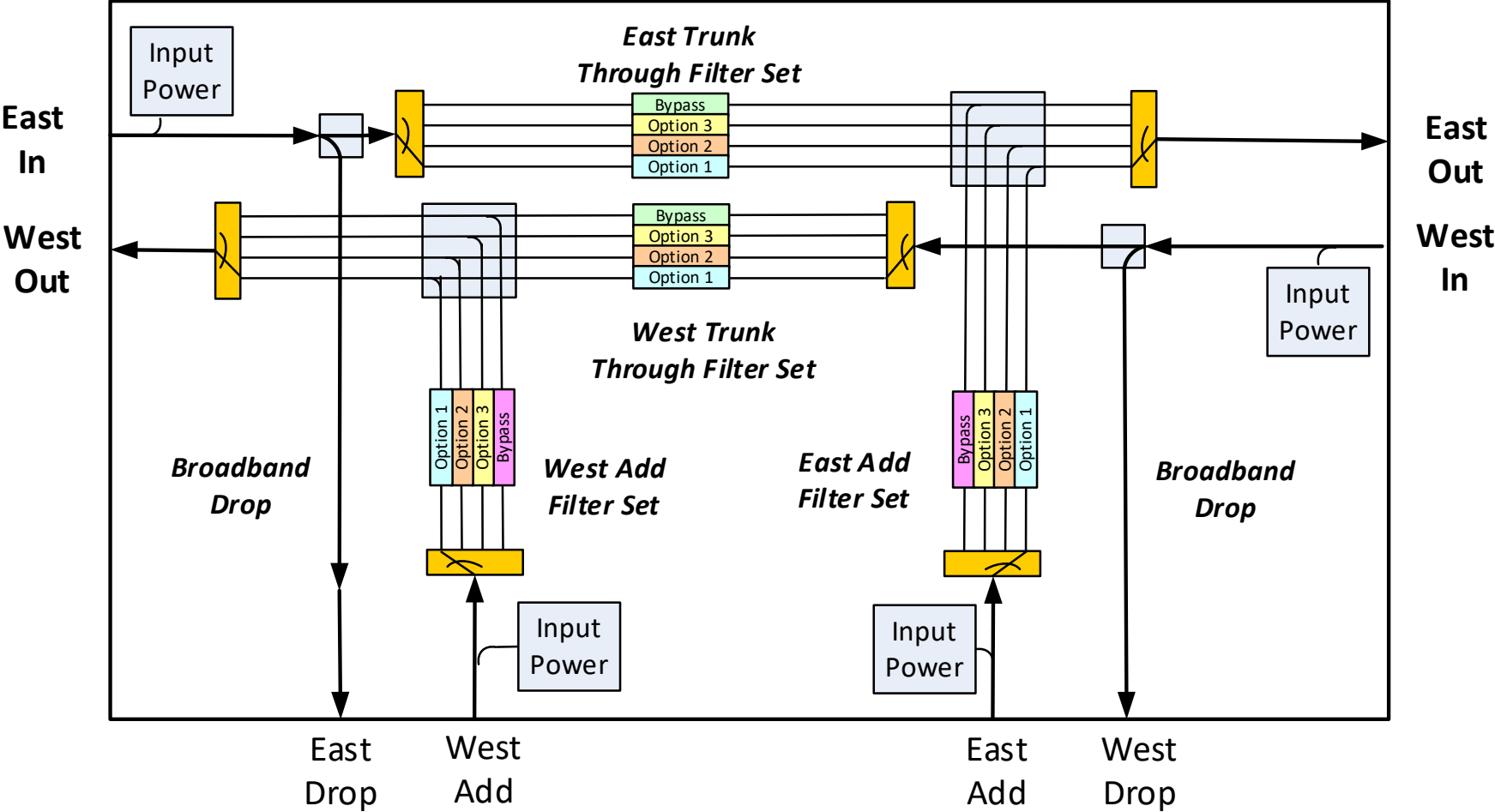
- Branching Unit
- OADM Unit:
  - Passive fixed filtering
  - Switchable filtering
  - Wavelength Selective Switch based filtering

## Modular OADM options:

- OADM unit can be deployed when the branch is landed
- Simplified sparing (universal spare for BU)
- Repair operation does not affect express fiber pairs



# Switched Filtering

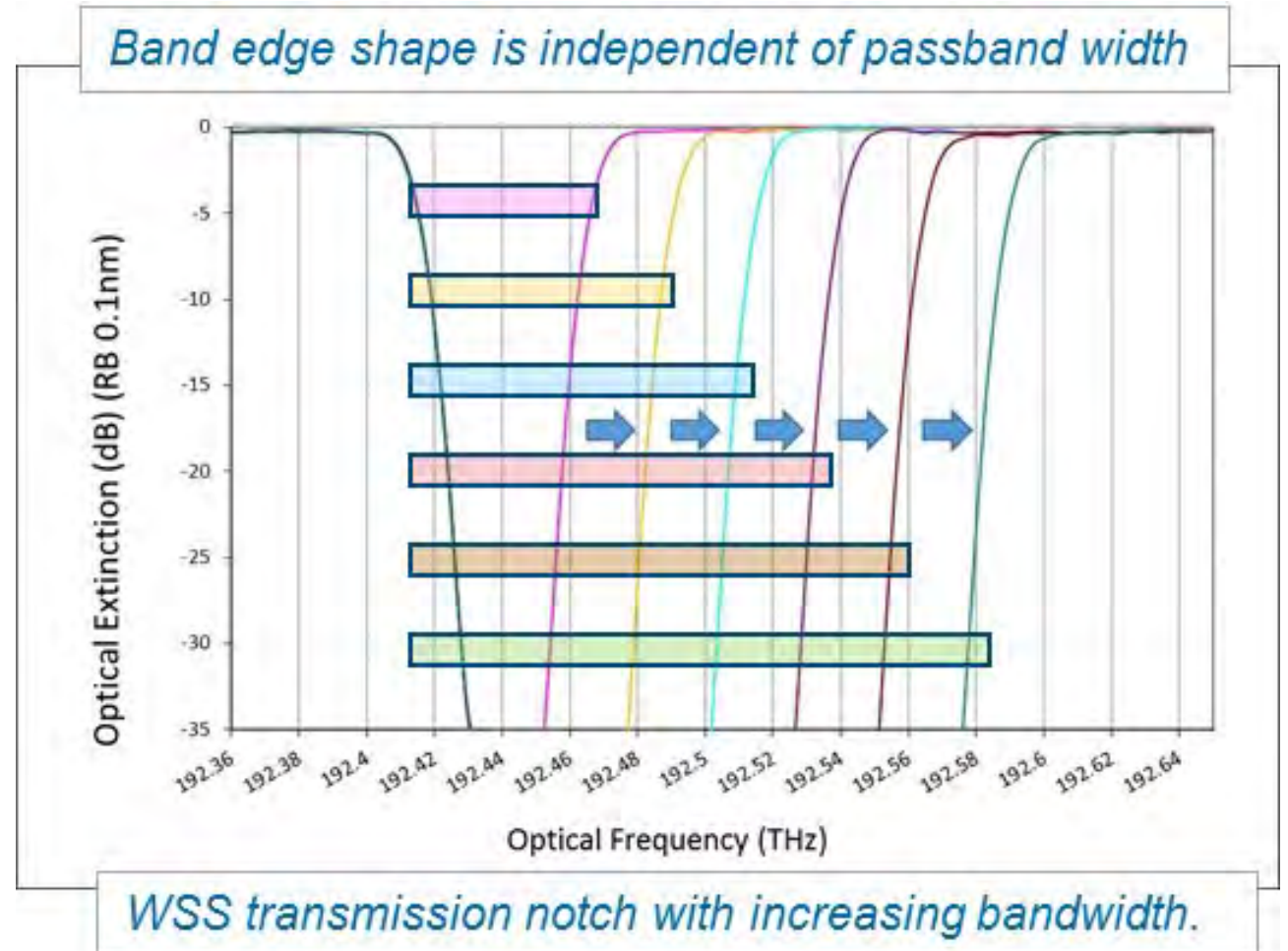




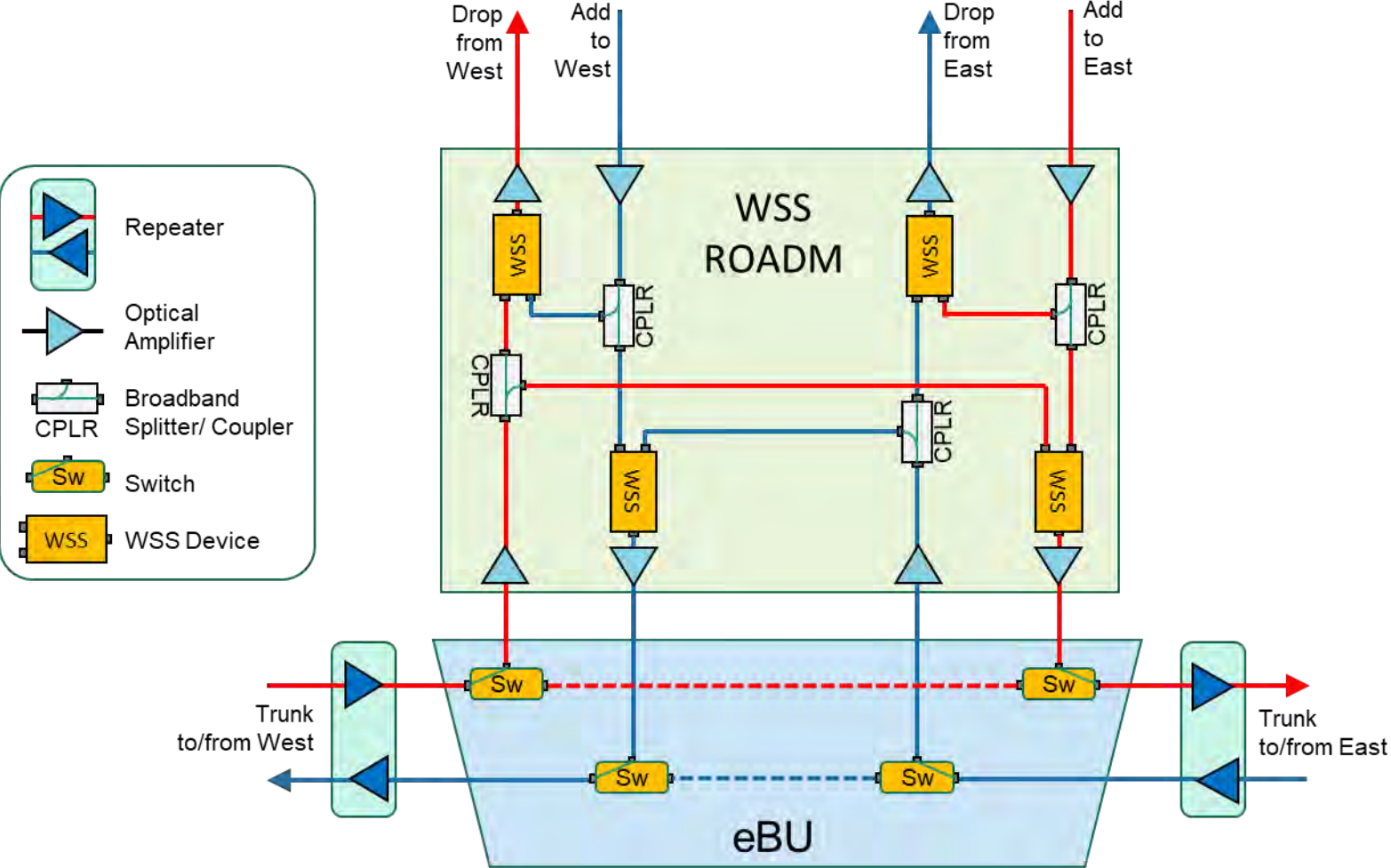
# Wavelength Selective Switch

The Wavelength Selective Switch (WSS) is a pixelated device that supports reconfigurable filtering

- Key specifications:
  - Grid-flexible channel plan with a fine granularity e.g. 6.25 GHz
  - Very steep filter edges
  - 30 dB transition in approximately 20 GHz



# Branching Node Example: PSBU + WSS ROADM

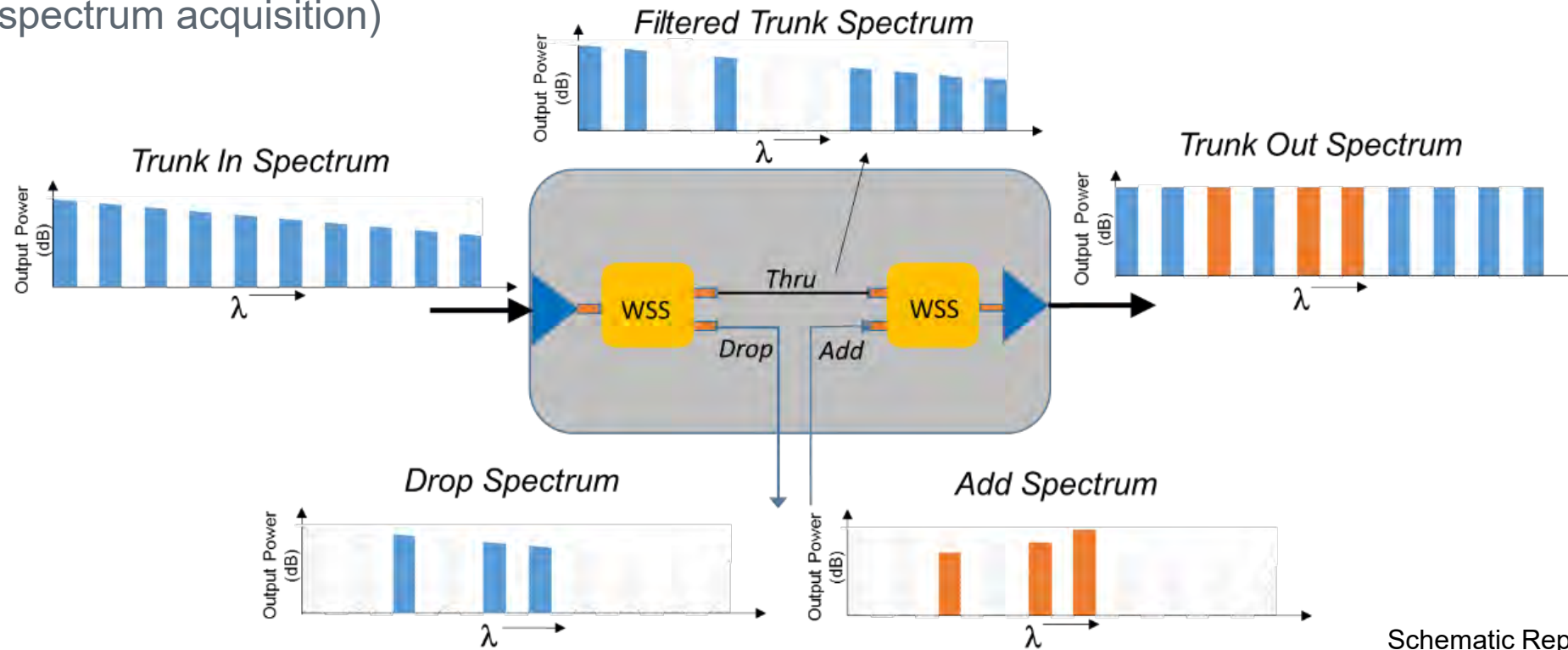


- Bi-directional Branch Access
- WSS Filtered Add/Drop
- Automatic bypass switching provided by eBU

# Reconfigurable Optical Add Drop Multiplexing

Wavelength Selective Switch based OADM nodes support

- In service, gridless capacity reallocation
- Inline dynamic gain equalization
- (Optical spectrum acquisition)



Schematic Representation

# System Reliability

# System Reliability

---

System Design Life is typically 25 years

Transmission affecting failures require ship intervention

- Costly
- Takes time

Design for reliability

- High reliability components
- Redundancy

Expected number of ship repairs due to intrinsic failures is in the range of 0-3 depending on system size and complexity



# Failures in Time

## Failure Rate

- A common measure for failure rate is FIT, defined as the number of failures in  $10^9$  device hours (114,046 years).
- Use average failure rate  $\lambda$
- Probability of failure is

$$P_{fail} = 1 - e^{-\lambda t_{system}}$$

where  $t_{system} = 25$  years

- Effective failure rate for redundant components ( $n=2$  for 1x1)

$$\lambda_{effective} = \frac{-\ln(1 - P_{fail}^n)}{t_{system}}$$

- Total FIT is the sum of all single points of failure (including effective FIT rate from redundancy)
  - Reliability:  $R = 1 - P_{fail}$

110 FIT means 2.4% will fail in 25 years

Failure rates for components of undersea repeaters		
Component type	FIT target (95% confidence) <sup>1</sup>	Field value (if available)
Pump Lasers		110 → 2.6
Discrete Optical Components	0.1–0.2	
Splices		0.01
Integrated Circuits	0.2	
Passive Electronics	0.01–0.2	
Power Electronics		0.15
<b>Total per Amplifier Pair<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>4.6</b>	
Repeater Mechanical Integrity	3	
<b>Total for a Repeater containing 4 Amplifier Pairs</b>	<b>21.4</b>	

<sup>1</sup>Confidence bound applies where acceleration of the key failure modes is possible.

<sup>2</sup>Taking laser redundancy into account.

From *Undersea Fiber Communication Systems* 2nd Edition  
by Jose Chesnoy (Editor), Academic Press ISBN: 978-0128042694

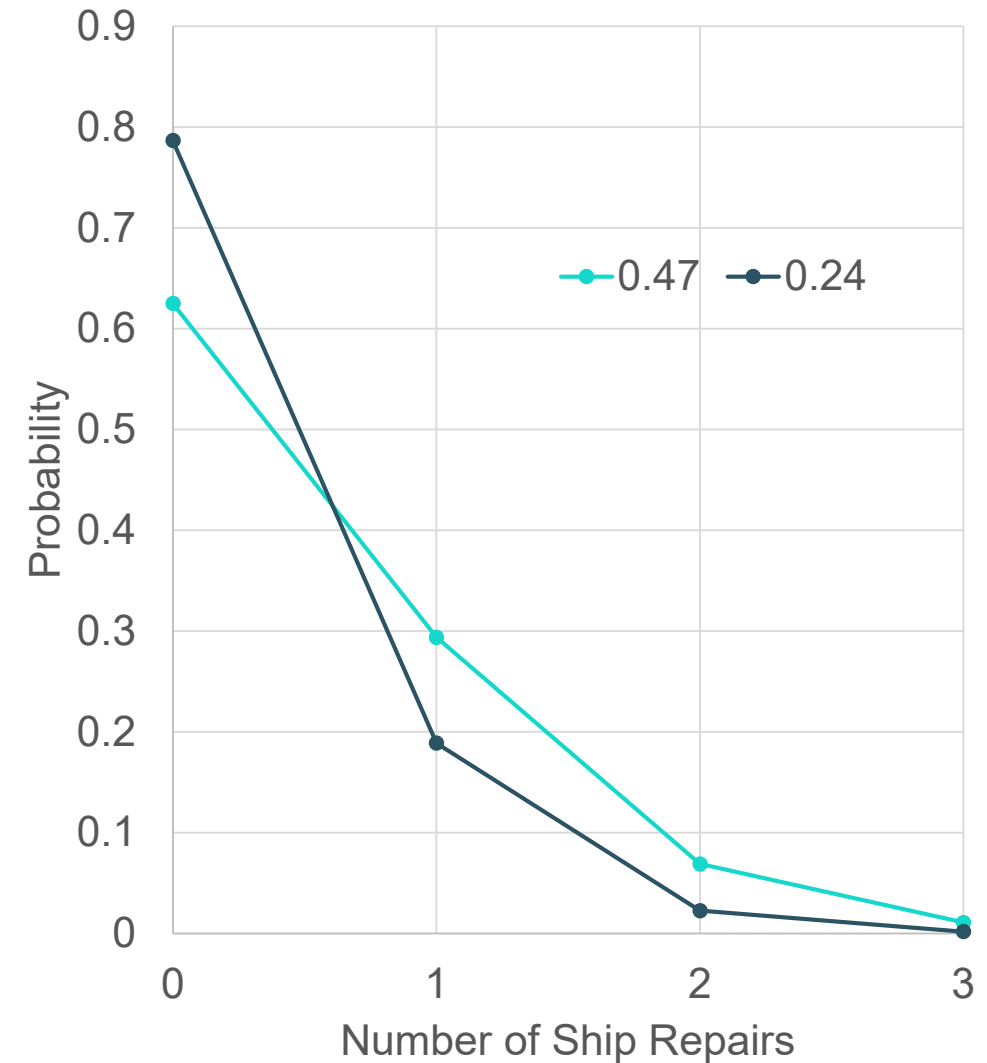
# Ship Repairs

- Failures are Poisson distributed.
- The expectation value of the distribution is the number of ship repairs.
- For Poisson the expectation value corresponds to the failure rate

## Example

- 100 Repeaters
- 4 Fiber Pairs
- 800 Pumps (110 FIT)
- 19 Pump failures in 25 years
- 4x4 pump redundancy: no repeater failure due to pump failure
- Repeater: 11 FIT
- Expected number of ship repairs in 25 years: 0.24

Example for Repeaters Only



# External Aggression

Majority of cable failures are due to external events:

- Ship anchors
- Earthquakes and mud slides
- Abrasion



Good reasons to armor or bury cable near shore.



# Summary

---

- Cable
- Repeaters
  - Amplification and gain equalization
  - Self-healing of a chain of amplifiers; gain tilt
  - Pump manifold and reliability
  - Line Monitoring and High Loss Loopbacks (HLLBs)
  - L-band amplification
  - The pressure vessel
- Branching Units
  - Fiber routing and optical switches
  - Electrical reconfiguration – Recovering from shunt faults
- Wavelength Management Units: (Reconfigurable) Optical Add Drop Multiplexing
- System Reliability





**Thank You**

# Subsea Terminal

Elizabeth Rivera Hartling

August, 2019

# Outline

- DAY 4: Submarine Terminal
  - Submarine Line Terminal Equipment (SLTE)
    - Functions, Features, Equipment & the Real Thing
  - Advanced Modems & Features
    - The evolution of modem technology for Subsea cables

# **First: A Career in Subsea**

# My Career – There are many Roles in Subsea!

## 10 Years @ Ciena:

- Subsea R&D - Simulation & Modeling (SLDs, MATLAB) – 2 yrs
- Subsea R&D - Lab Work & Field Trials! Building lab test beds and testing product on real cables all over the world – 3 yrs
- Systems Engineering (SE) – Talking SLTE Technology – 4 yrs
- Product Line Management (PLM) – Product Decisions – 1yr

## 1 Year @ Facebook (and counting):

- Subsea Network Architecture & New Cable Builds

# The Fun Stuff...

SubOptic

Voice of the Industry



Harley, Newport (CA); Jamie  
 the, Richmond (CA); Laksh  
 r, Ottawa (CA); Elizabeth  
 Hartling, Ottawa (CA); Bilal  
 Janata (CA)

2009/0036084 A1\* 2/2007 Lindsey et al. 370/246  
 2012/0328305 A1\* 12/2012 Raha et al. 398/202

OTHER PUBLICATIONS  
 Recommendation ITU-T G.977 Series G: Transmission Systems and  
 Media, Digital Systems and Networks, Apr. 2011.

\* cited by examiner

to any disclaimer, the term of this  
 is extended or adjusted under 35  
 154(b) by 277 days.

872  
 2013  
 Publication Data  
 US 2014/041595 A1 Nov. 20, 2014

(51) Int. Cl.  
 H04B 10/00 (2013.01)  
 H04B 10/61 (2013.01)

(52) U.S. Cl.  
 H04B 10/616 (2013.01)

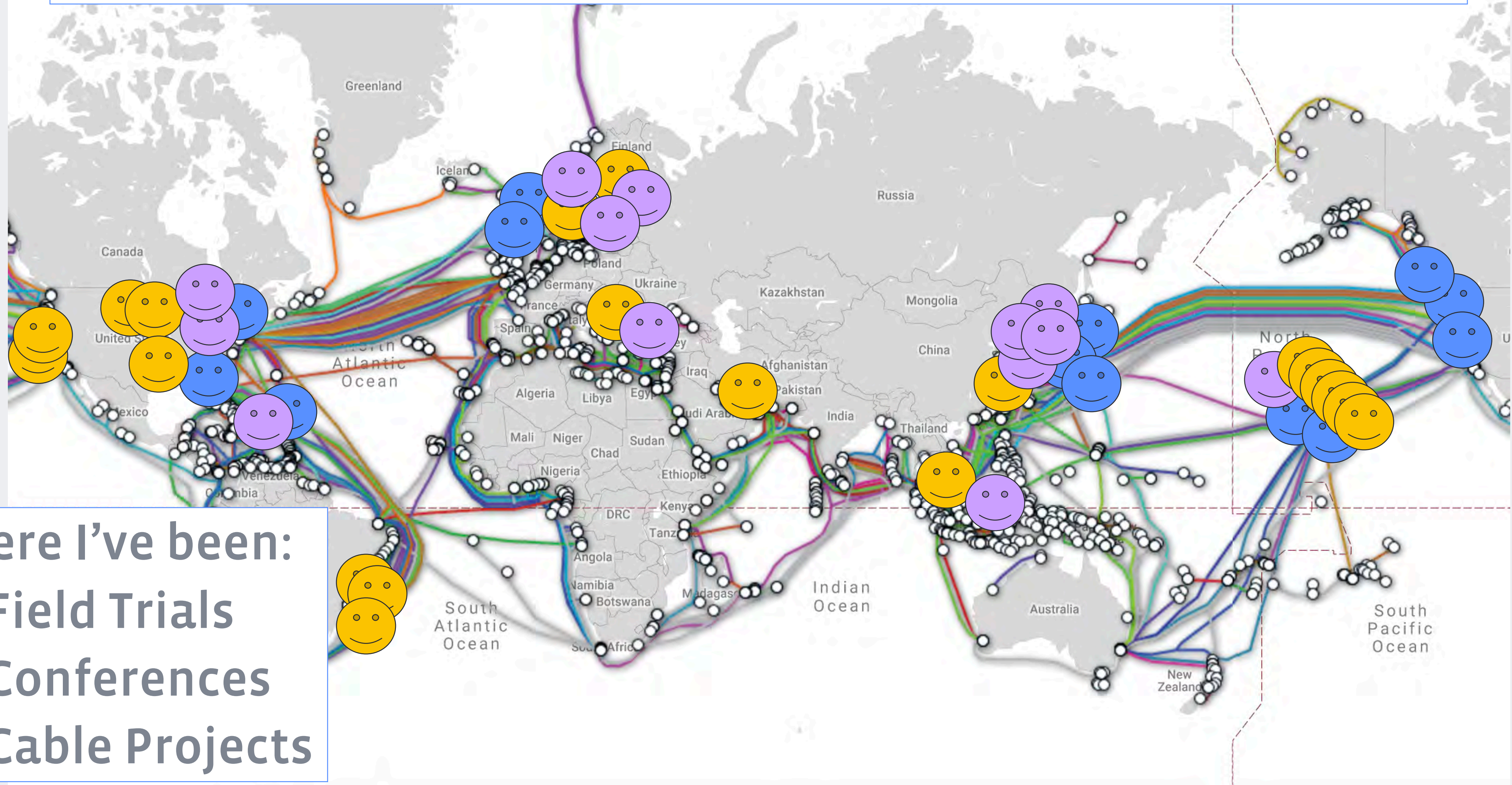
(58) Field of Classification Search  
 CPC ... H04B 10/793; H04B 10/61; H04B 10/67;  
 H04B 10/616  
 USPC ... 398/159, 193, 194, 208, 26  
 See application file for complete search history.

20 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets

ciena.



Submarine cables land all over the world.  
For many people, a career in Subsea = TRAVEL!



Where I've been:

-  Field Trials
-  Conferences
-  Cable Projects





More than 2.7 Billion users across the Facebook family of apps  
including **Facebook** , **Instagram**, **WhatsApp**, **Messenger**

**>85%** of users are outside of the U.S

**facebook**

# 2018 This Is What Happens In An Internet Minute



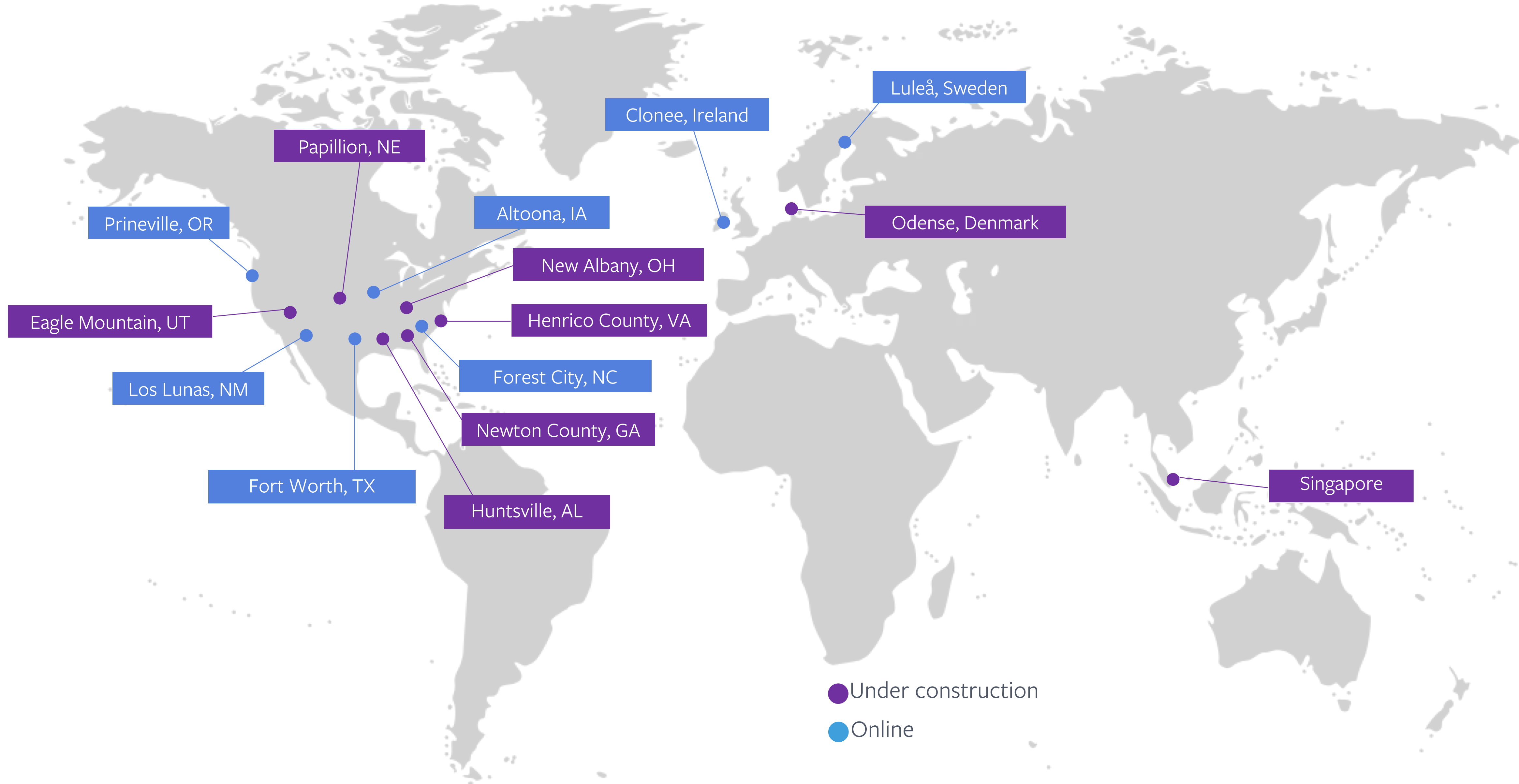
# 2019 This Is What Happens In An Internet Minute



# Data Centers



# Facebook Data Center Locations



011111

01001111 010010

111 01001111 01001011 0

1111 01001111 01001011 001000

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 0

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 010

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 01010

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 0101001

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 01010011 0

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 01010011 010

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 01010011 01010

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 01010011 0101010

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 01010011 01010101 0

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 01010011 01010101 01000

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 01010011 01010101 01000010

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 01010011 01010101 01000010 0

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 01010011 01010101 01000010 010

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 01010011 01010101 01000010 01010

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 01010011 01010101 01000010 010100

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 01010011 01010101 01000010 010100

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 01010011 01010101 01000010 010100

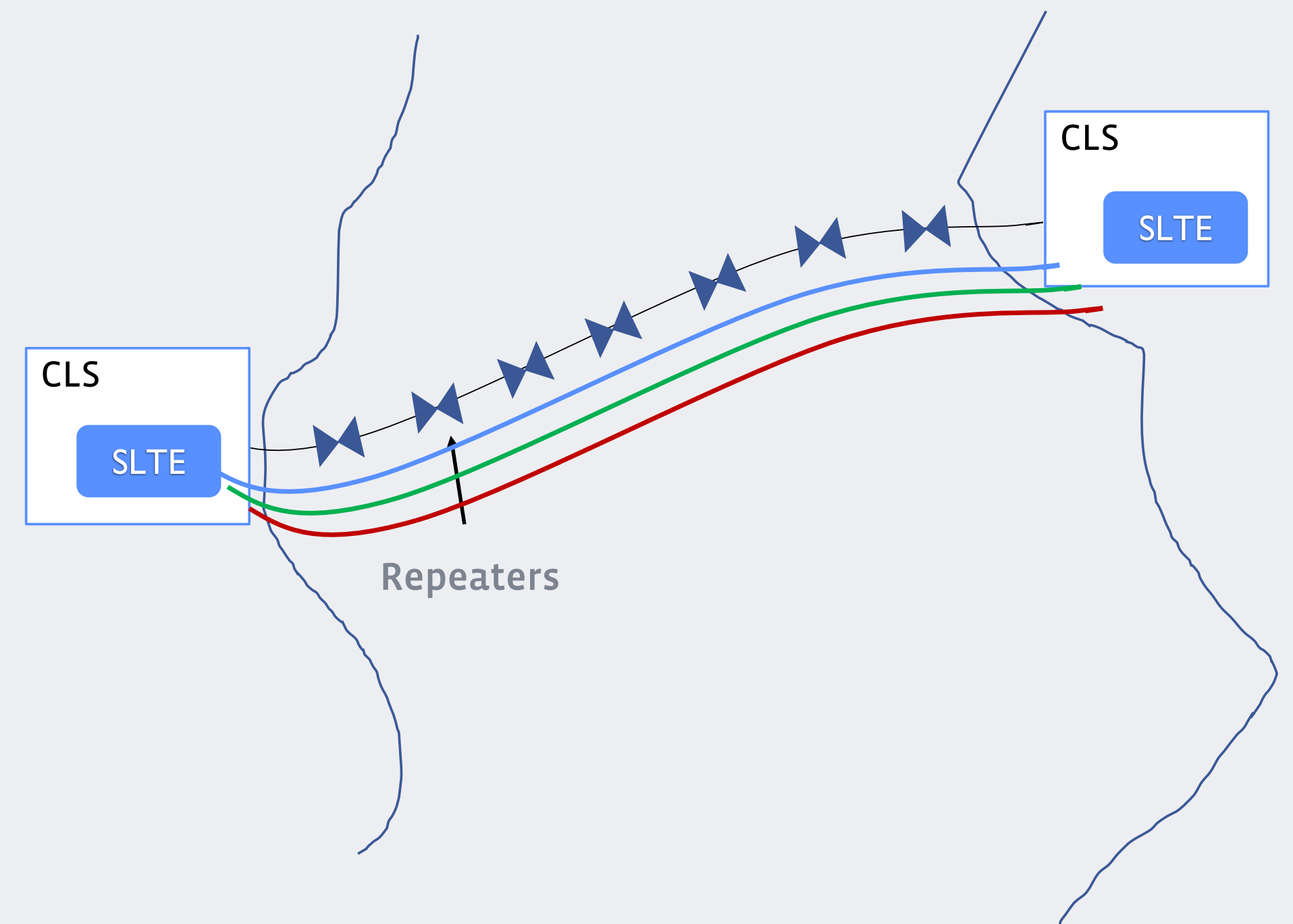
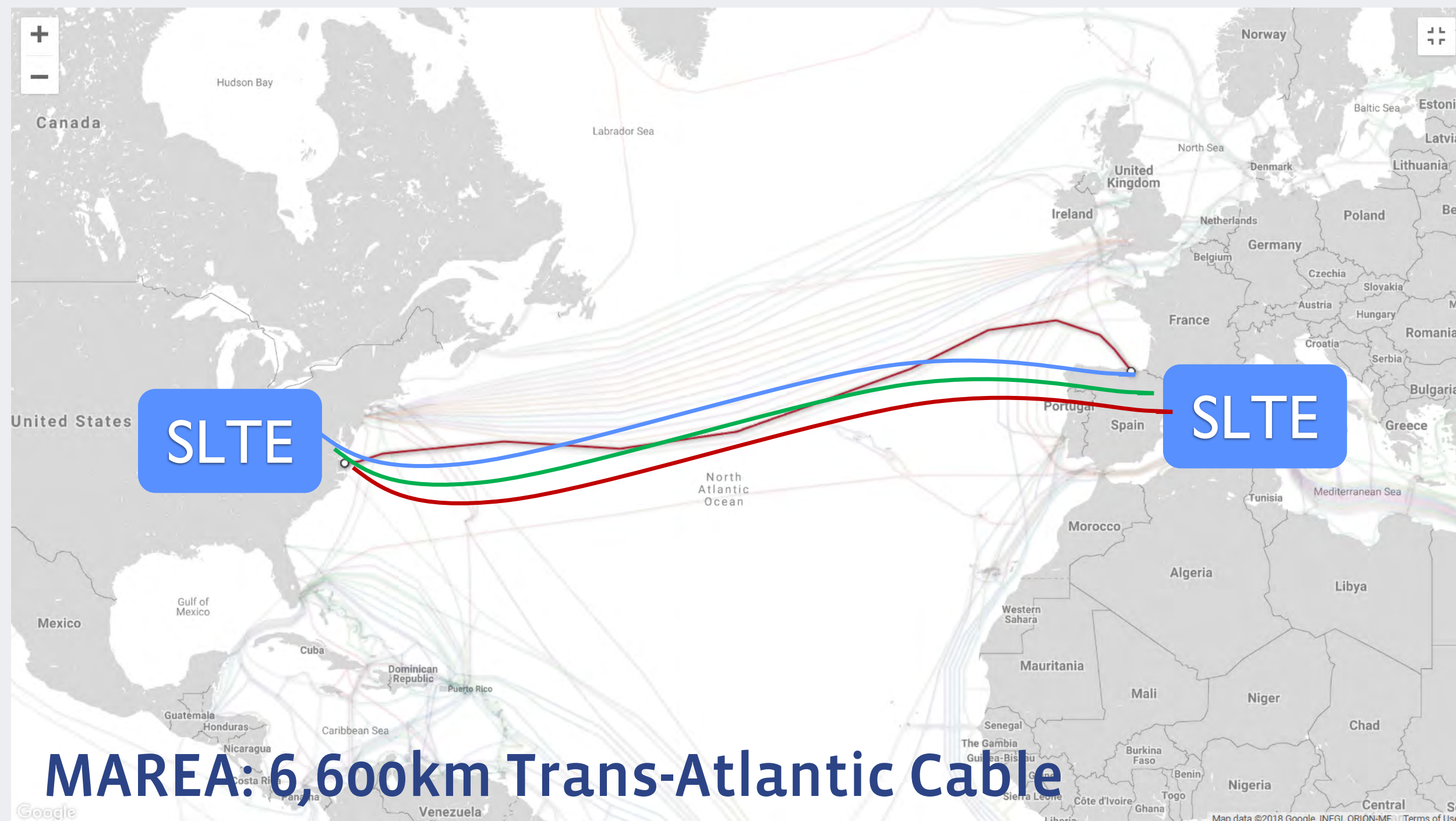
01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 01010011 01010101 01000010 010100

01111 01001111 01001011 00100000 01010011 01010101 01000010 010100

# Submarine Line Terminal Equipment (SLTE)

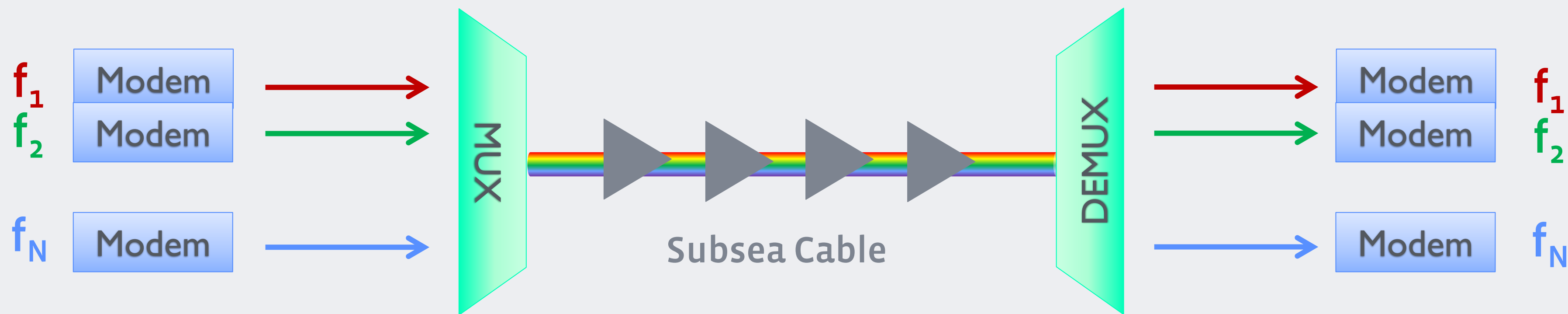
# What is SLTE & What Does it Do?

SLTE is what gets your data from one side of the ocean to the other with as few errors as possible (or with only as many as are correctable 😊 )!



# WDM Transmission

WDM transmission relies on optical multiplexers (MUX) and de-multiplexers (DEMUX) to seamlessly combine and split the waves for propagation.



**\*\*Modems\*\***  
a.k.a.  
Transponder  
Transceiver  
Line Card  
...all the same!

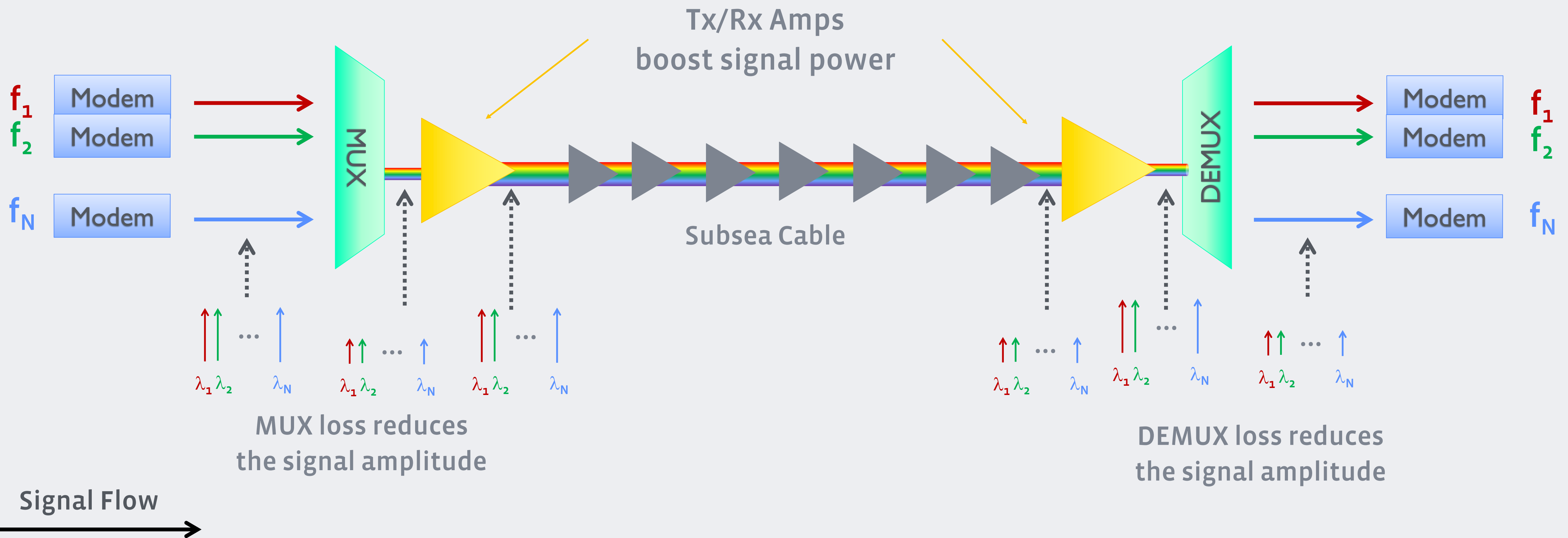
Signal Flow





# Optical Amplification

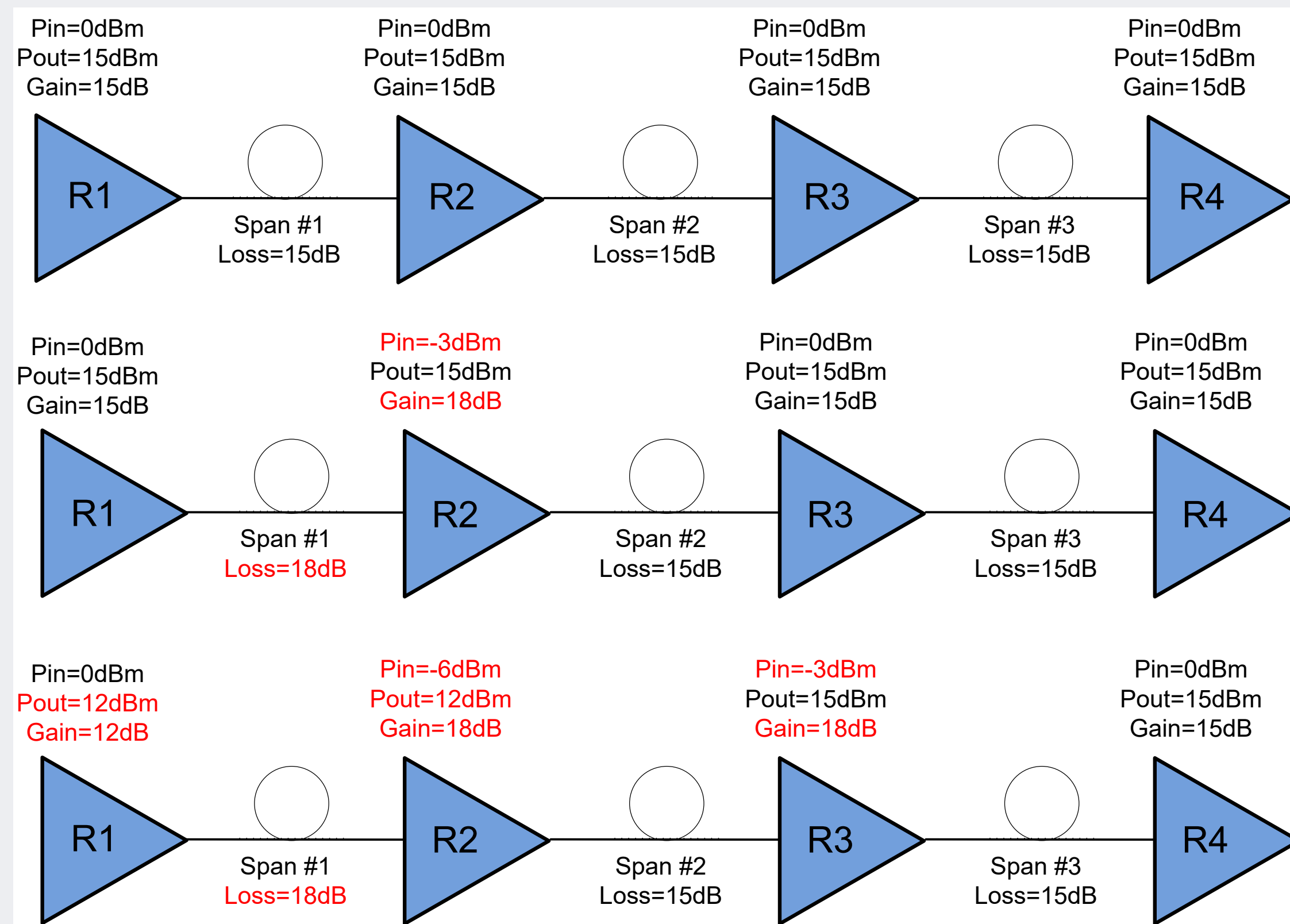
Most multi-span links amplify the waves before they enter the fiber, and after they exit, to ensure the best SNR possible for the wavelengths when they hit the optical receivers!



# Submarine Repeaters – Why TOP Mode?

Submarine repeaters are designed for low noise figures, high reliability and for system fault recovery, all with a 25 year lifetime. This is why submarine repeaters operate in Total Output Power mode.

- Cable repairs “recover” but often with some residual tilt
- Pump failures “self-correct” during their recovery due to SHB



### Cable repair on Span #1:

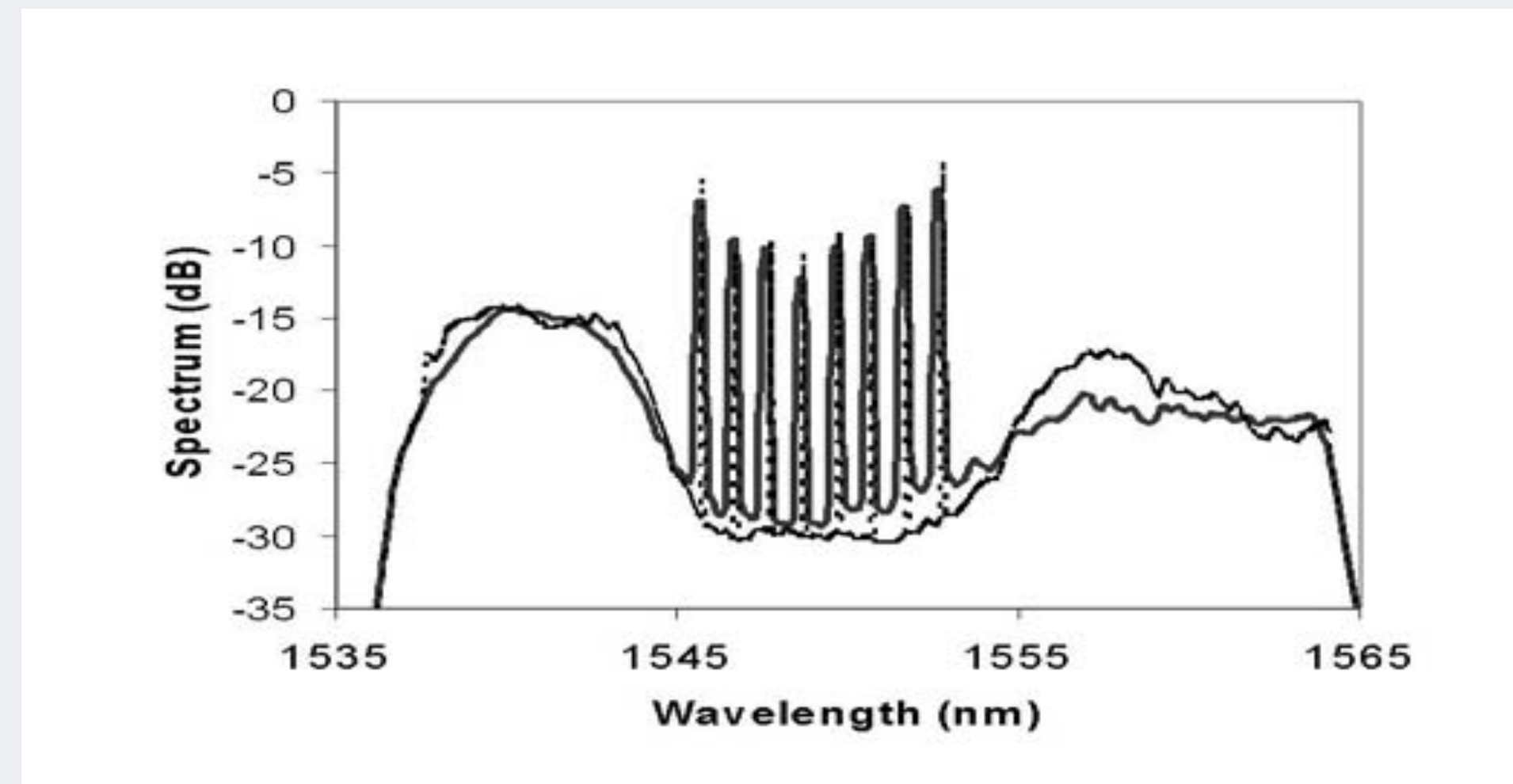
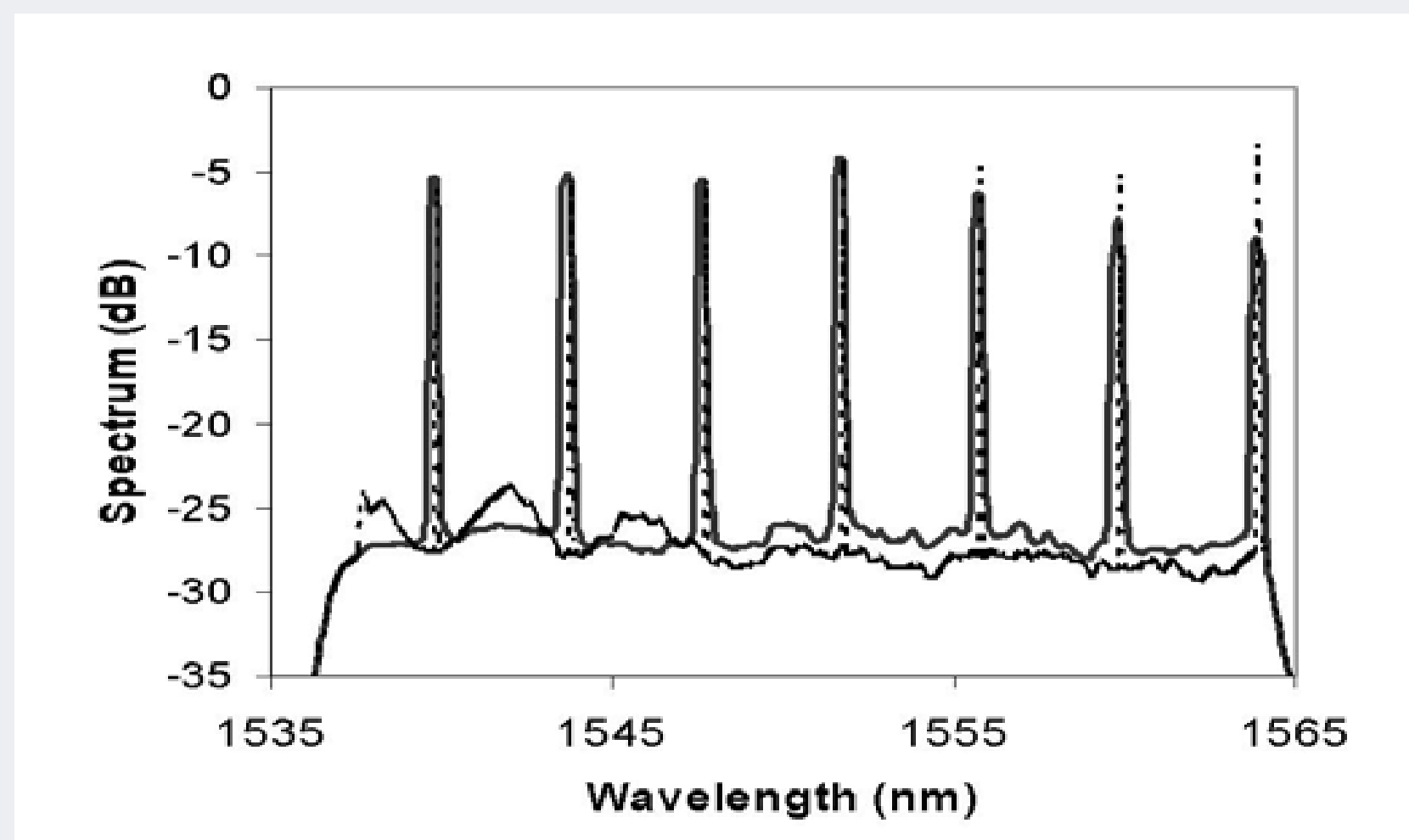
- 3dB increase in span loss
- R2 gain increases 3dB to compensate
- R3 sees no change

### Pump failure on R1:

- 3dB reduction in output power
- R2 is already at max gain
- R3 sees 3dB lower input power, increases gain 3dB to compensate
- R4 sees no change

# The Need for Dummy Lights in Subsea

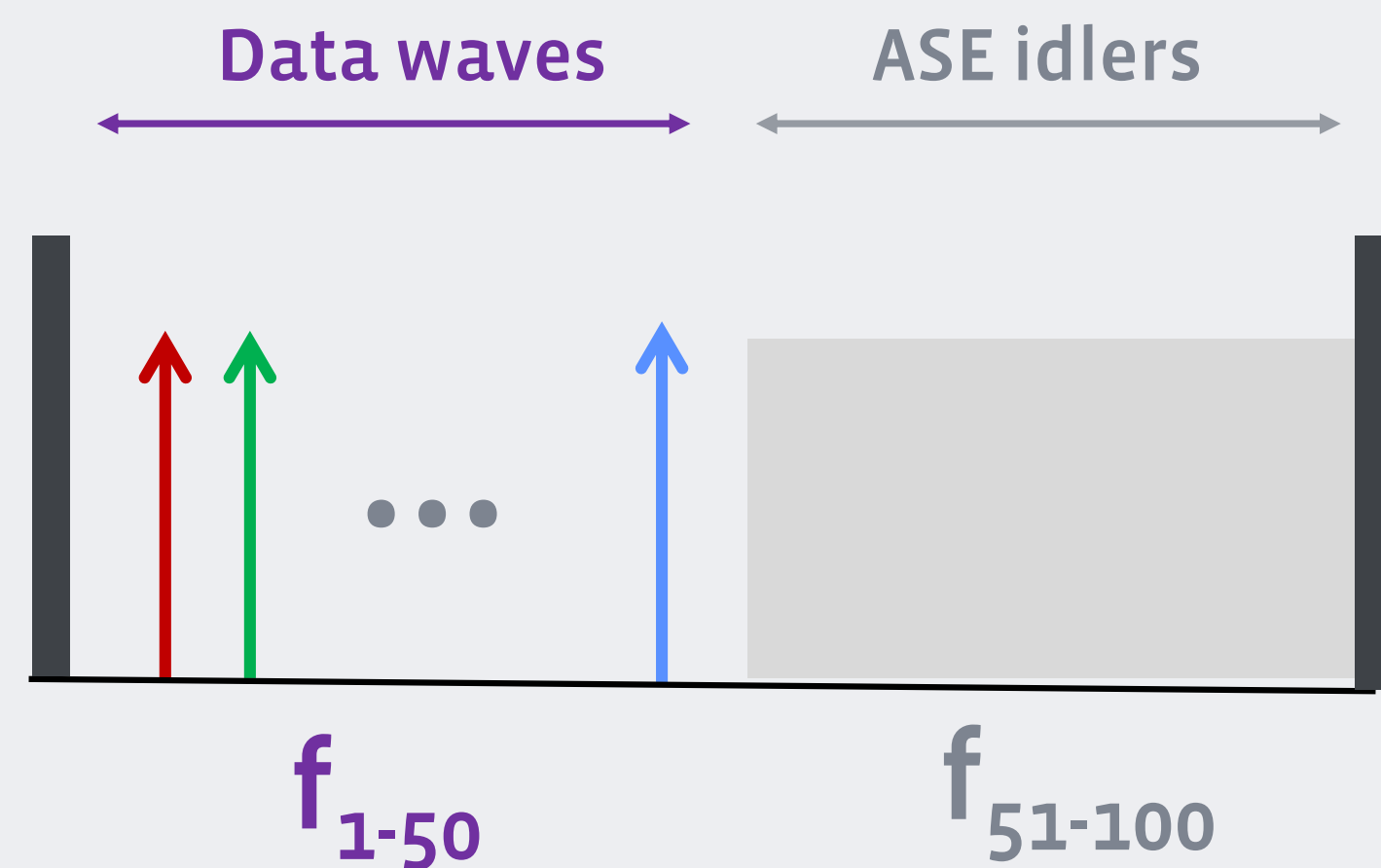
- So, if subsea amps always run at the same TOP setting, that means if you have one wavelength, it gets all the power! And If you have 100 wavelengths, they each get  $1/100^{\text{th}}$  of the power (approximately)
  - The performance of any wavelength on a given optical link is highly dependent on it being propagated at or near it's optimal power (i.e. optimal balance of linear & nonlinear noise)
- Thus, Subsea systems uses “dummy” wavelengths (waves that don't carry any real data, but consume excess repeater power), to ensure all waves stay at their optimal power all the time.
- Recall: the distribution of gain across the spectrum is highly dependent on how the power of the wavelengths is balanced, particularly in TOP mode (“waterbed” analogy!)



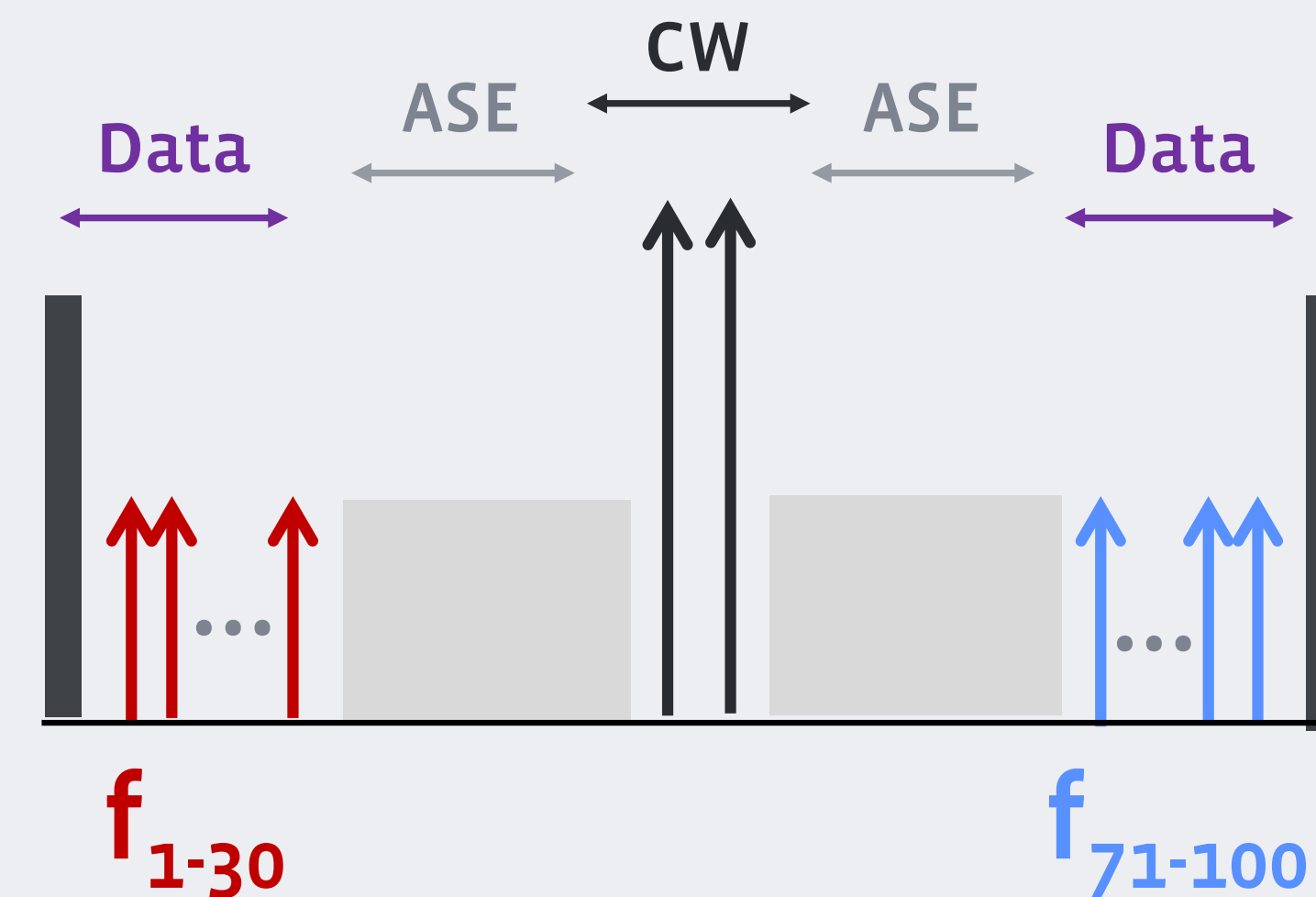
# Not all Dummies are Created Equal...

- There are two kinds of dummy lights used in Subsea:
  - ASE based idlers (banded or channelized)
  - Continuous Wave (CW) idlers (unmodulated lasers)

## Typical of D+ Cables:

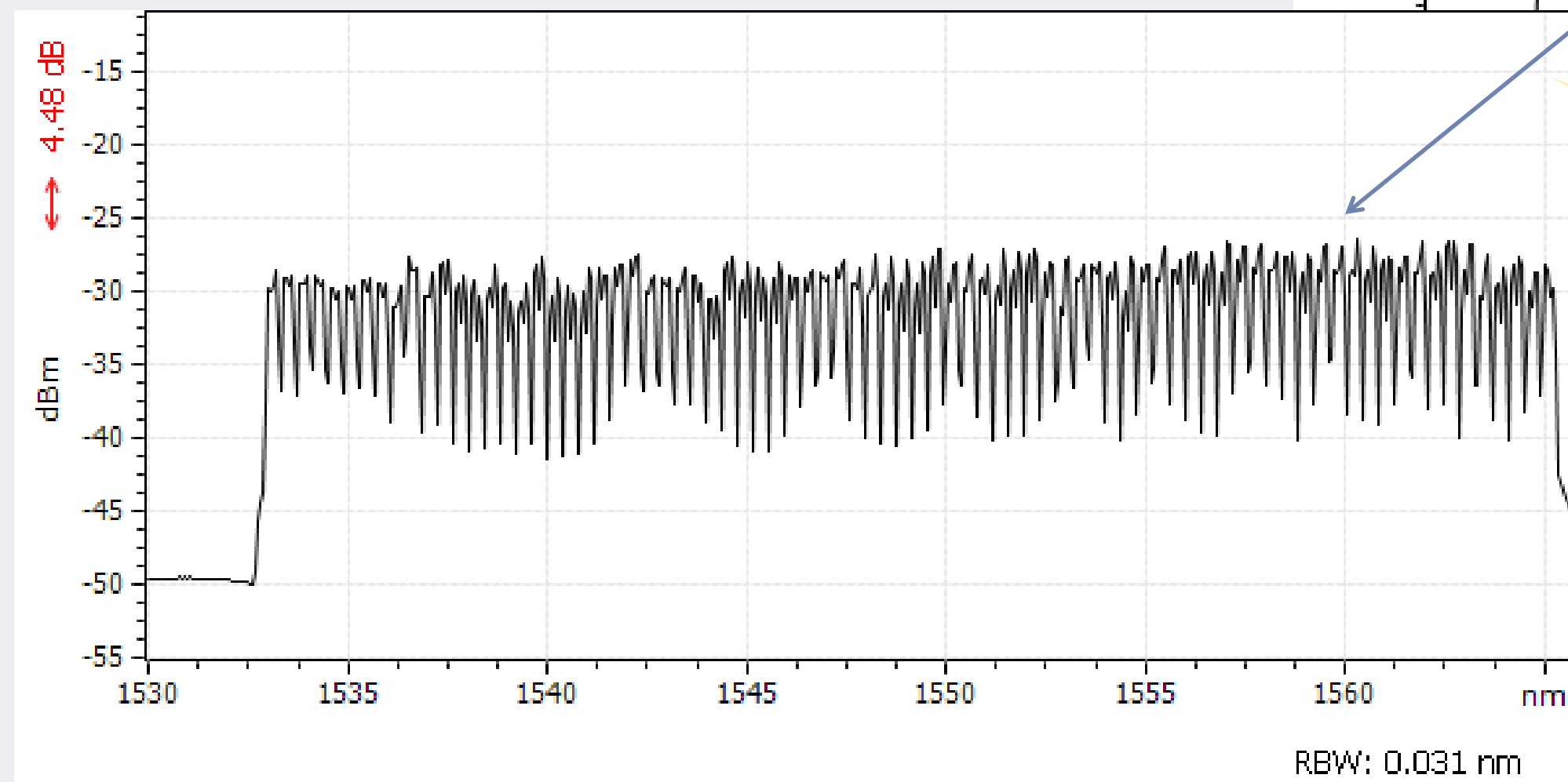
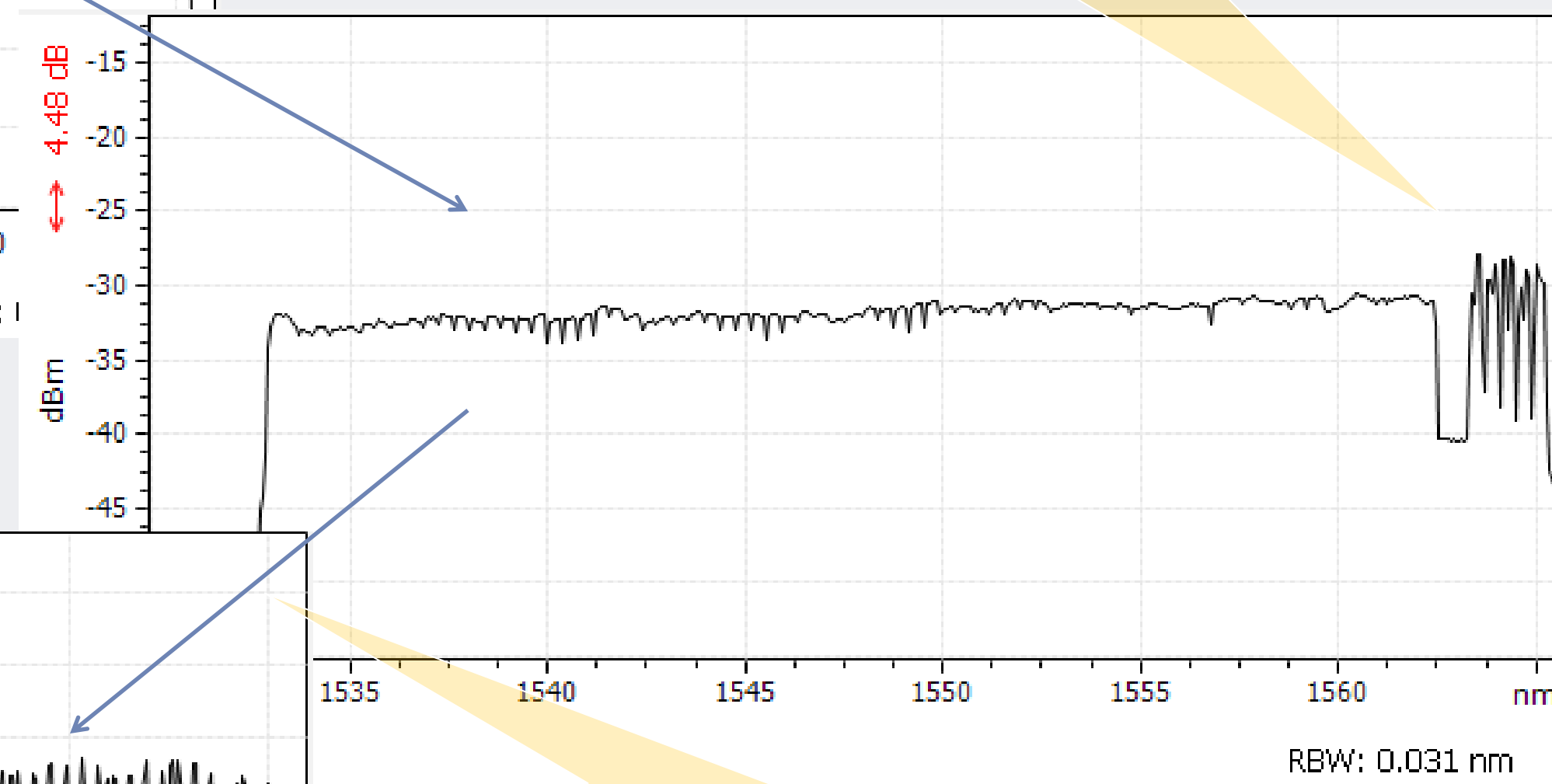
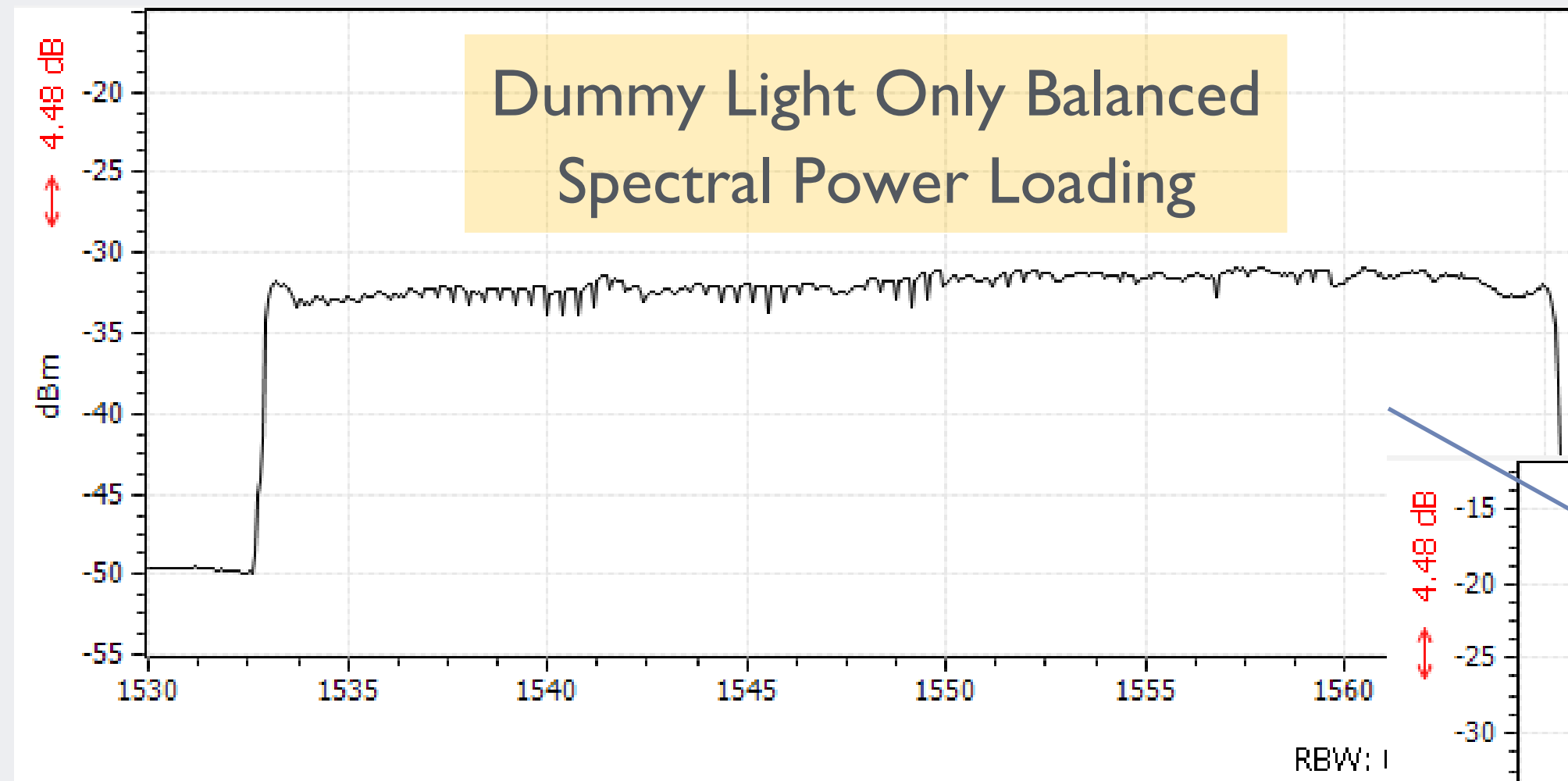


## Typical of Legacy Cables:



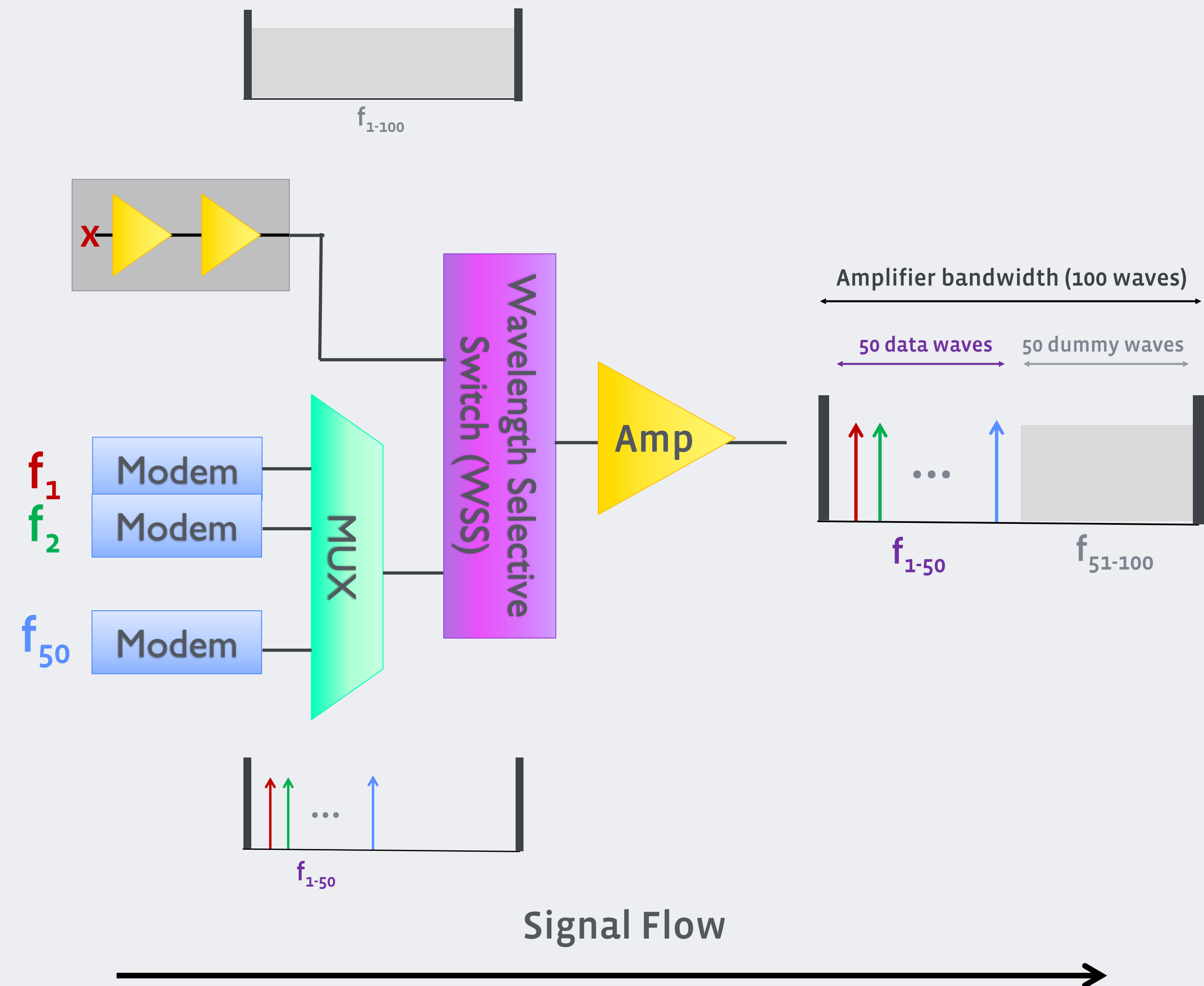
We will discuss more tomorrow on when and how each are used in upgrades and deployments!

# Spectrum Power Management with Dummy Lights



# Creating & Managing Dummy Waves

- Dummy Waves ideally need to be cheap, so ASE idlers are preferred, and are typically just generated as broadband noise
  - Can be generated very simply with cascaded amps
- With multiple signals from multiple sources (dummy waves & traffic waves), more advanced multiplexing / de-multiplexing is needed
- Wavelength Selective Switches (WSS) are used to enable source selection from a number of inputs, slice up the broadband ASE into desired sizing AND perform power control on a per wave basis

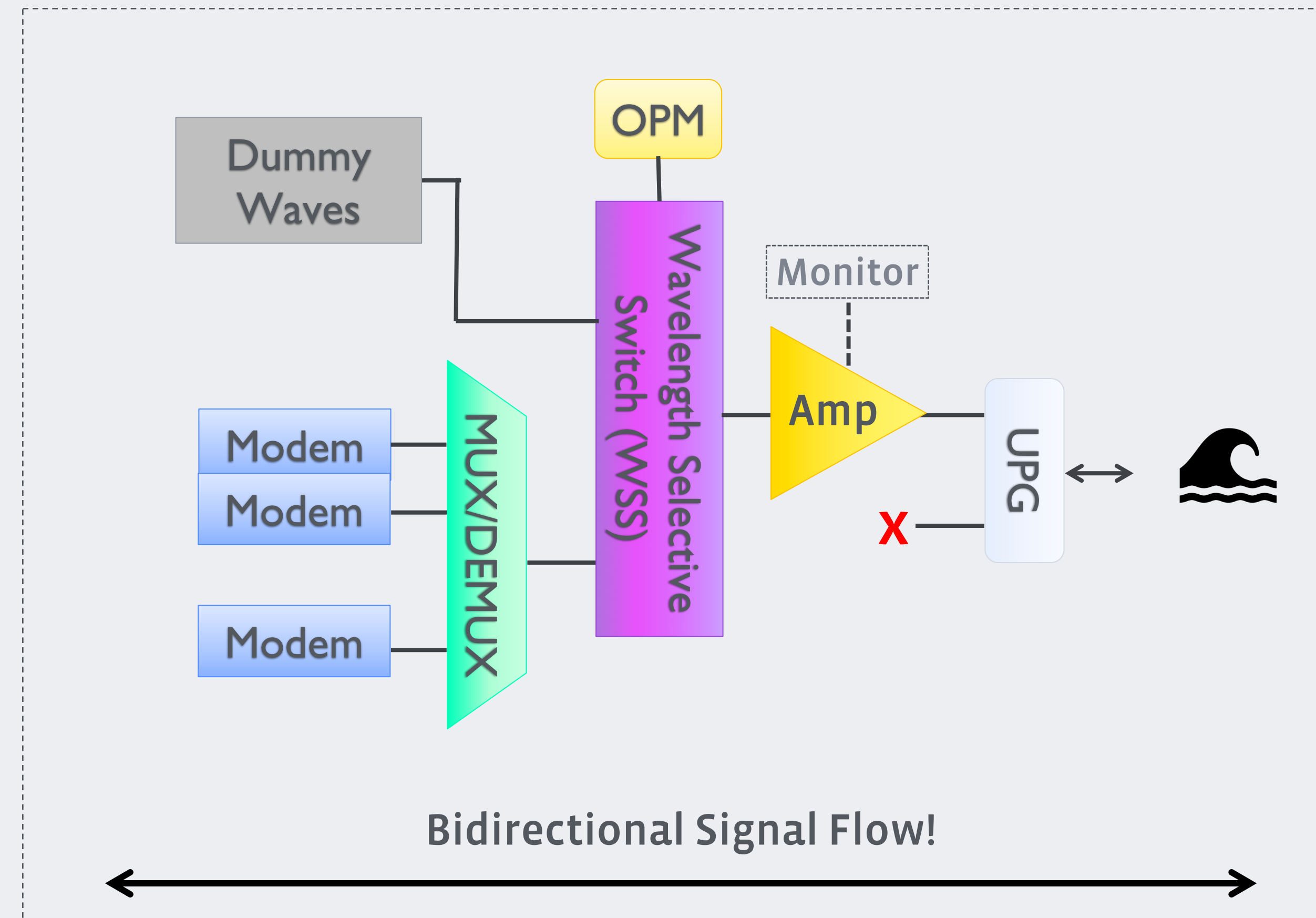


# Submarine Line Terminating Equipment (SLTE)

We have now discussed the key functional building blocks of SLTE!

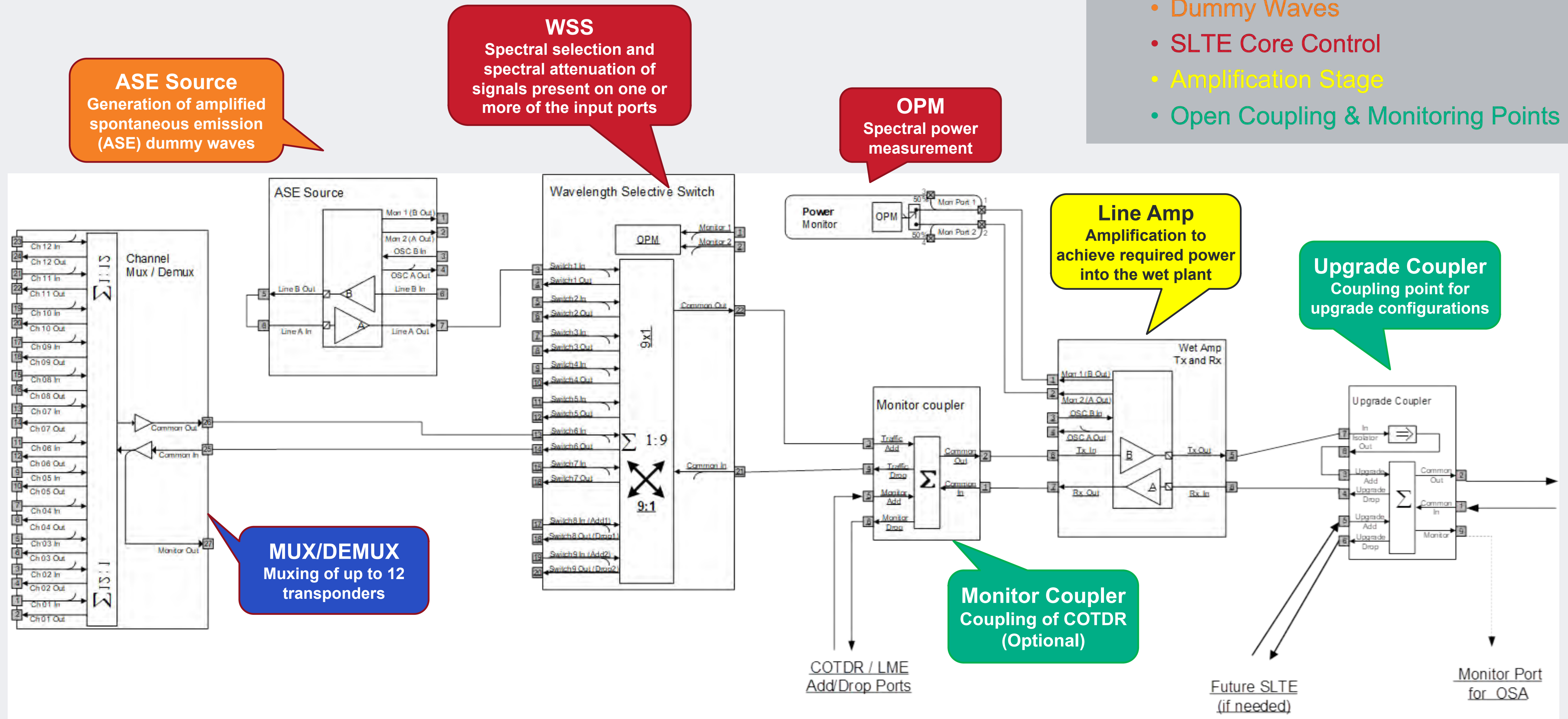
In reality, there are a few extra bits added:

- Optical Power Monitoring (OPM), which allows us to measure the optical spectrum (power vs frequency)
- Upgrade Couplers, which leave an open port for added equipment insertion in case you ever want to replace your equipment without traffic interruption
- Monitor Points, allowing you debugging capabilities at different points if anything ever goes wrong
- All these components are designed bidirectionally with dual fibers for management of each flow



# SLTE – A Real Example

- A Typical SLTE includes:
- Transponders Mux/Demux stage
  - Dummy Waves
  - SLTE Core Control
  - Amplification Stage
  - Open Coupling & Monitoring Points



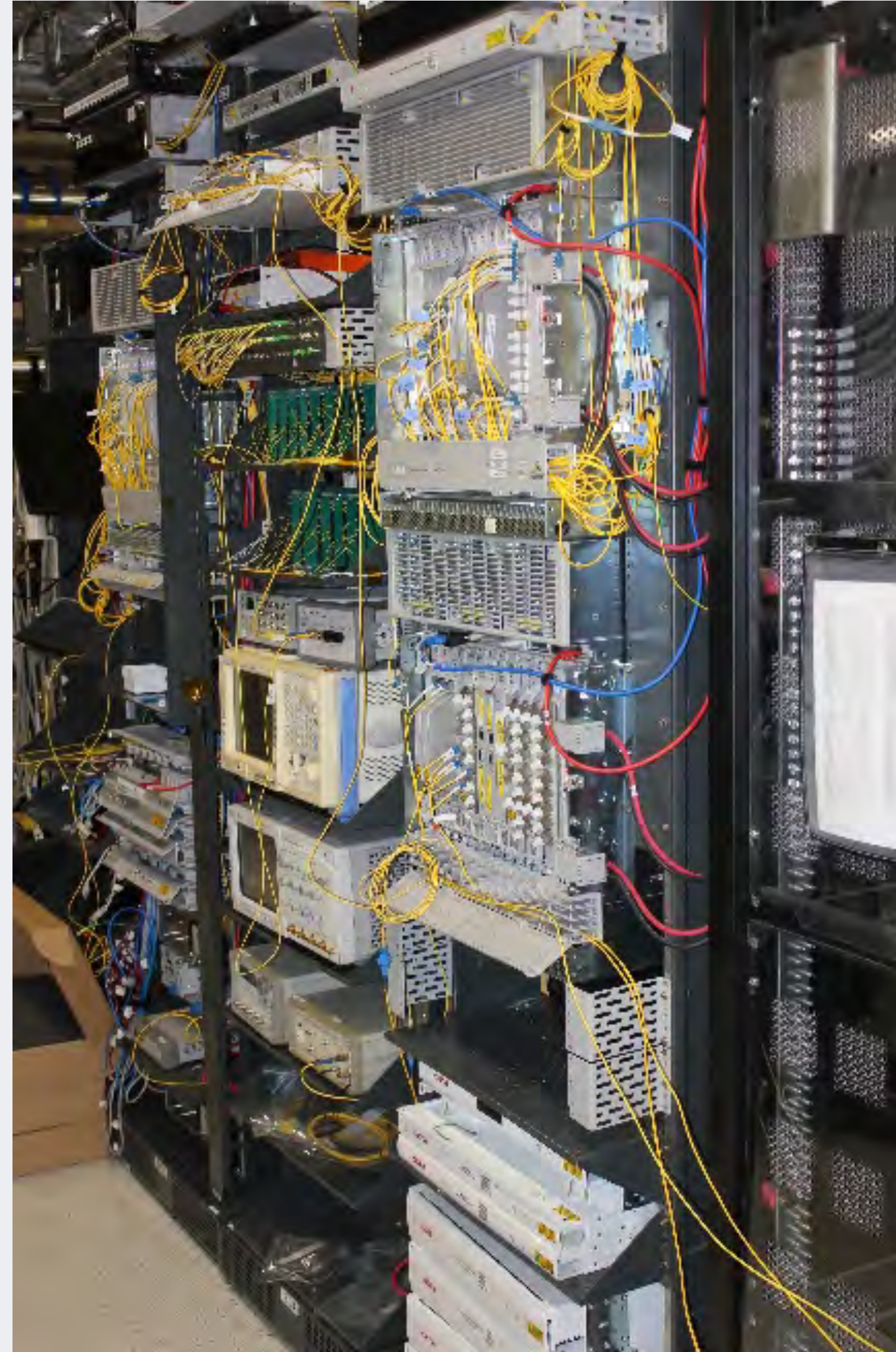


# SLTE – A Real Example

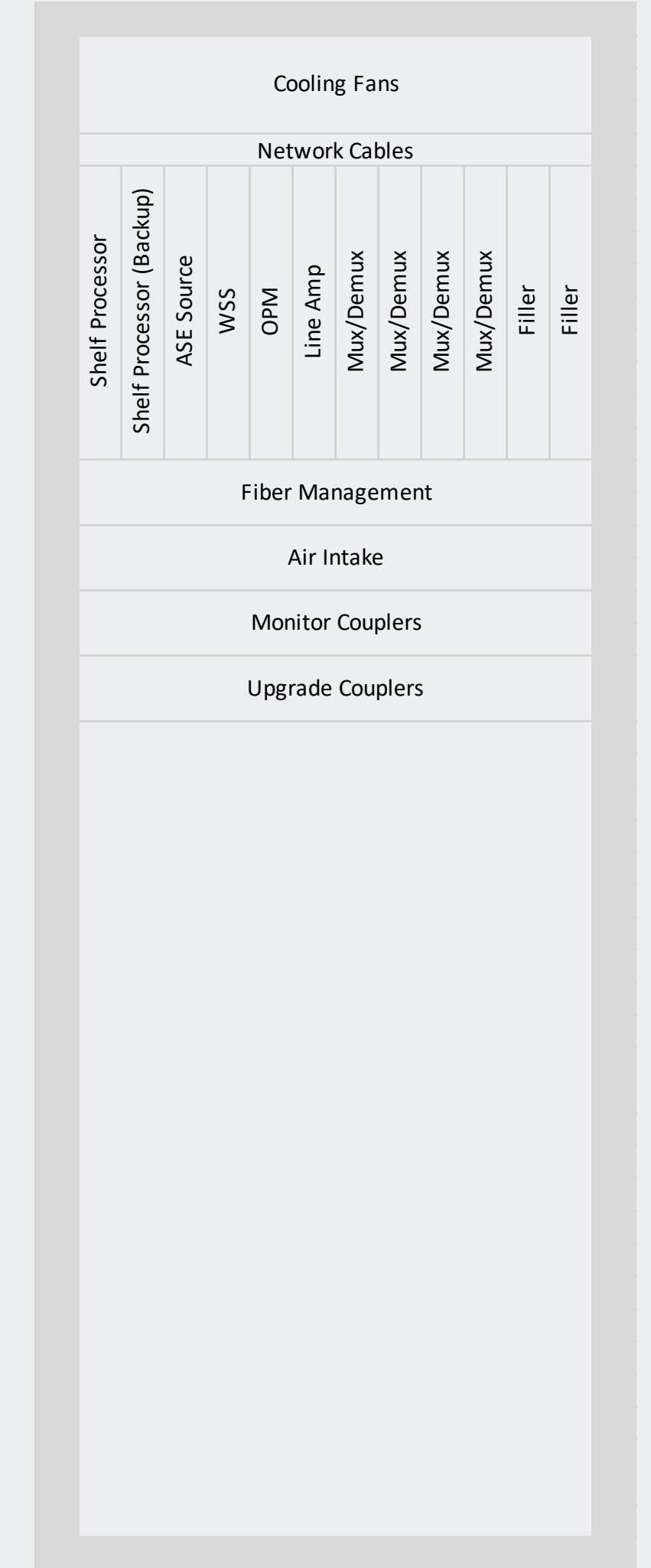
**Portable SLTE – For Field Trials!**



**Permanent SLTE – For Lab Tests!**



**Permanent SLTE Rack Diagram**



# A Submarine Line System in a Lab

Spools of Submarine Fiber

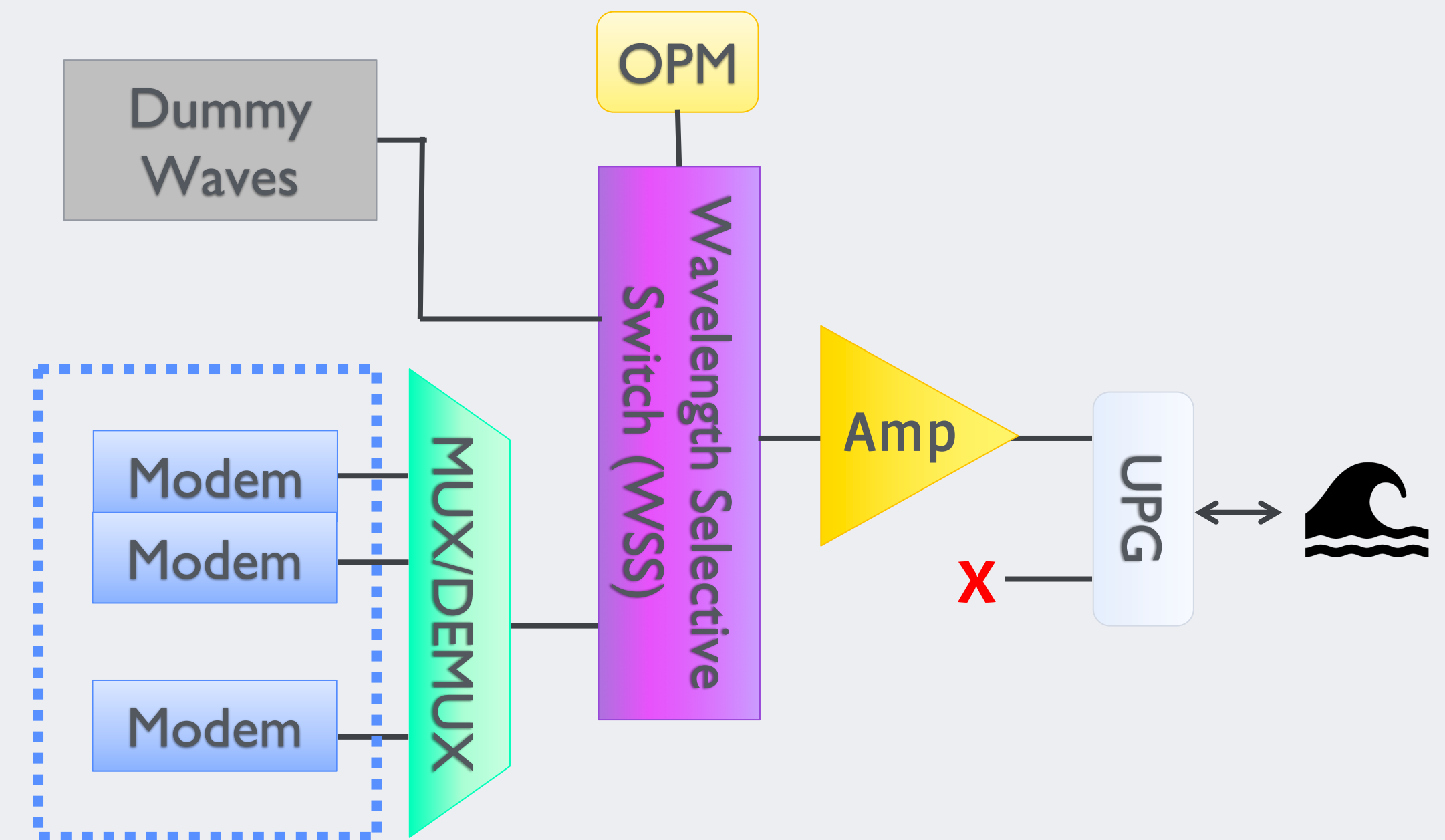
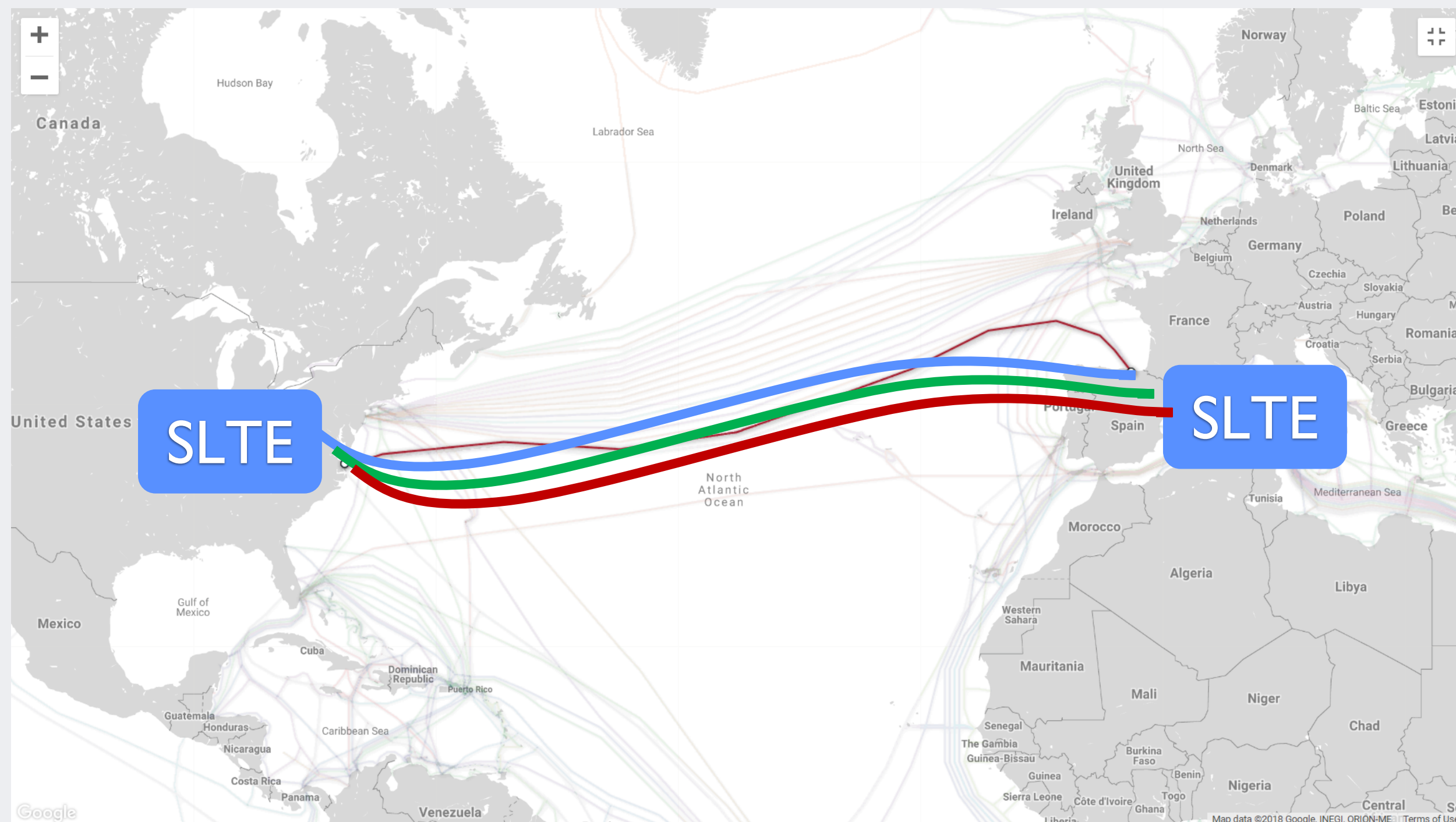


Banks of EDFAs & Equalizers



# Summary of SLTE & on to Advanced Modems!

We've covered the functions and building blocks of an SLTE. Now let's go into the many features of advanced modems: past, present and future!



# Advanced Modems & Features

# Coherent Modems – Quick Recap!

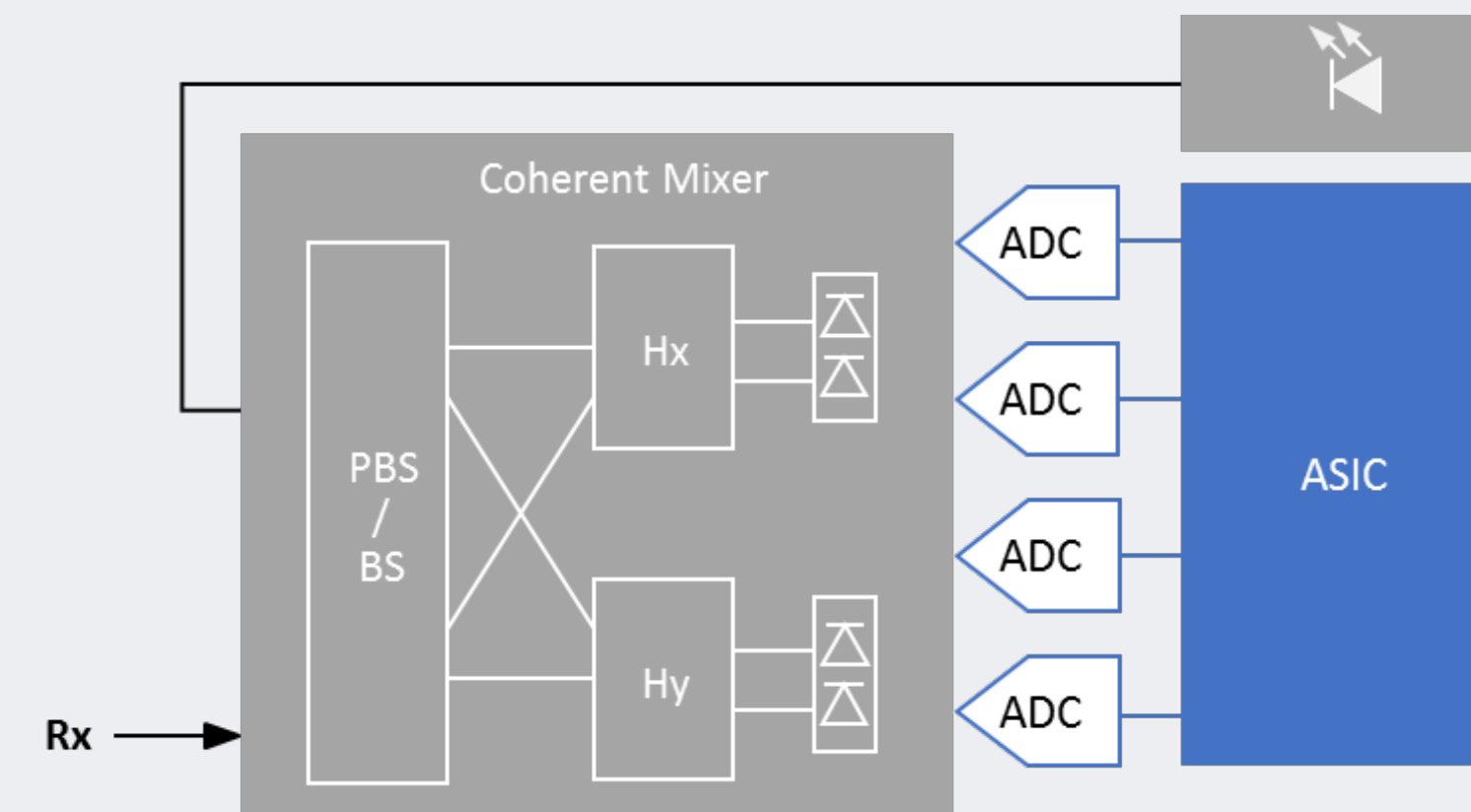
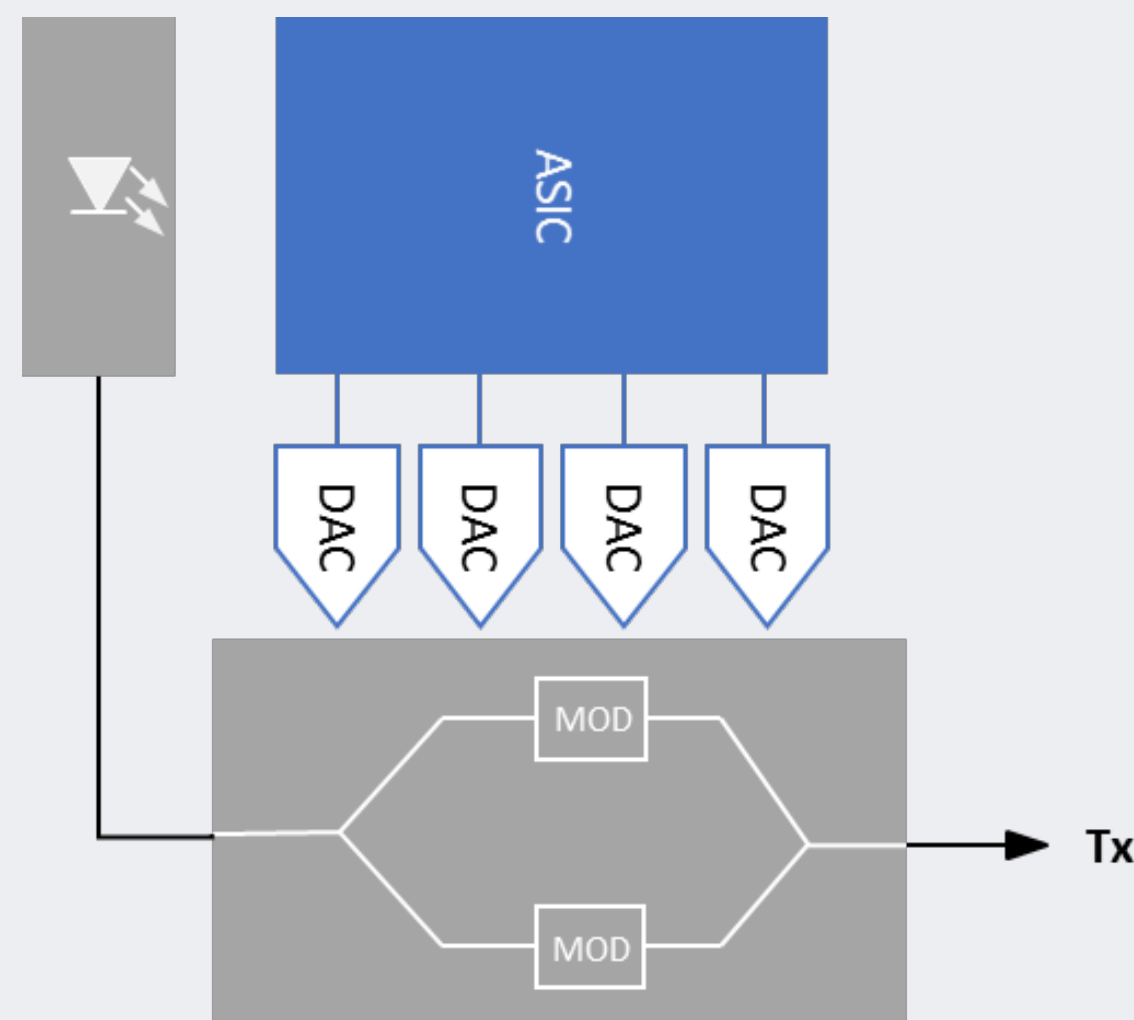
## Key components – Transmit Side

- Tx Laser (**analog**)
- Coherent Modulator (**analog**)
- DACs (mixed – **digital** to **analog**)
- ASIC (**digital**)

## Key components – Receive Side

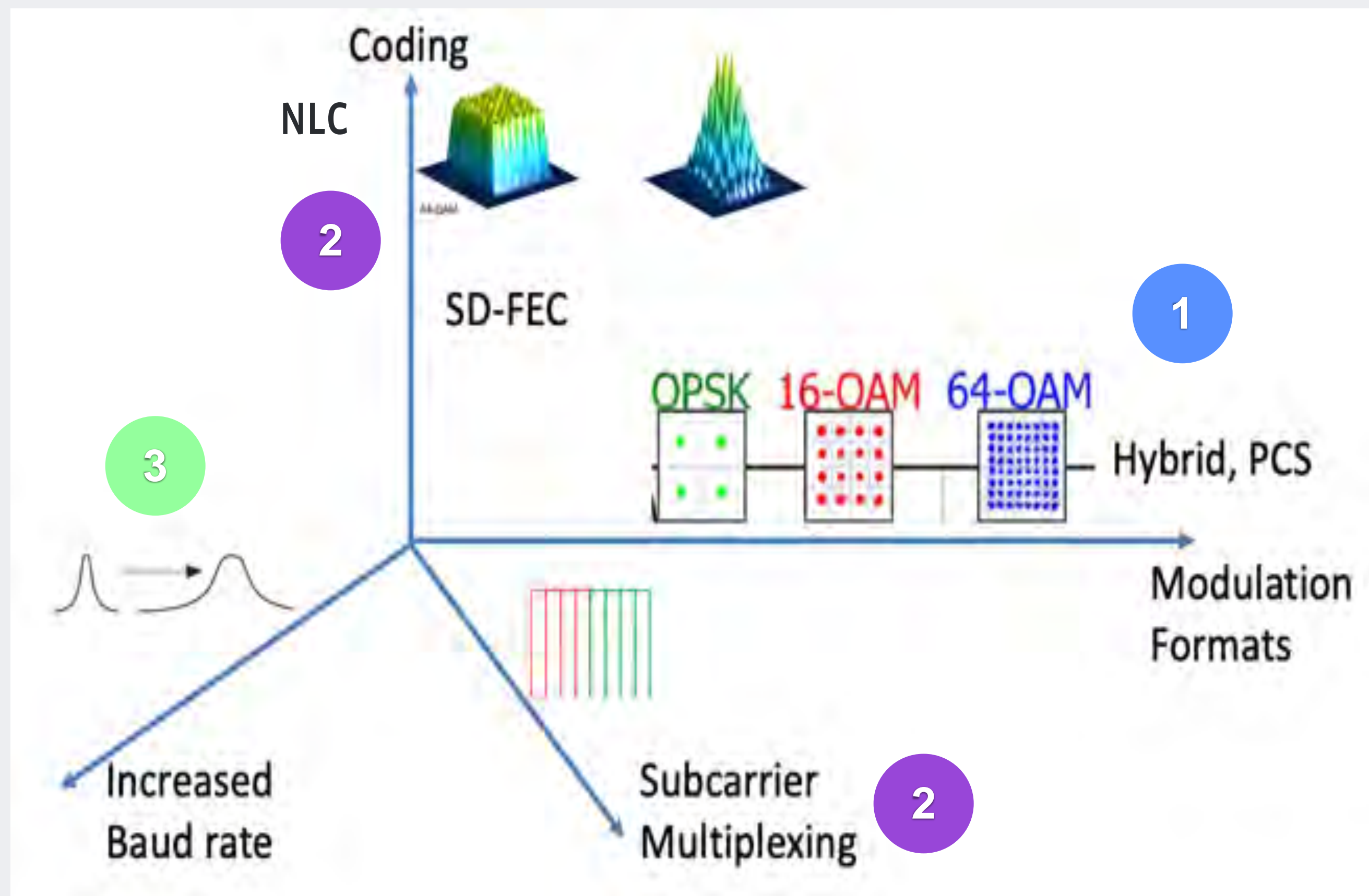
- Rx Laser or Local Oscillator (**analog**)
- Coherent Mixer (**analog**)
- ADCs (mixed – **analog** to **digital**)
- Electro-optics (**analog**)
- ASIC (**digital**)

**\$\$\$**



# Coherent Modems – The Workhorse

Advances in coherent modems have been THE core technology driver in the past decade to increasing capacity of fiber optic systems worldwide!



Improvements have been made along a few key axes, each enabling us to do one or more of the following things:

- 1 – Increase the number of bits sent with each symbol (how many bits/symbol)
- 2 - Improve the performance, or noise tolerance, at a given capacity per wave (how far those bits can travel)
- 3 – Increase the capacity on a single wave using the same modulation (how many symbols/s) → more on this later!

# Coherent SLTE Technology Generations

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Gen Coherent</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Gen Coherent</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Gen Coherent</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Gen Coherent</b>
Year	2010	2012-2015	2016-2019	2020+
Data Rate	40G	50G / 100G / 150G / 200G	100G – 400G	200G – 800G
Baud Rate	~11 Gbaud	~28-35 Gbaud	~40-60 Gbaud	~62-95 Gbaud
Highest Order Modulation	QPSK (& BPSK)	16QAM (&BPSK, QPSK, 8QAM)	32QAM (& below)	64QAM (& below)
Key New Technologies	Coherent CD & PMD Comp	1 <sup>st</sup> Gen Features plus: SD-FEC Tx CD pre-dispersion	2 <sup>nd</sup> Gen Features plus: 4D/8D mod formats, custom modulations, Nyquist shaping Improved FEC NCG	3 <sup>rd</sup> Gen Features plus: Const. Shaping (PCS) improved FEC NCG, variable baud rates, Nonlinear comp (NLC), more...
Silicon Process	90nm	28-64nm	16-28nm	7nm

# Question:

*On a given link, will you get more capacity out of 200G or 300G waves?*

It's a trick question 🤔

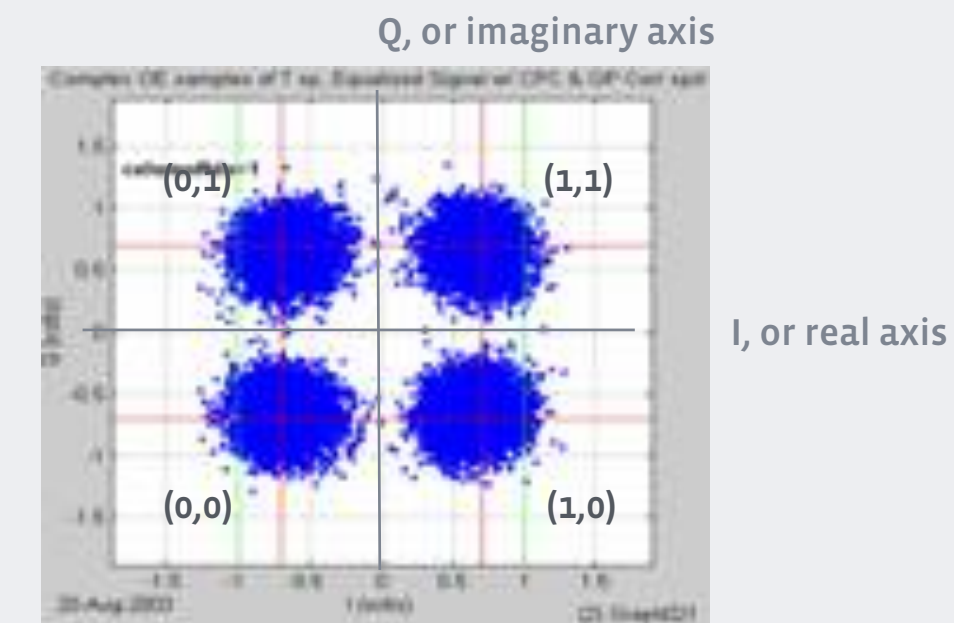
- 200G could mean 33 Gbaud 16QAM, which might give you 24Tb/s of capacity  
(120 x 37.5GHz = 4.5THz)
- 200G could also mean 66 Gbaud QPSK, which would give you 12Tb/s of capacity  
(60 x 75GHz = 4.5THz)

**Per wavelength capacity does not tell the whole story!!**

**Spectral efficiency is the key capacity metric.**



# Bits, Bauds & Modulations



## 33 Gbaud Wave, QPSK

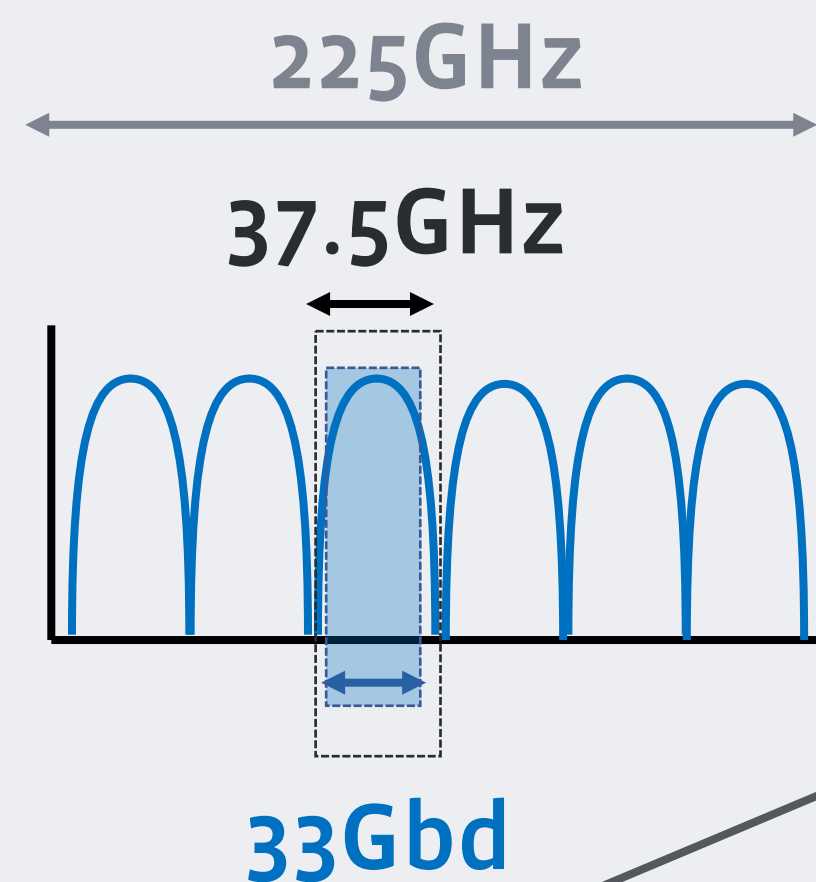
- 33GHz channel, occupying 37.5GHz
- 25 Gsymbols/s for data, plus 32% OH
- QPSK constellation enables 2 bits/symbol
- 25 Gsymbols/s \* 2 bits/symbol \* 2 pols
- Channel capacity of 100 Gb/s in 37.5GHz
- Spectral Efficiency of 2.67 b/s/Hz

## 66 Gbaud Wave, QPSK

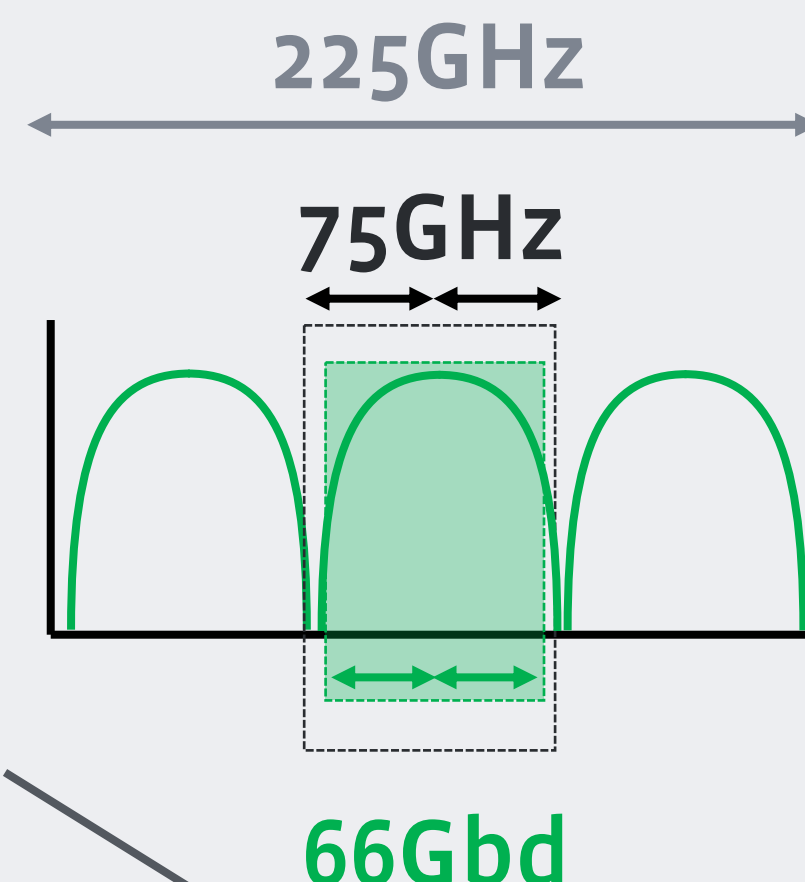
- 66GHz channel, occupying 75GHz
- 50 Gsymbols/s for data, plus 32% OH
- QPSK constellation enables 2 bits/symbol
- 50 Gsymbols/s \* 2 bits/symbol \* 2 pols
- Channel capacity of 200 Gb/s in 75GHz
- Spectral Efficiency of 2.67 b/s/Hz

## 99 Gbaud Wave, QPSK

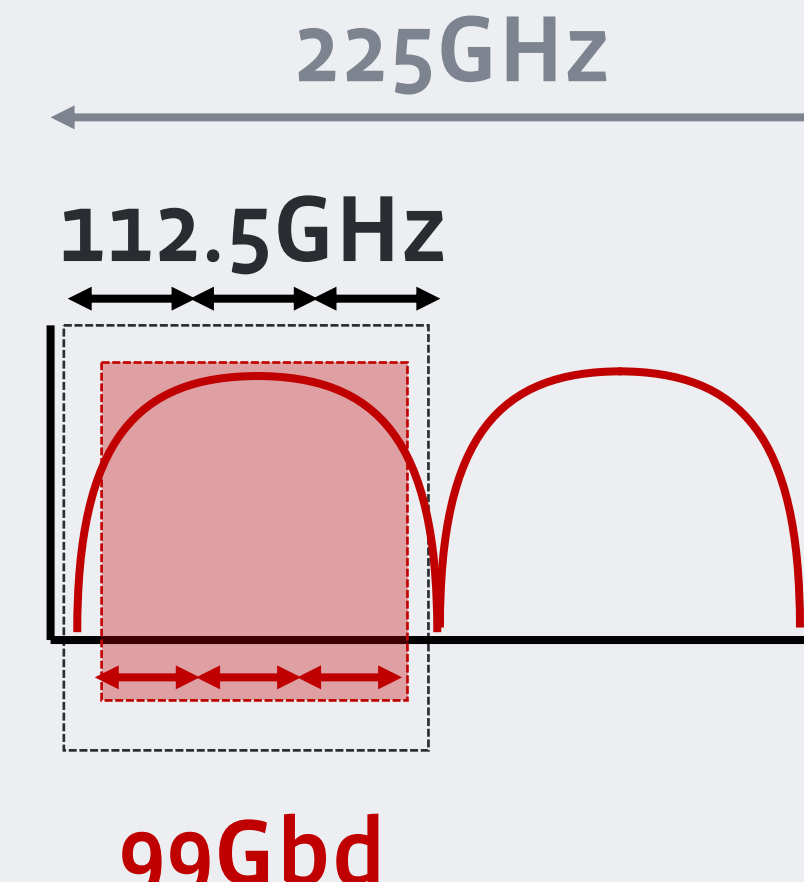
- 99GHz channel, occupying 112.5GHz
- 75 Gsymbols/s for data, plus 32% OH
- QPSK constellation enables 2 bits/symbol
- 75 Gsymbols/s \* 2 bits/symbol \* 2 pols
- Channel capacity of 300 Gb/s in 112.5GHz
- Spectral Efficiency of 2.67 b/s/Hz



**6 x 100G QPSK**  
**2.67 b/s/Hz**



**3 x 200G QPSK**  
**2.67 b/s/Hz**



**2 x 300G QPSK**  
**2.67 b/s/Hz**

Per wavelength data rate is often used when comparing technology...but it can be deceiving!

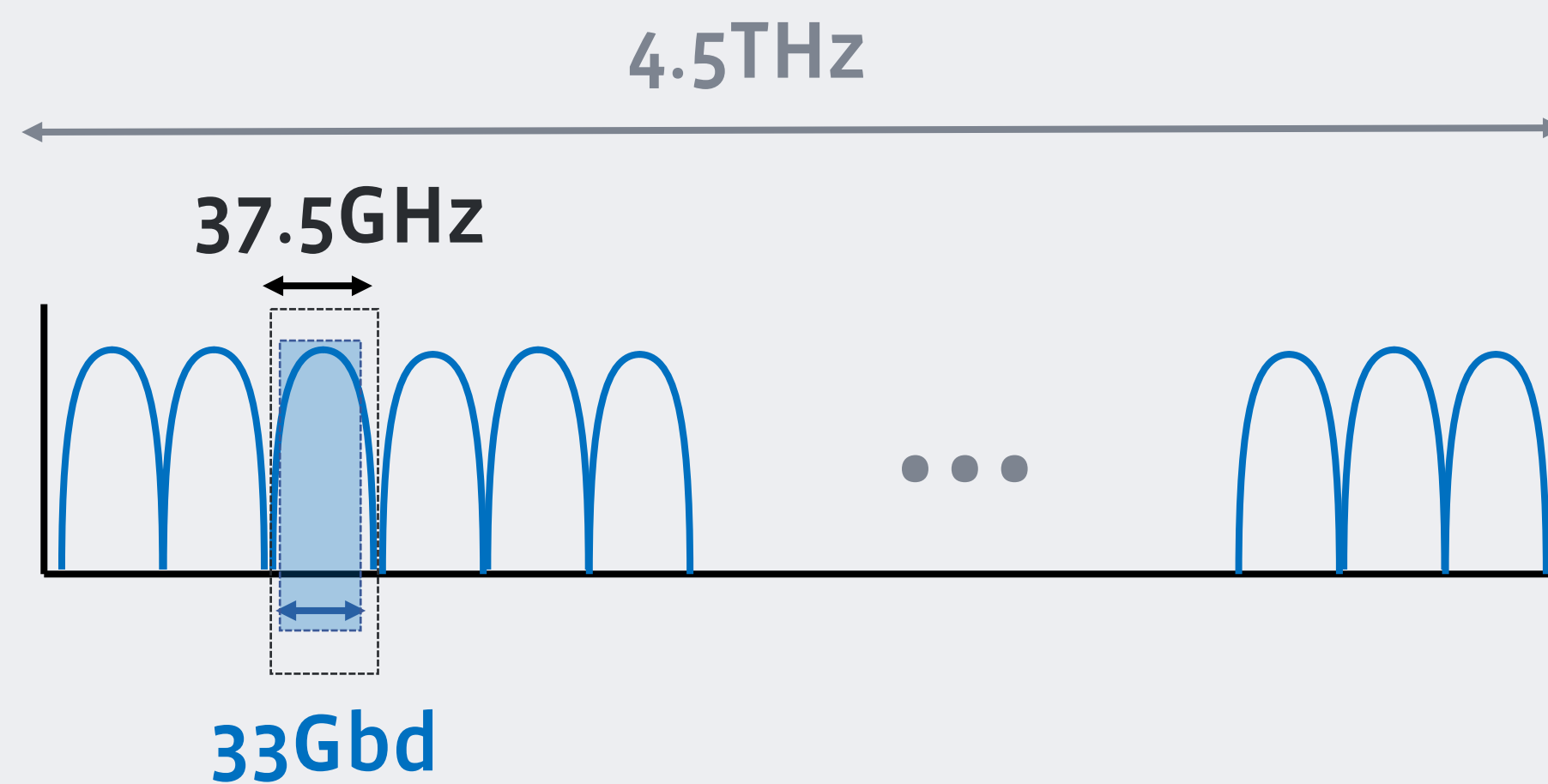
Higher data rate does not always mean higher fiber capacity!

**Spectral efficiency** is the best way to accurately compare technology!

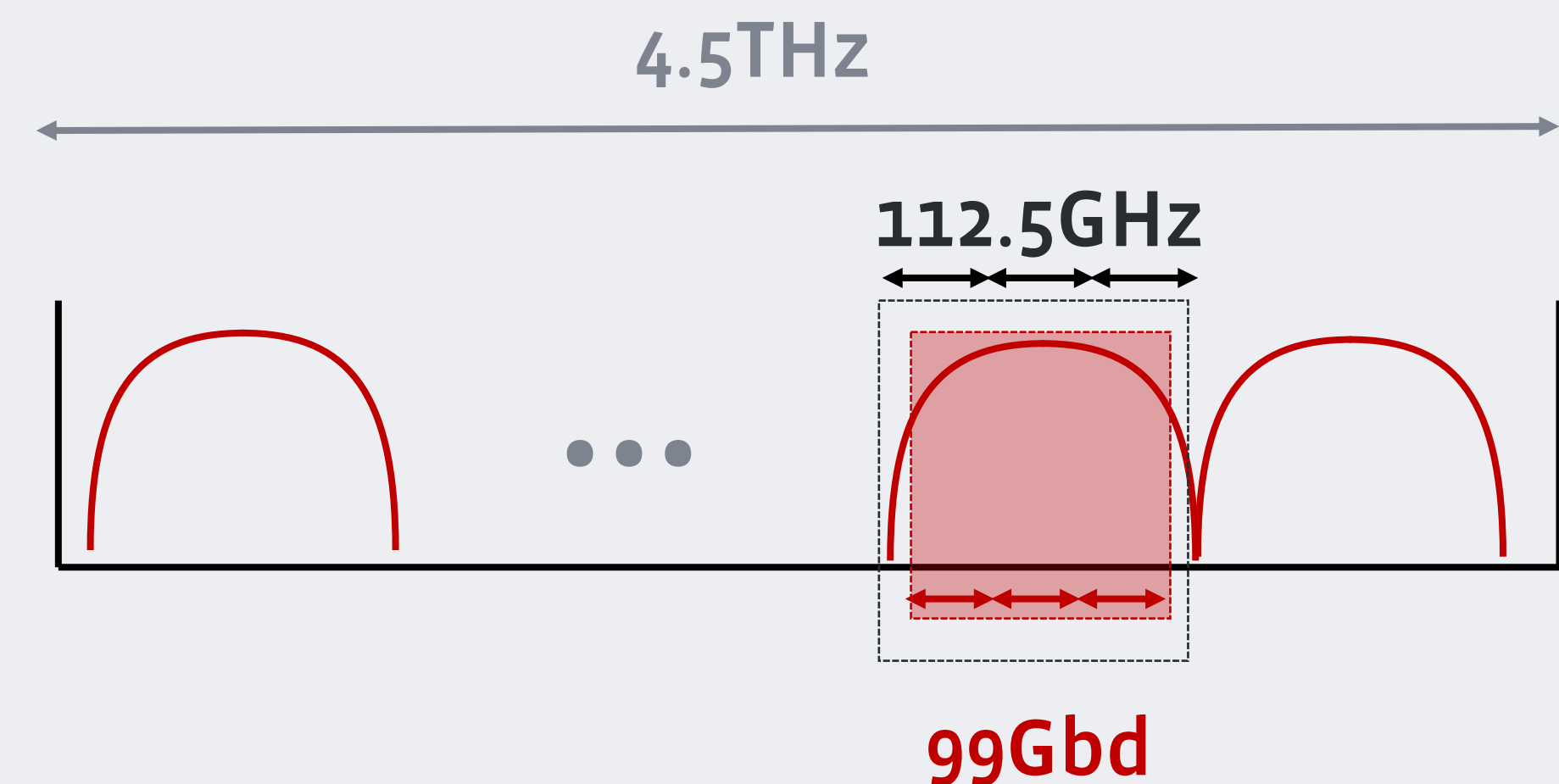
# So Wait...What's the Point of Increasing Baud?

## Reason #1: Cost

- ASIC development is the most expensive part of the coherent transponder
- High speed optics are challenging, but carry a smaller relative cost
- So, **with the same DSP**, fewer transponders at higher baud should result in a lower total cost of capacity



120 x 100G QPSK  
12T, 2.67 b/s/Hz

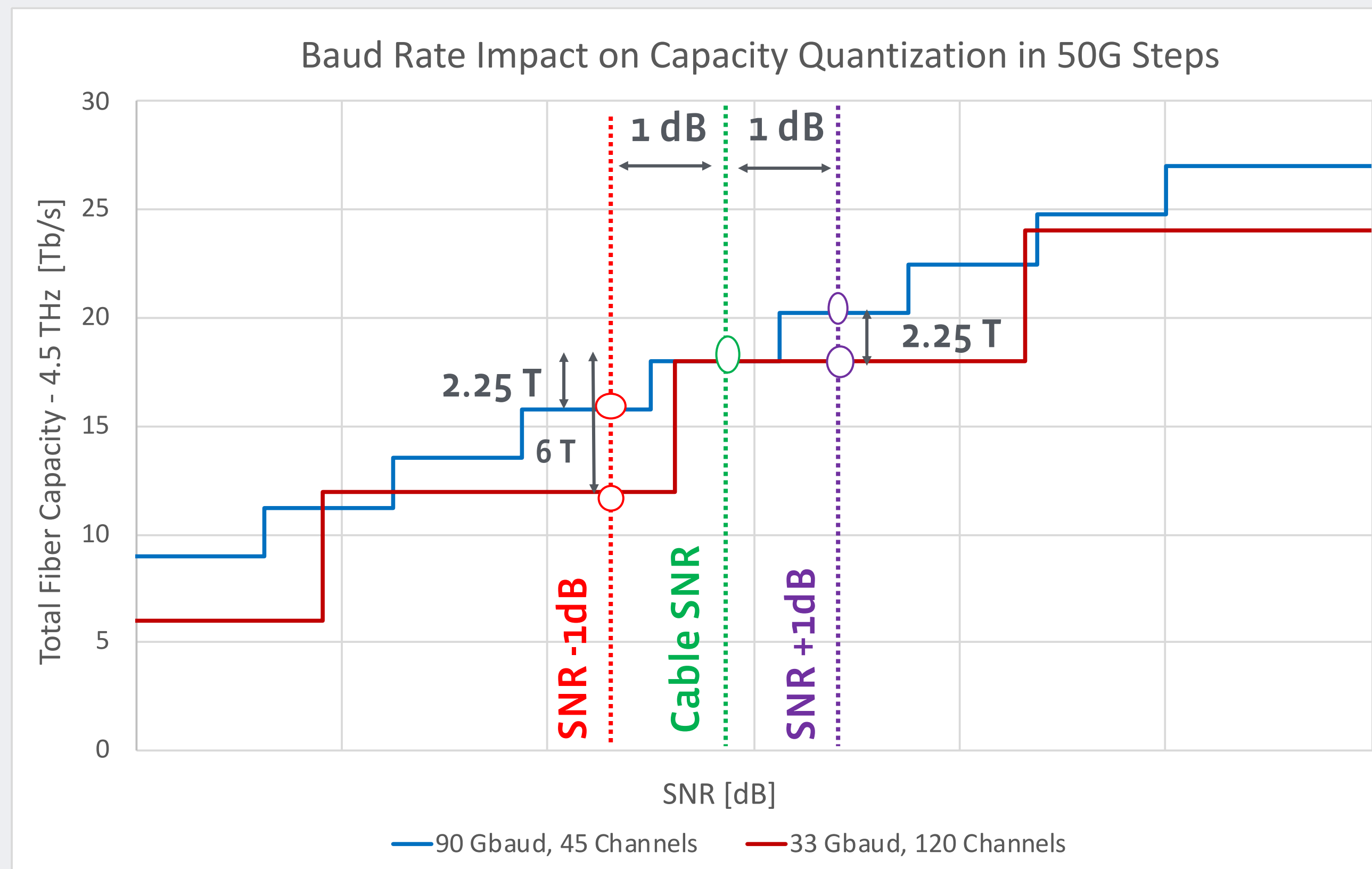


40 x 300G QPSK  
12T, 2.67 b/s/Hz

# Maximizing Capacity with High Baud Multi-Rate Modems

Reason #2: Capacity (Wait, what?)

High baud, multi-rate modems have smaller required SNR step sizes between data rates, offering more granularity in extractable spectral efficiency on any given cable (and can easily mix data rates)



**@ Cable SNR +1 dB:**  
High Baud = 20.25 Tb/s  
Low Baud = 18 Tb/s

**@ Cable SNR:**  
High Baud = 18 Tb/s  
Low Baud = 18 Tb/s

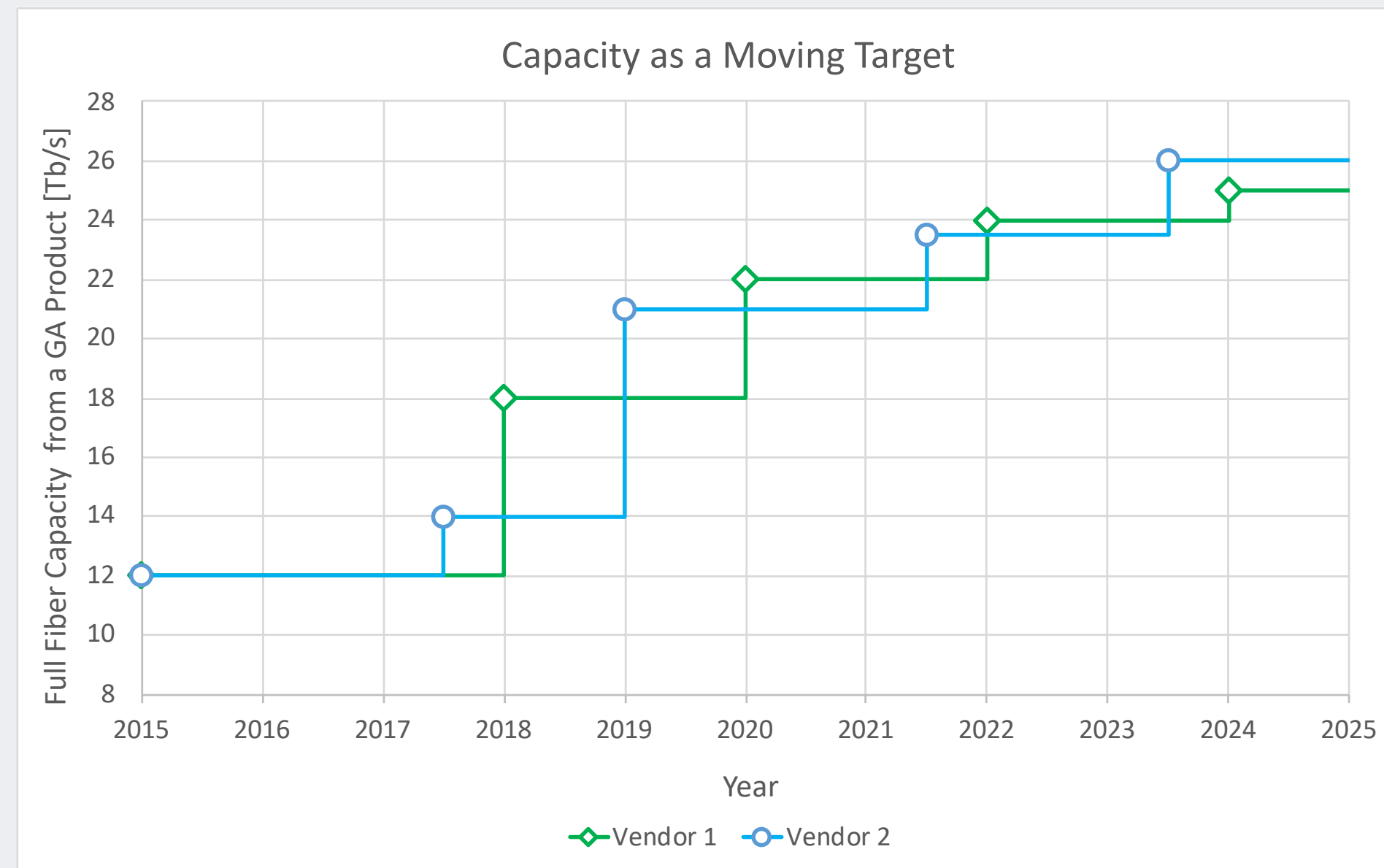
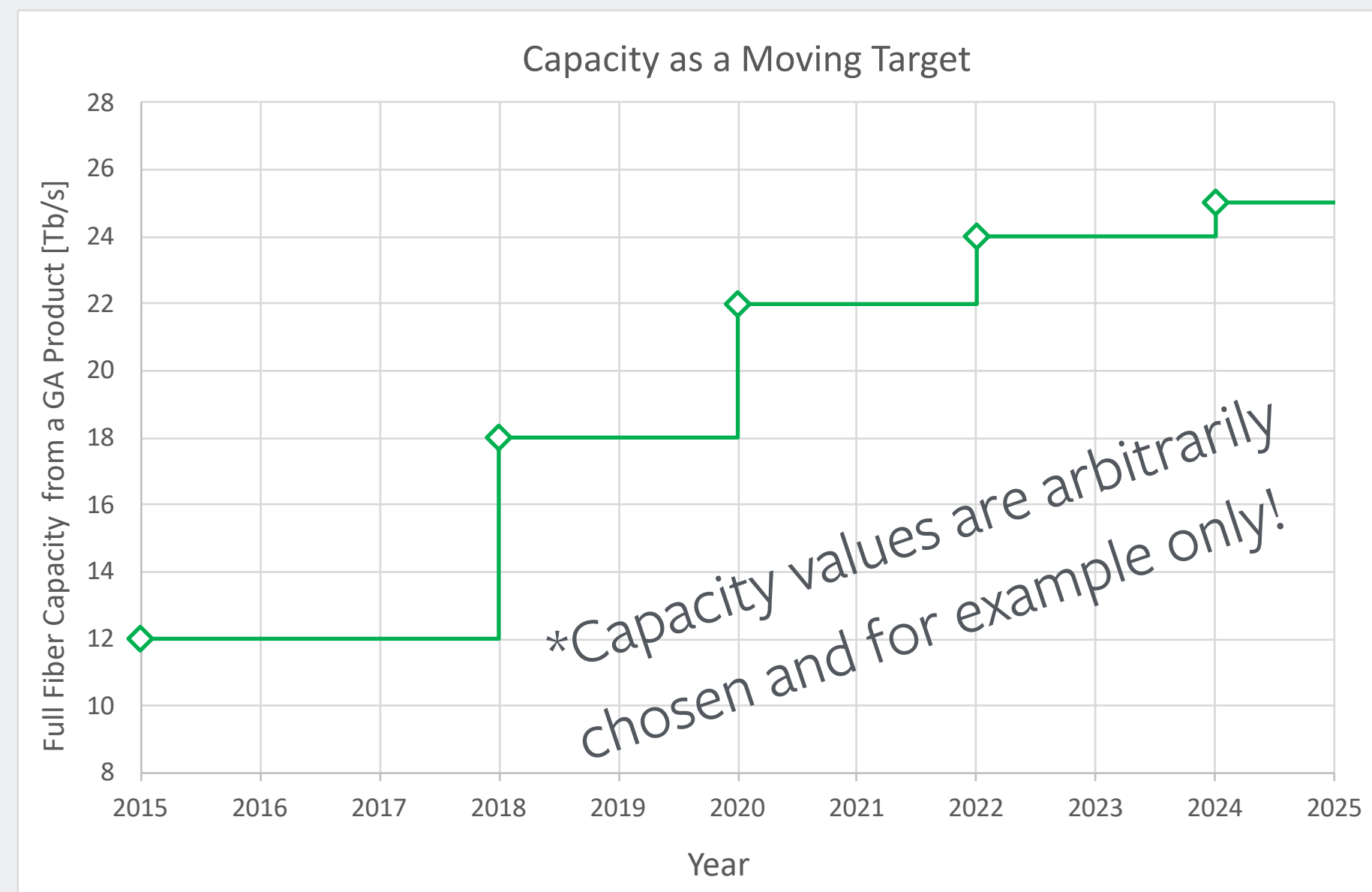
**@ Cable SNR -1 dB:**  
High Baud = 15.75 Tb/s  
Low Baud = 12 Tb/s

\*Capacity values are arbitrarily chosen and for example only!

# Capacity as a Moving Target

**Capacity** for a given subsea optical design, is a continually **moving target** with time

- In recent years, achievable capacity on a cable has been highly variable, with rapid changes in modem technology driving significant capacity improvements over original design capacities
- We have many vendors continually innovating and implementing new features & improvements, it is difficult to truly categorize “generations” of coherent – tech is constantly evolving!
- One thing remains consistent: the trend is compressing both as we approach Shannon’s Limit and as we design more and more linear cables (“SDM”)



# Coherent SLTE – Capacity Impact over the Years

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Gen Coherent</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Gen Coherent</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Gen Coherent</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Gen Coherent</b>
Year	2010	2012-2015	2016-2019	2020+
Data Rate	40G	50G / 100G / 150G / 200G	100G – 400G	200G – 800G
Baud Rate	~10 Gbaud	~28-35 Gbaud	~40-60 Gbaud	~62-95 Gbaud
“High Performance” D+ Trans-Atlantic (6,000km) *Example*	N/A (D+ cables not common yet)	100G QPSK 12 Tb/s	200G-250G Custom ~18 Tb/s	500G-600G PCS ~24 Tb/s
“High Performance” D+ Trans-Pacific (12,000km) *Example*	N/A (D+ cables not common yet)	100G QPSK 10 Tb/s	150G-200G Custom ~15 Tb/s	400G-500G PCS ~20 Tb/s

# Subsea Performance Designs

**Every submarine cable is uniquely designed to optimize performance, cost and availability at the required propagation distance:**

1. Optical performance is primarily a balancing act of 2 important aspects:
  - a. Linear performance (OSNR or  $\text{SNR}_{\text{ASE}}$ )
  - b. Nonlinear performance (SPM/XPM/FWM/XPolM etc.)
2. More performance almost always equals more cost, so engineering trade-offs need to be made to find an optimal solution to the specific needs of the project
3. Availability drives many things, including marine routing (and as such distance)!  
There are some parts of the world where no subsea cable wants to go...

Like Here...



# “Legacy” Submarine Wet Plant Designs

**Fiber Type Acronyms**  
 Dispersion Managed Cables:  
 “LEAF” Category – LCF, LMF, NZDSF  
 “LS” Category - RSF, HDF, NZDSF  
 “NDSF” Category - DCF, CMF, CSF  
 “DSF” Category – no aliases

Slope Matched Cables:  
 Positive – P, P-Type, D+  
 Negative – N, N-Type, D-

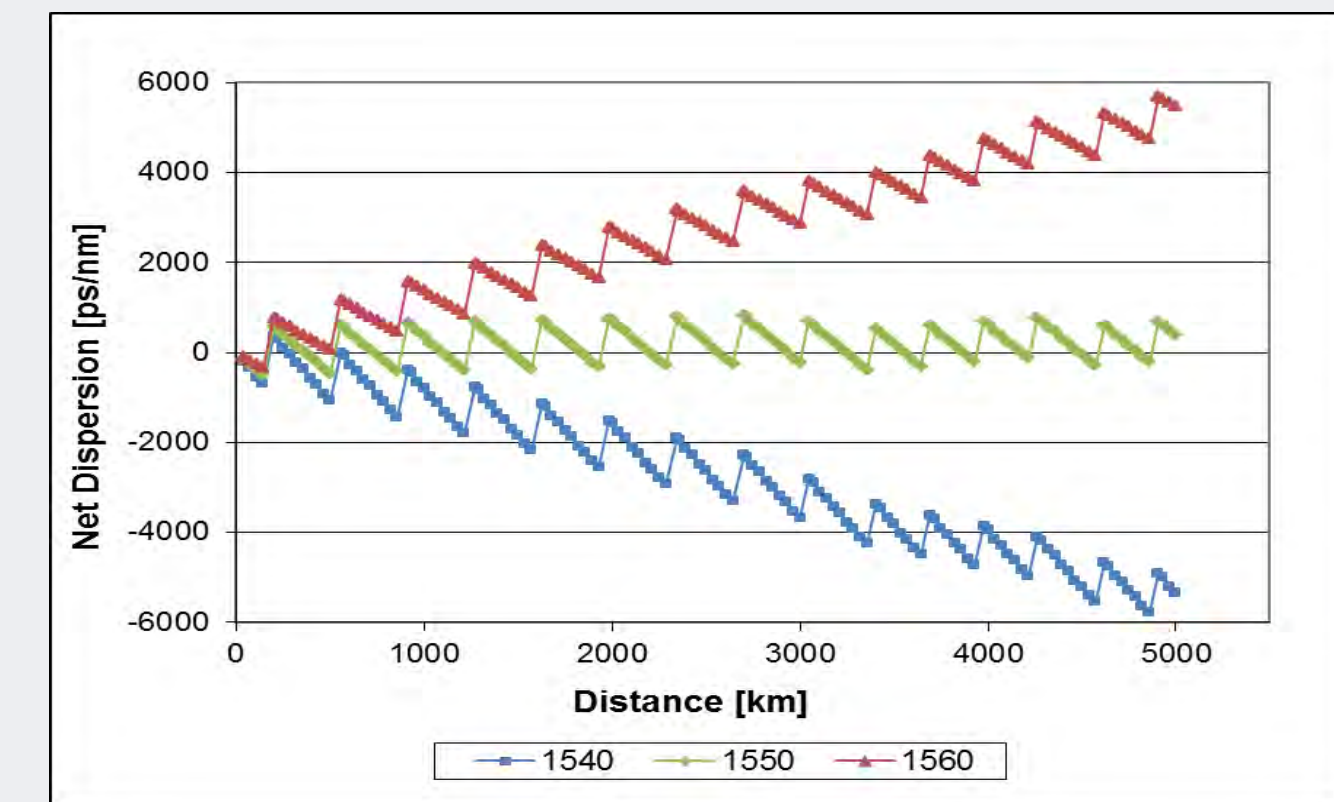
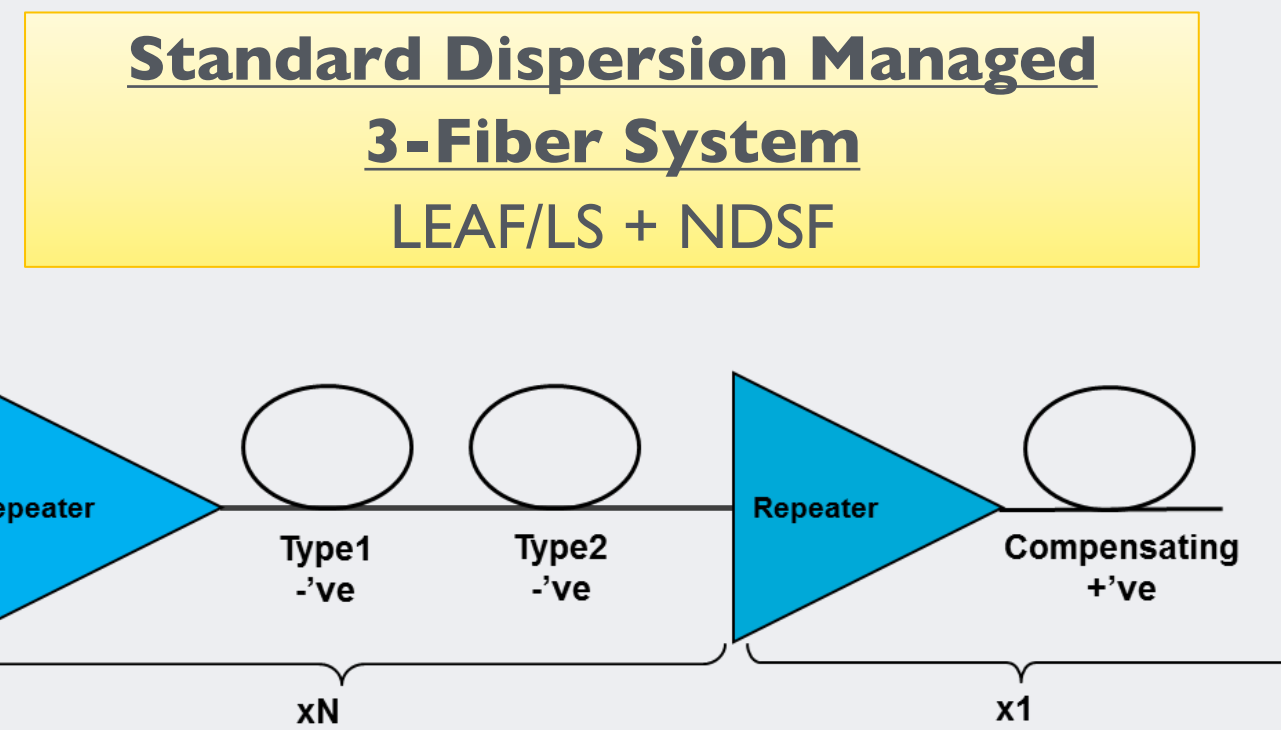
## Dispersion Managed Cables

- Compensated systems used mixed fiber types to minimize dispersion & maximize performance of the target transmission technology of the time (Hint: it wasn’t coherent!)

- Two Primary Fiber Strategies on Legacy Cables:

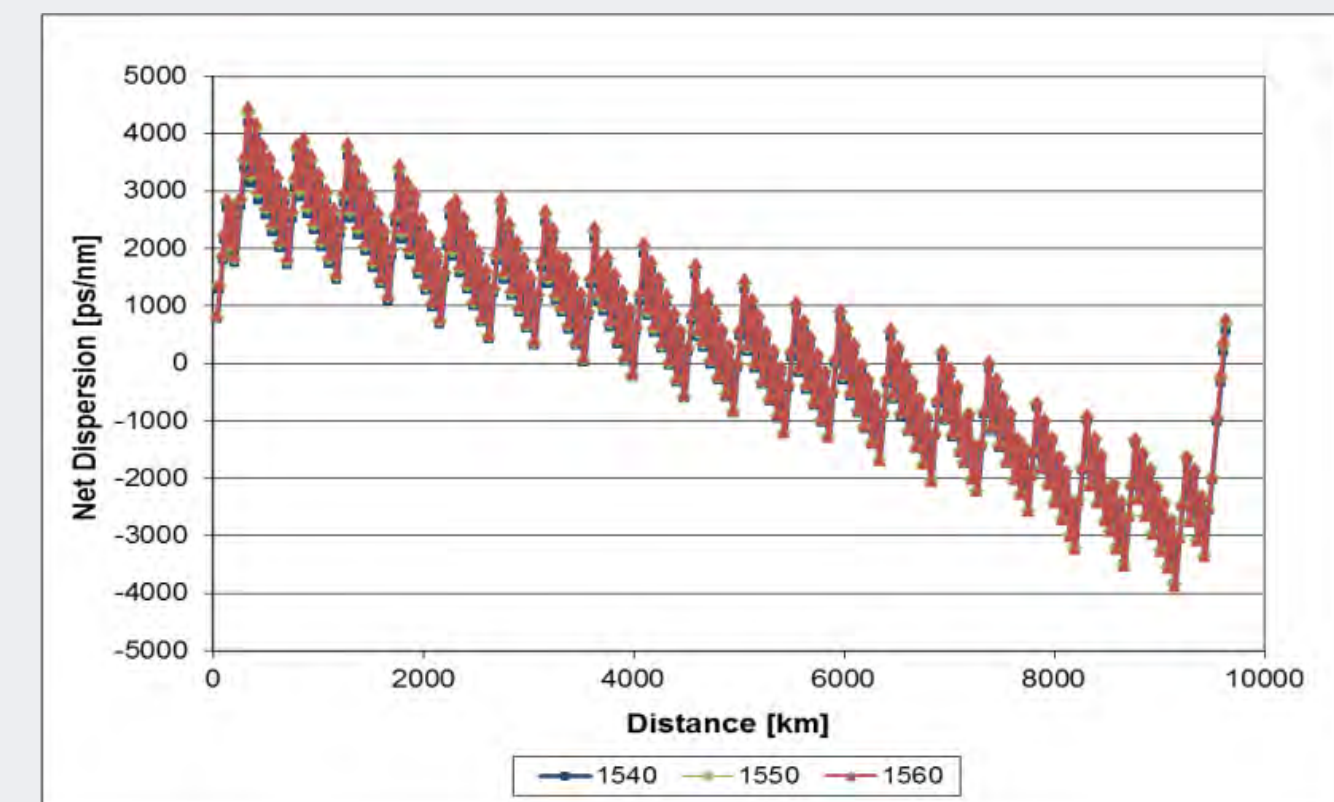
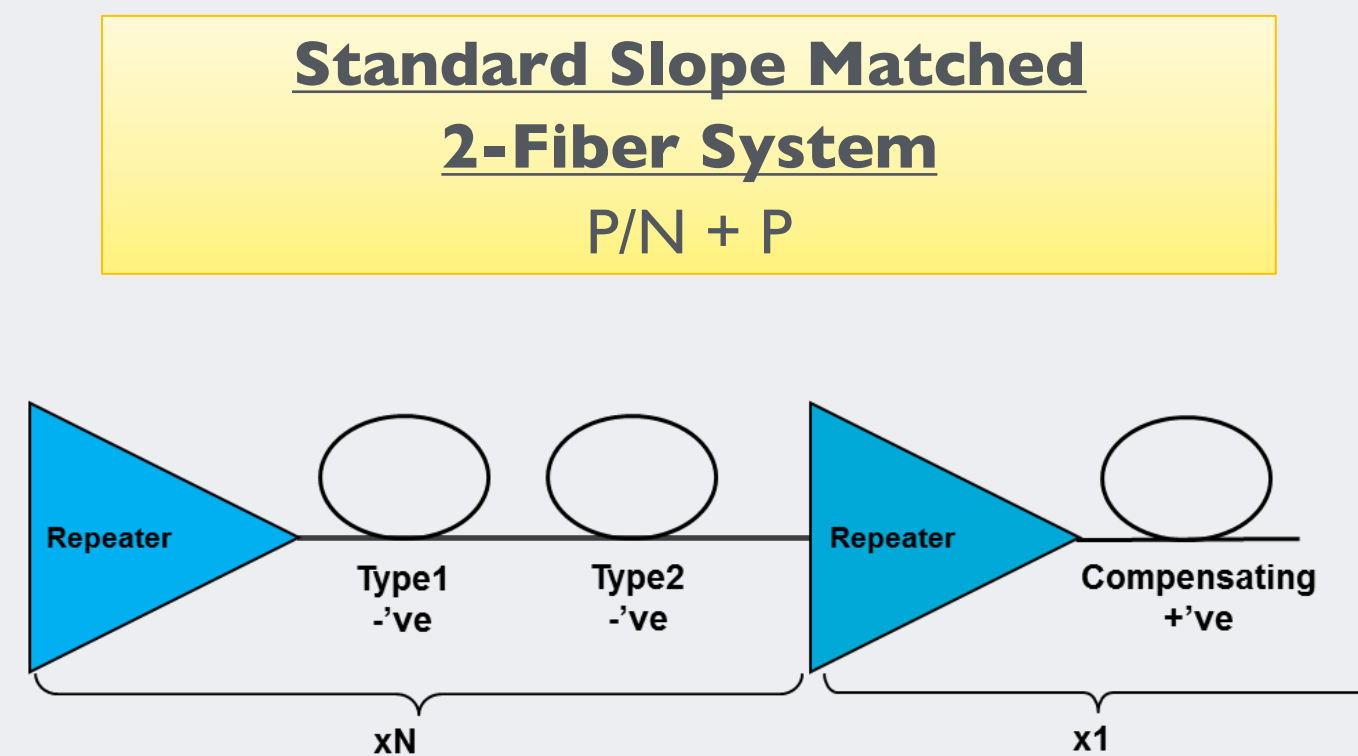
- Dispersion Managed, 3-Fiber Strategy

- 2 primary propagation fibers
- 1 compensating fiber



- Slope Matched, 2-Fiber Strategy

- 2 primary propagation fibers
- 1 of the 2 fibers doubles for compensation





# Evolution of Subsea Cable Designs

“Legacy Cables”

“New Builds” or “D+ Cables”

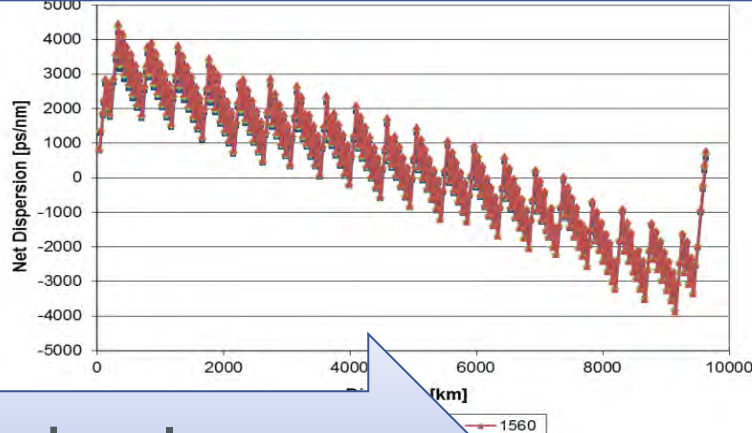
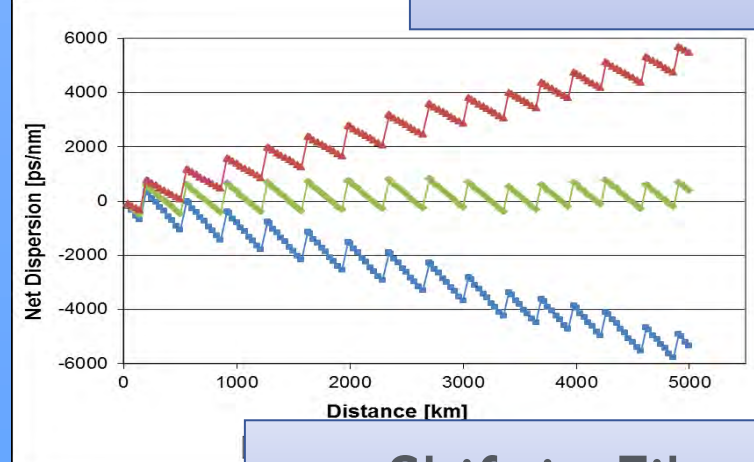
	Dispersion Managed	Slope Matched	Uncompensated (High TOP)	Uncompensated (SDM)
<b>Year of RFS</b>	2000 to 2008	2005 to 2012	2012 to 2020+	2021+
<b>Repeater BW</b>	10nm to 27nm	27nm to 32nm	32nm to 40nm	36nm
<b>Level of SNR</b>	Low	Moderate	High	Moderate
<b>Fiber <math>A_{eff}</math></b>	70 / 50	100 / 30	130 to 150	80 to 110
<b>Degree of Nonlinearity</b>	Ultra High	High	Low	Ultra Low
<b>Max CD Excursion (Trans-Pacific)</b>	+/- 8,000 ps/nm	+/- 1,000ps/nm	Up to +400,000 ps/nm	Up to +400,000 ps/nm

Limiter of Shannon Capacity

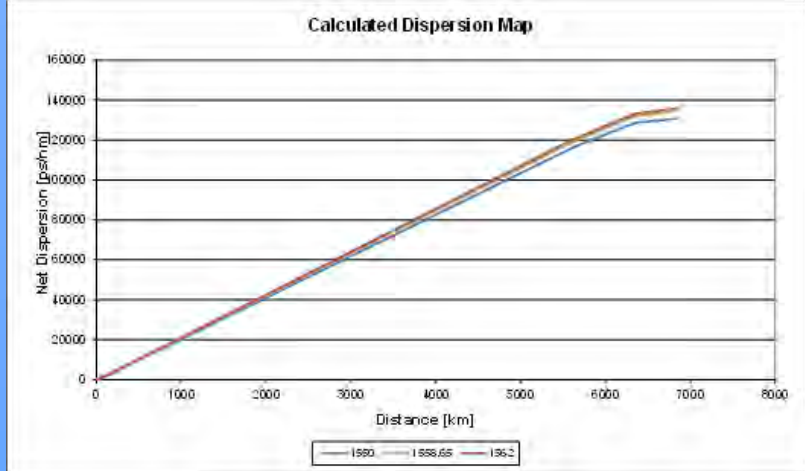
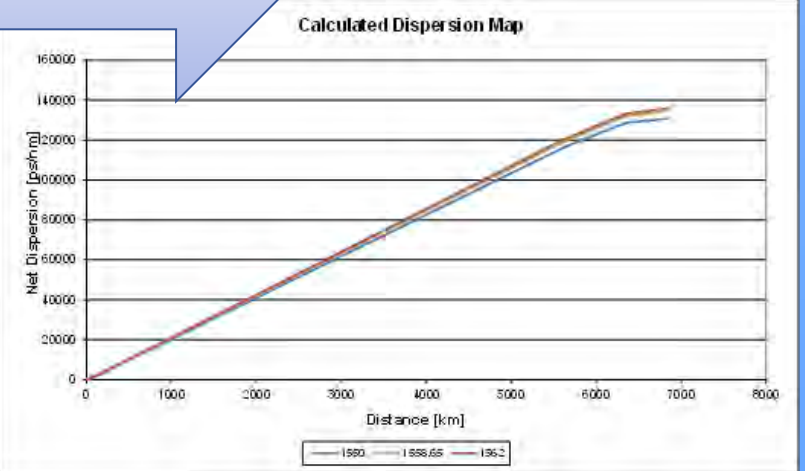
Limiter of Modem Gap to Shannon

Shift in Transponder Technology: Coherent

Typical CD Map

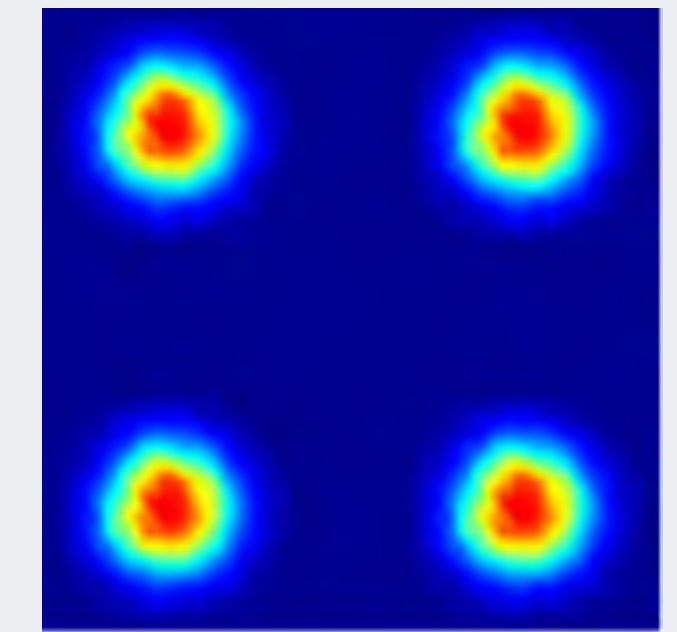
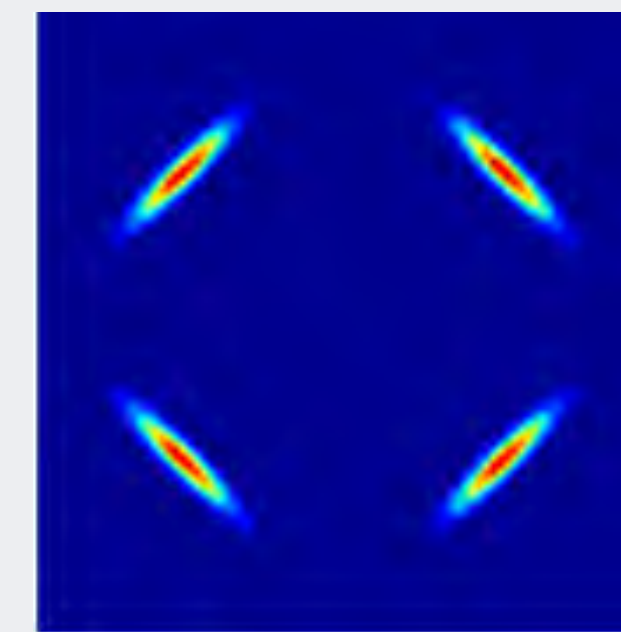
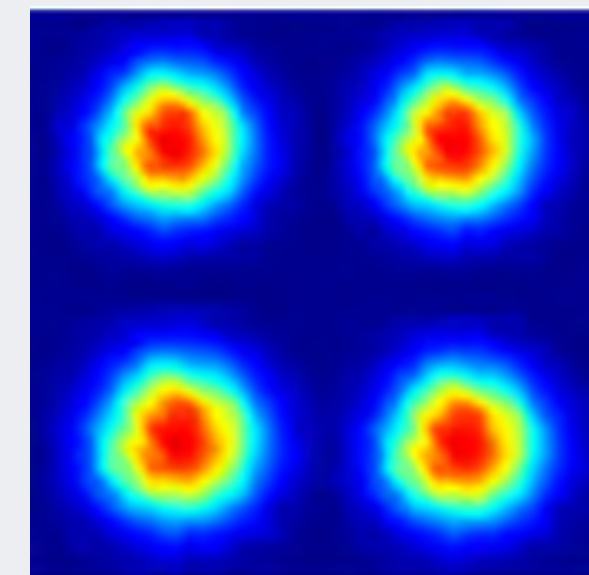
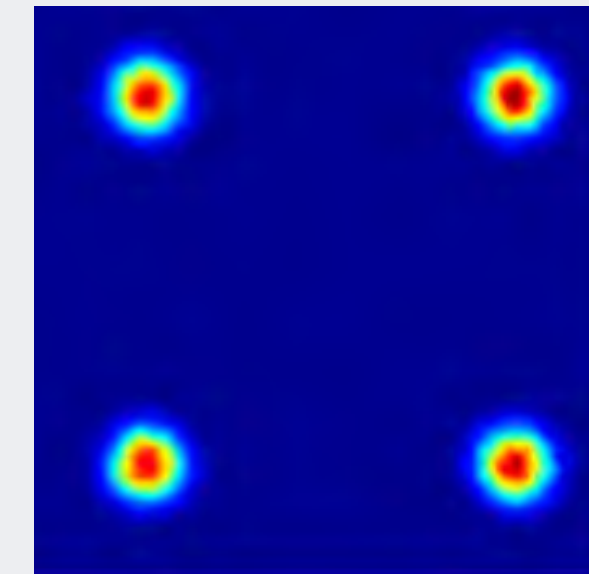


Shift in Fiber Technology



# Noise Definitions

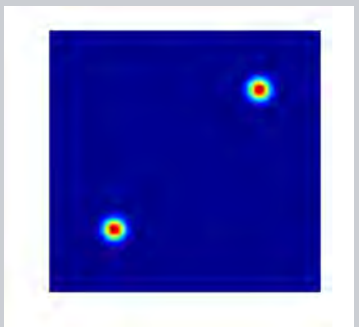
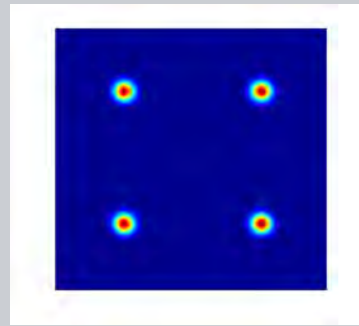
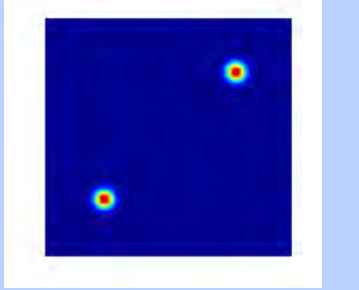
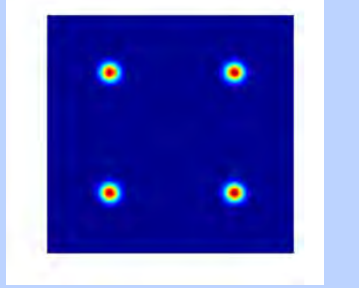
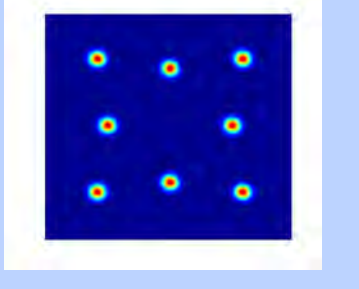
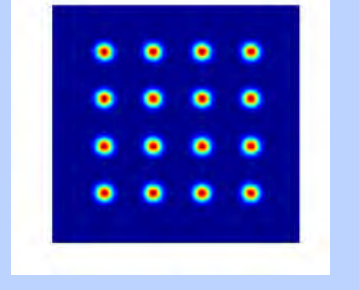
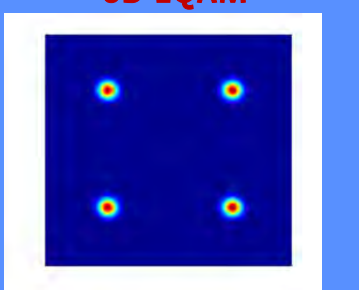
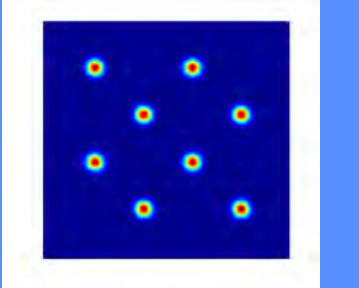
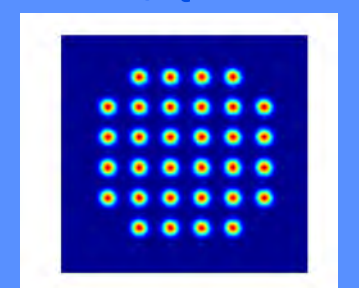
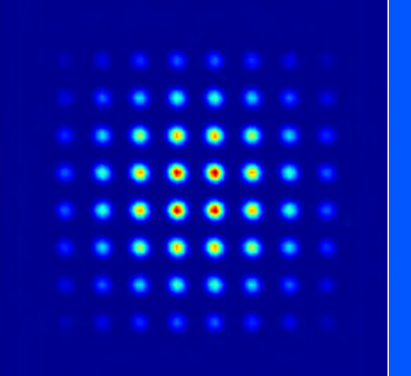
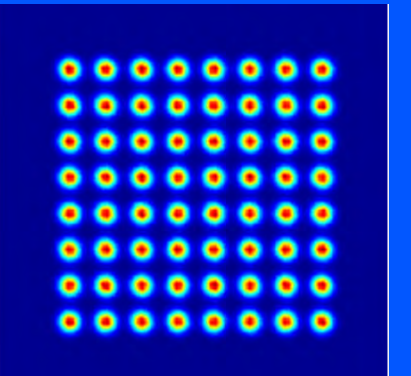
- Sources of noise:
  - Implementation Noise of the Transceiver  $SNR_{B2B}$ 
    - DAC/ADC Quantization Noise
    - Thermal & Phase Noise
  - ASE from amplifiers  $SNR_{ASE}$ 
    - Can be measured as OSNR via an OSA
    - Is AWGN (Additive White Gaussian Noise)
  - Non-Linear Interference  $SNR_{NLI}$ 
    - Result of propagation in a non-linear medium
    - Kerr Effect: SPM, XPM, FWM, XPolM etc.
    - Not AWGN but with enough dispersion can be treated as AWGN



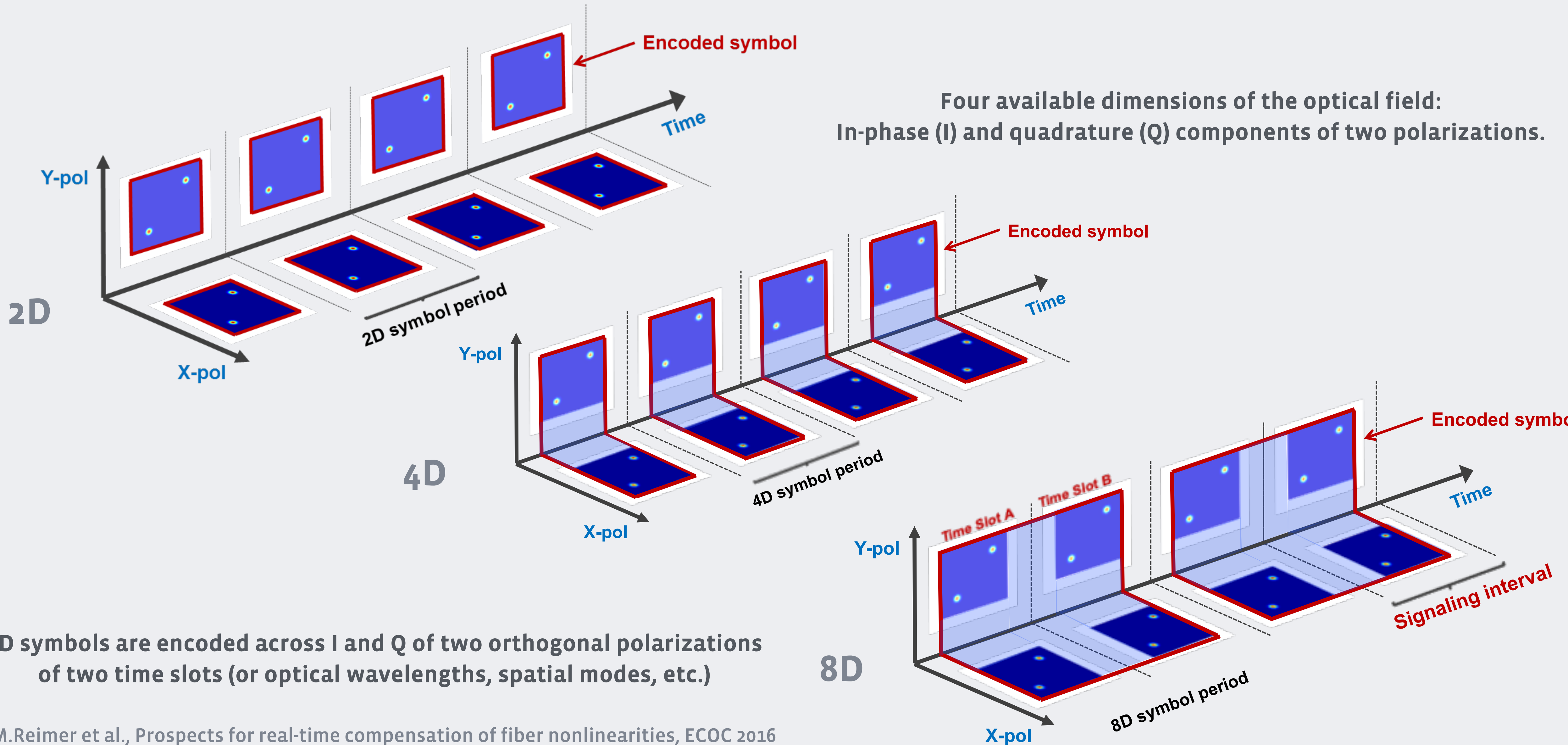
Dispersion Compensated or  
“Nonlinear” Legacy System

High Dispersion D+  
or “Linear” System

# Evolution of Coherent Constellations

	1 <sup>st</sup> Gen Coherent	2 <sup>nd</sup> Gen Coherent	3 <sup>rd</sup> Gen Coherent	4 <sup>th</sup> Gen Coherent
Year	2010	2012-2015	2016-2019	2020+
Data Rate	40G	50G / 100G / 150G / 200G	100G – 400G	200G – 800G
Constellations	 <p>PM-BPSK</p>  <p>PM-QPSK</p>	 <p>PM-BPSK</p>  <p>PM-QPSK</p>  <p>PM-8QAM</p>  <p>PM-16QAM</p>	 <p>8D-2QAM</p>  <p>4D-PM-SP-QAM</p>  <p>PM-32QAM</p> <p>+ many more!</p>	 <p>Shaped PM-64QAM</p>  <p>PM-64QAM</p> <p>+ many many more!</p>

# Multi-Dimensional Modulation Formats



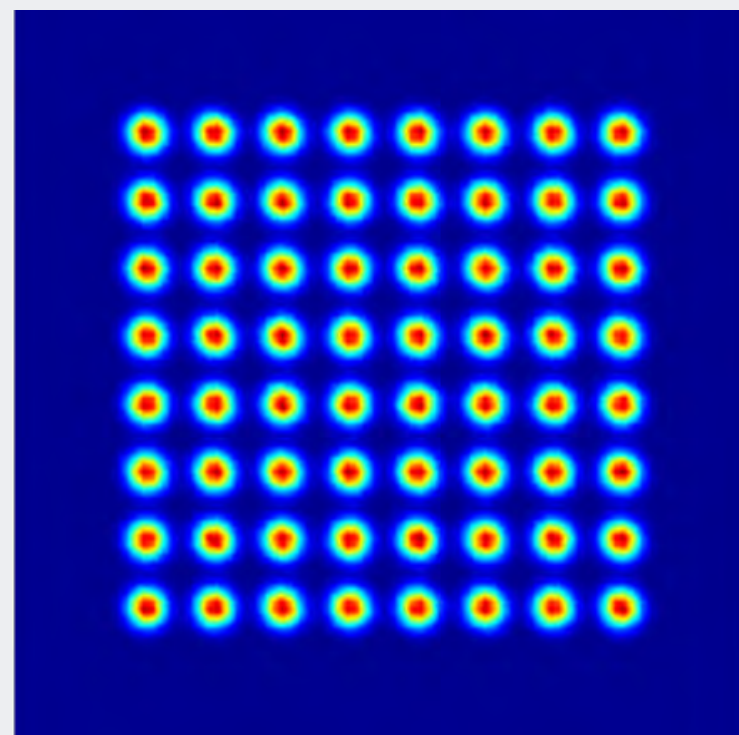
# Constellation Shaping

Constellation shaping builds on the traditional “square” constellations, and takes advantage of advanced DSP to optimize the constellation for the specific application to get the best performance and highest bit rate possible:

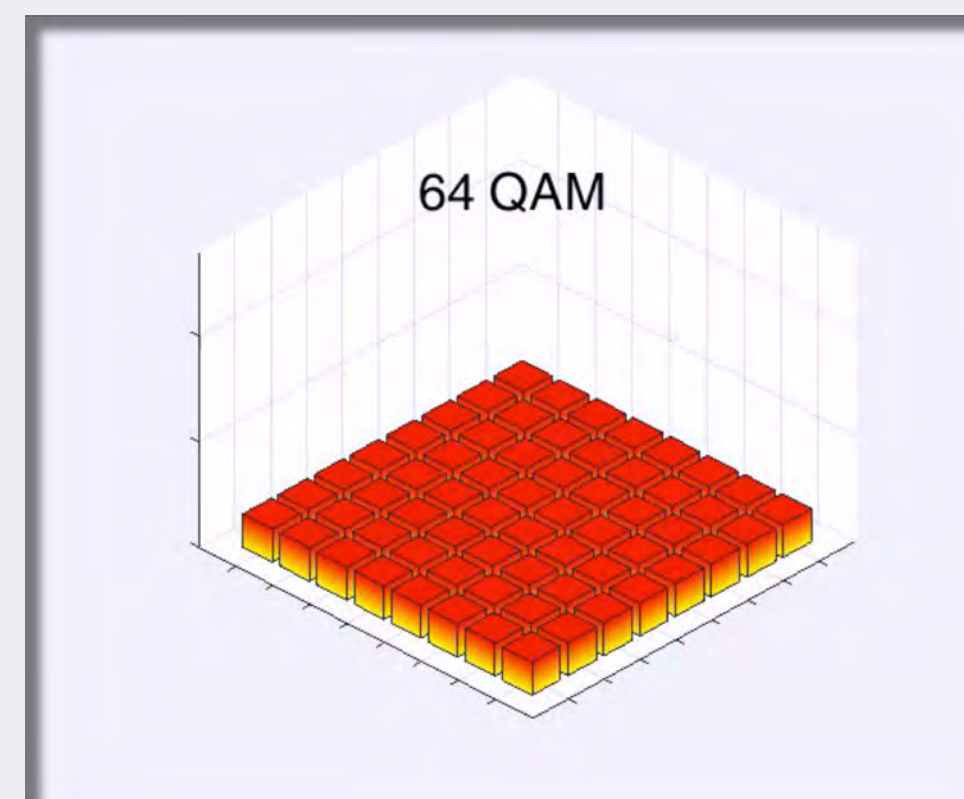
- Selected for type and quantity of noise present (fiber type, distance, channel powers, etc)

## Without shaping

Every symbol sent equal # of times

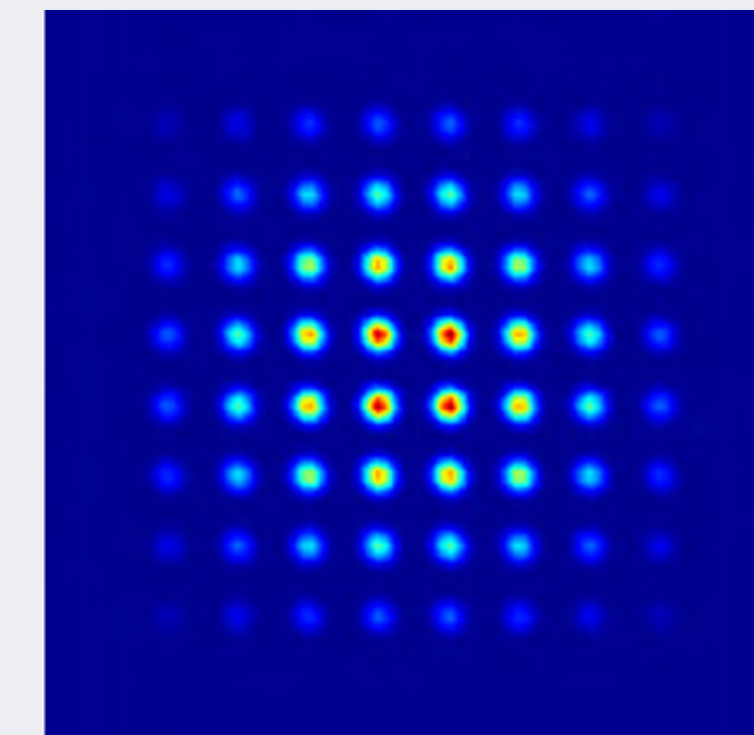


## Probabilistic Shaped (PCS)



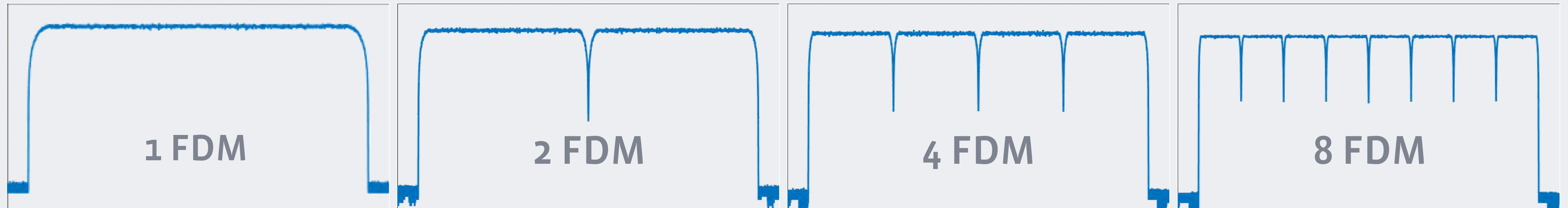
## With shaping

Low energy symbols favored, sent more often



# Digital Subcarriers and Performance Impact

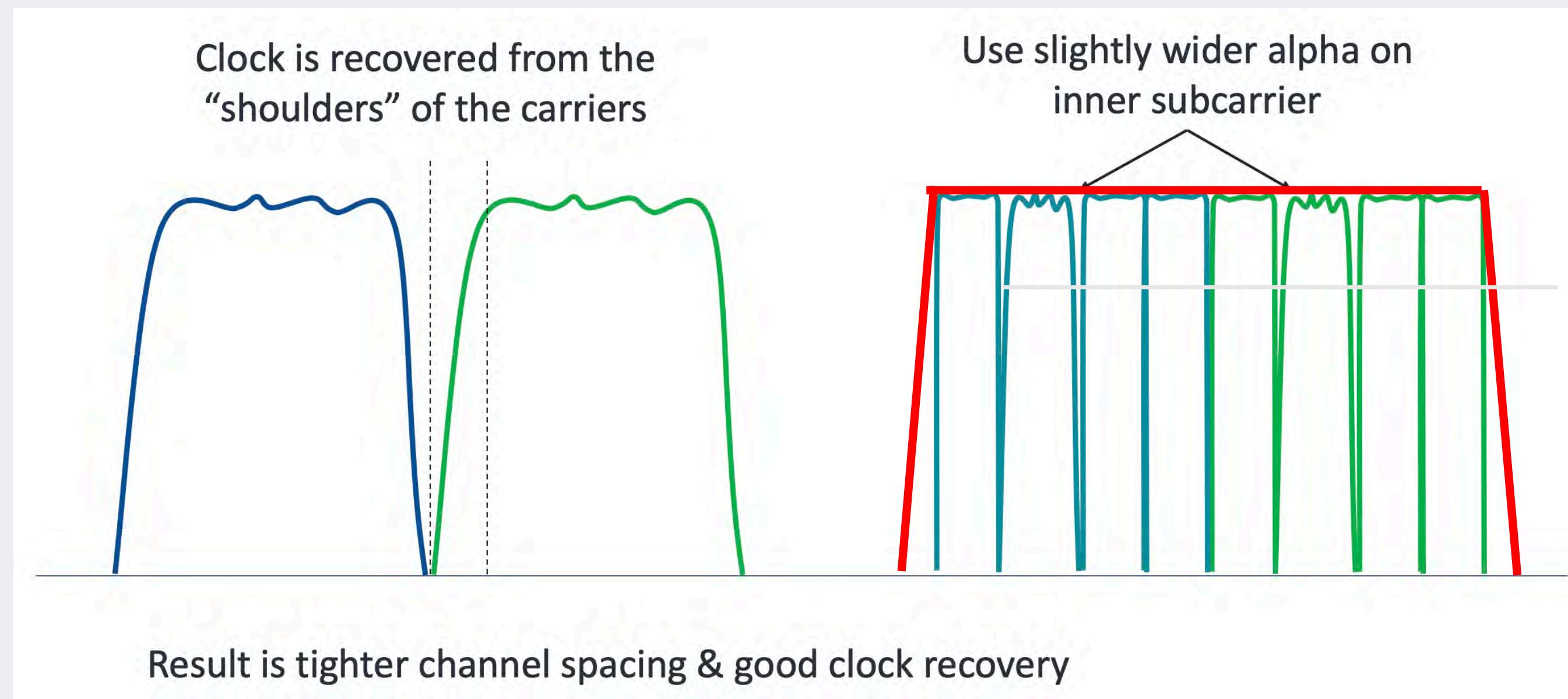
- Encoding data over multiple digital subcarriers on a single optical wavelength



- Improves non-linearities in key applications
  - High residual net dispersion favors a larger number of subcarriers
    - E.g. uncompensated NDSF
  - Low residual net dispersion favors a single subcarrier
    - NZDSF (or dispersion managed/compensated cables)

# Subcarriers within High Baud Signals

- Subcarriers shown to improve performance of high baud systems
- Demonstrated to reduce nonlinear effects
- Subcarriers can be coded individually
- Subcarriers can be used to make clock recovery more robust



# Nonlinear Compensation

Nonlinear Compensation (NLC) is another technique used to improve the performance (or reach) of an optical signal

There are numerous proposed methods with extensive research and publications, many of which are highly complex (and Ph.D worthy!)

One of the biggest challenges we face today is reducing the complexity of computationally intensive NLC implementations in DSP

Field propagation equation: 
$$\frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial z} = -\frac{\alpha}{2} \vec{A} + \frac{i\beta_2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{A}}{\partial t^2} - i\gamma \frac{8}{9} |\vec{A}|^2 \vec{A}$$

Perturbative nonlinear field: 
$$\vec{A} \approx \vec{A}_{Linear} + \vec{a}_{NL}$$

Dual polarization transmit symbols: 
$$\vec{d}(k) = \begin{bmatrix} X(k) \\ Y(k) \end{bmatrix}$$

Nonlinear optical field: 
$$\vec{a}_{NL} \approx \sum_{m,n=-M}^M \mathbf{C}_{mn} \vec{d}^H(m+n) \vec{d}(n) \vec{d}(m)$$

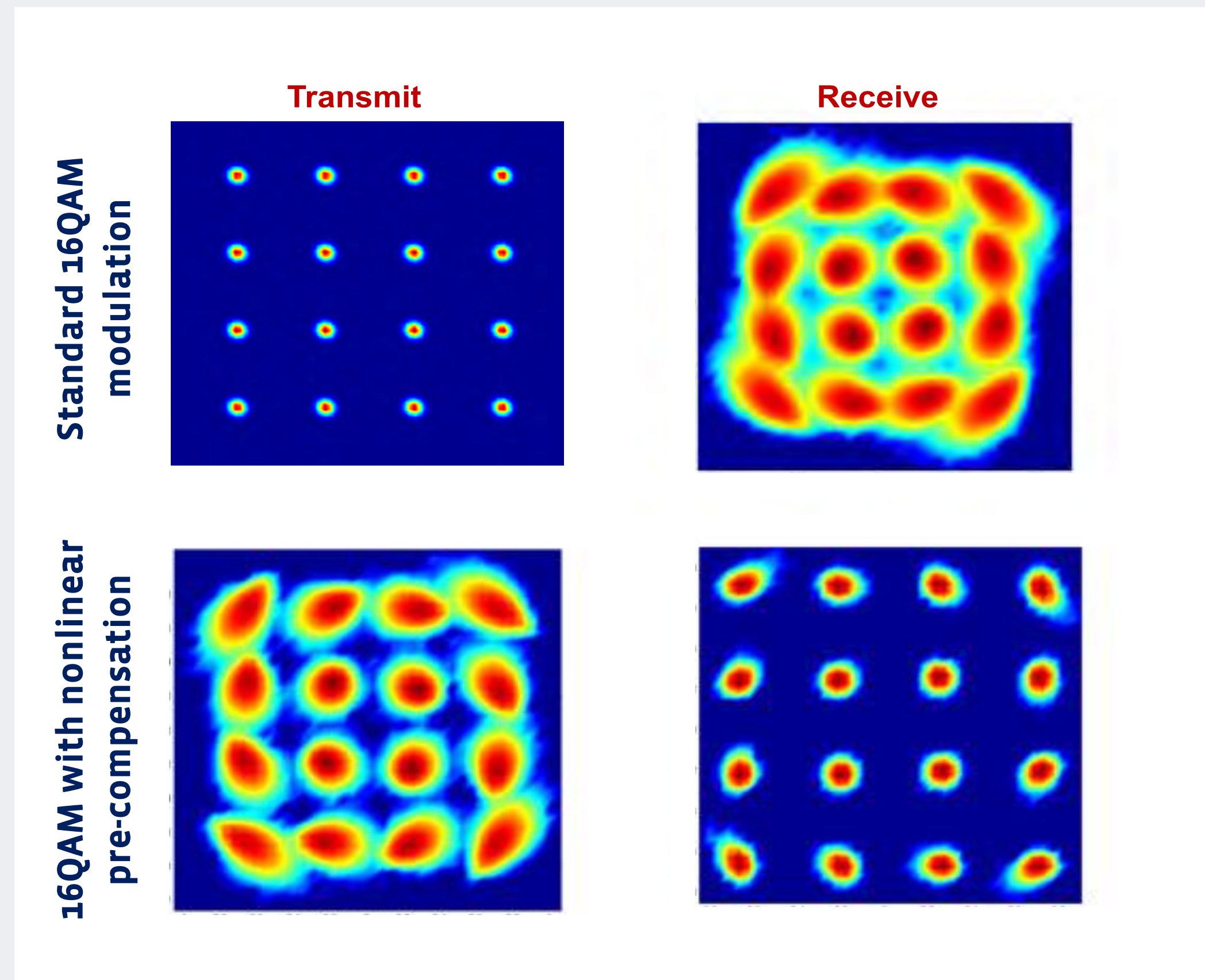
$\mathbf{C}_{mn}$  parameterizes single channel nonlinear interactions including details of pulse shaping and dispersion map.

Z. Tao, et. al, Proc. SPIE (2013)  
 Z. Tao, et. al, J. Lightwave Technol. (2011)  
 Q. Zhuge, et. al, Proc. OFC (2014)  
 Y. Gao, et. al, Opt. Express (2014)



# Nonlinear Pre-Compensation

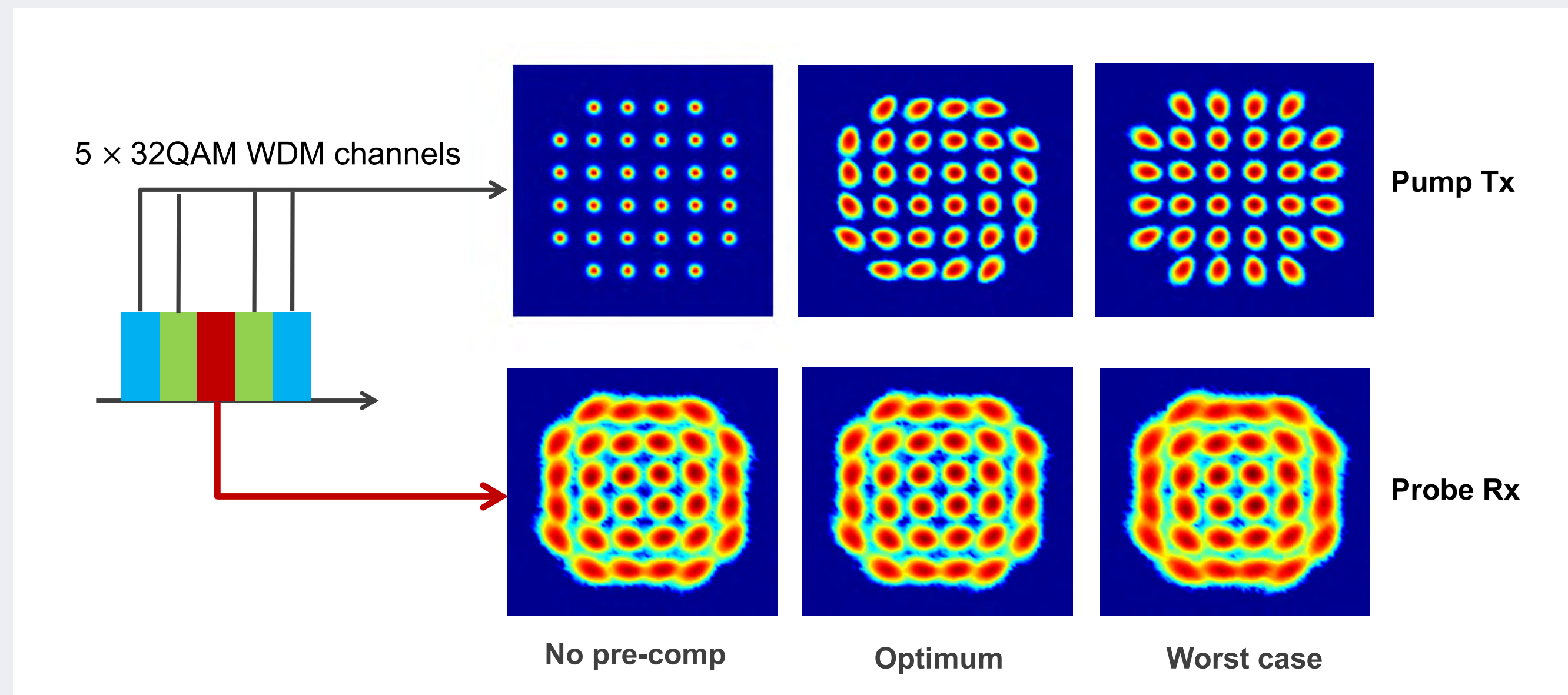
Nonlinear pre-compensation techniques on single channels have proved highly effective, with multiple dBs performance improvements possible at low computational complexity



# Nonlinear Pre-Compensation

However, WDM environments create additional complexities, in that nonlinear pre-compensation applied on one channel also couples to the nonlinear field of neighboring WDM channels.

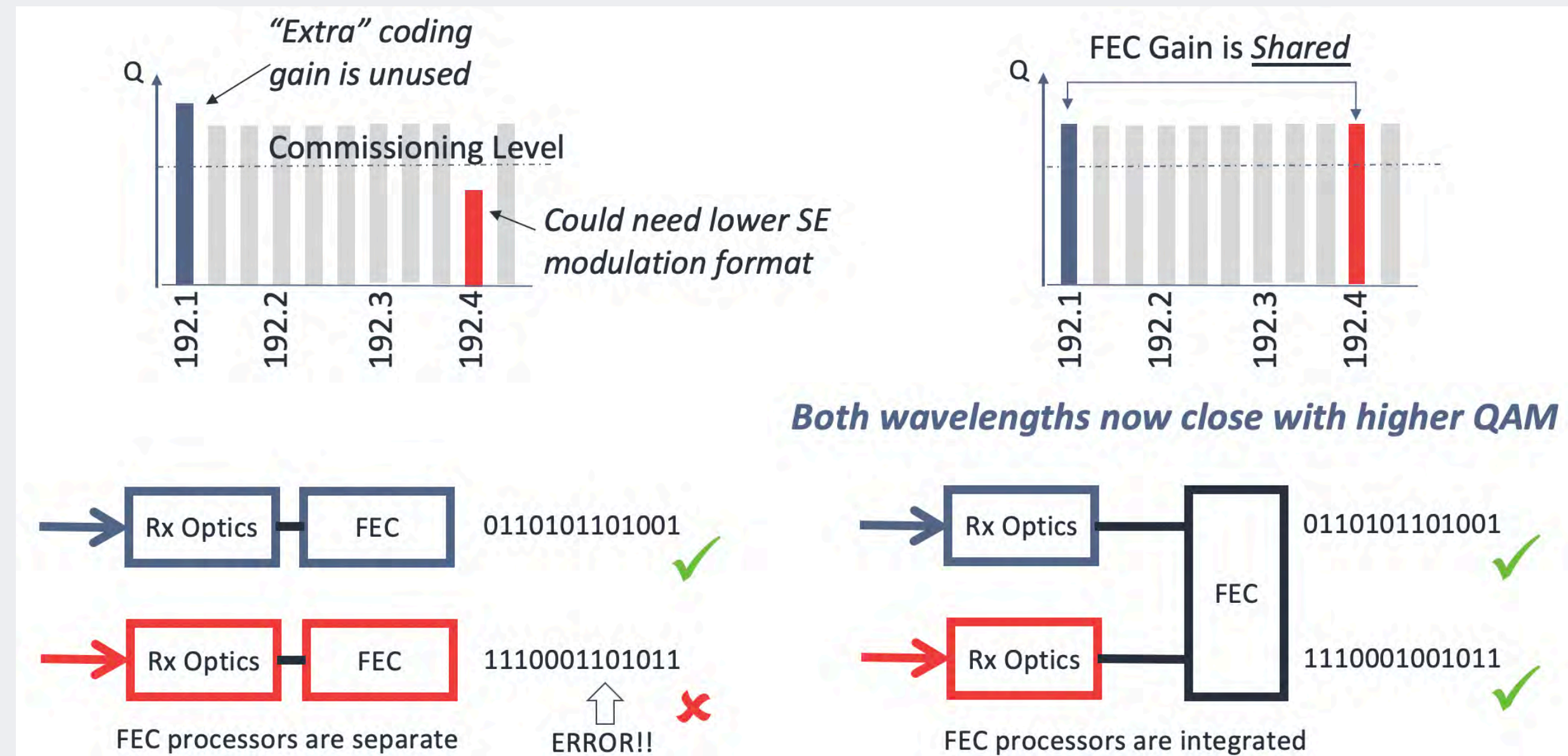
This effect requires multi-channel consideration of nonlinear pre-compensation techniques, increasing the complexity of the required solution and reducing the benefits observed in single channel environments



# Coding in Next Gen SLTE Transponders

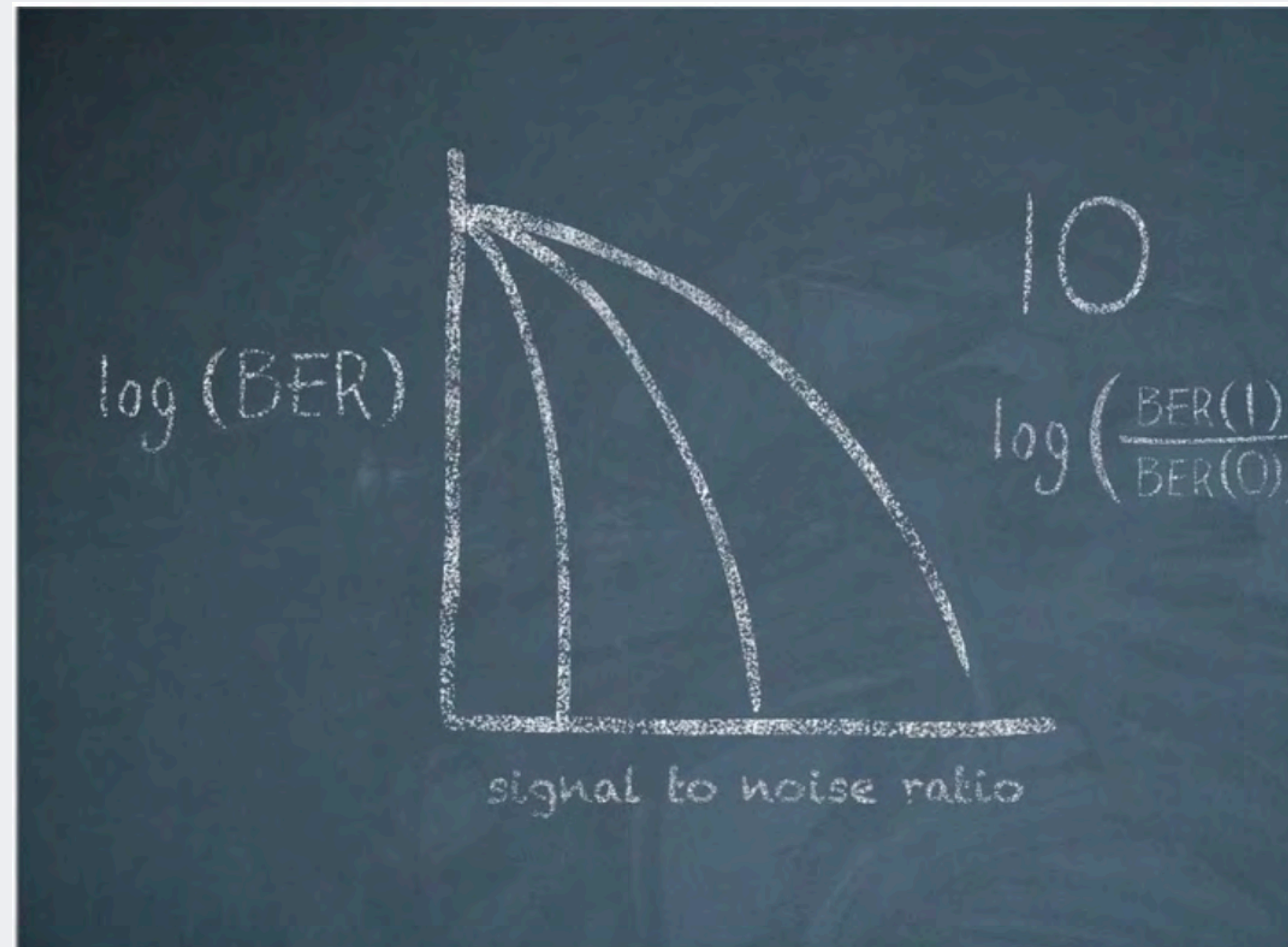
Net Coding Gain (NCG) of modern and next gen FEC is around 13 dB in Gen 3-4 Coherent

- Overheads between 15-50%
- Advanced FEC should be able to reach with 1 dB of Shannon
- FEC can account for 25-35% of DSP gates in some implementations
- PCS can enable use of use lower overhead FEC of ~20%
- FEC gain sharing has been proposed for performance optimization in WDM environments



# What is Soft FEC

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=81pTxPwB1Fw>



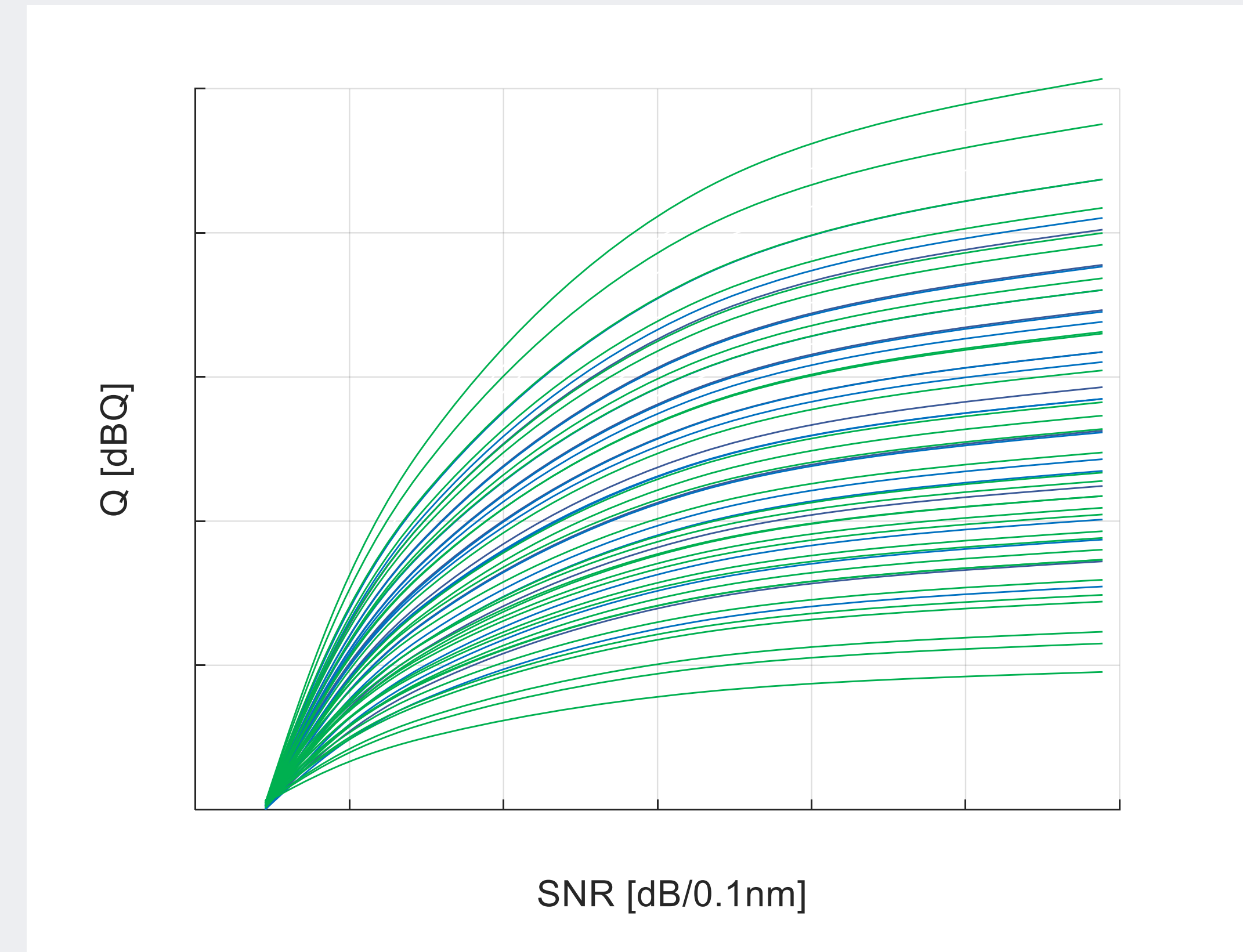
# Summary

Modern day coherent modems have many tools to optimize performance for a given application:

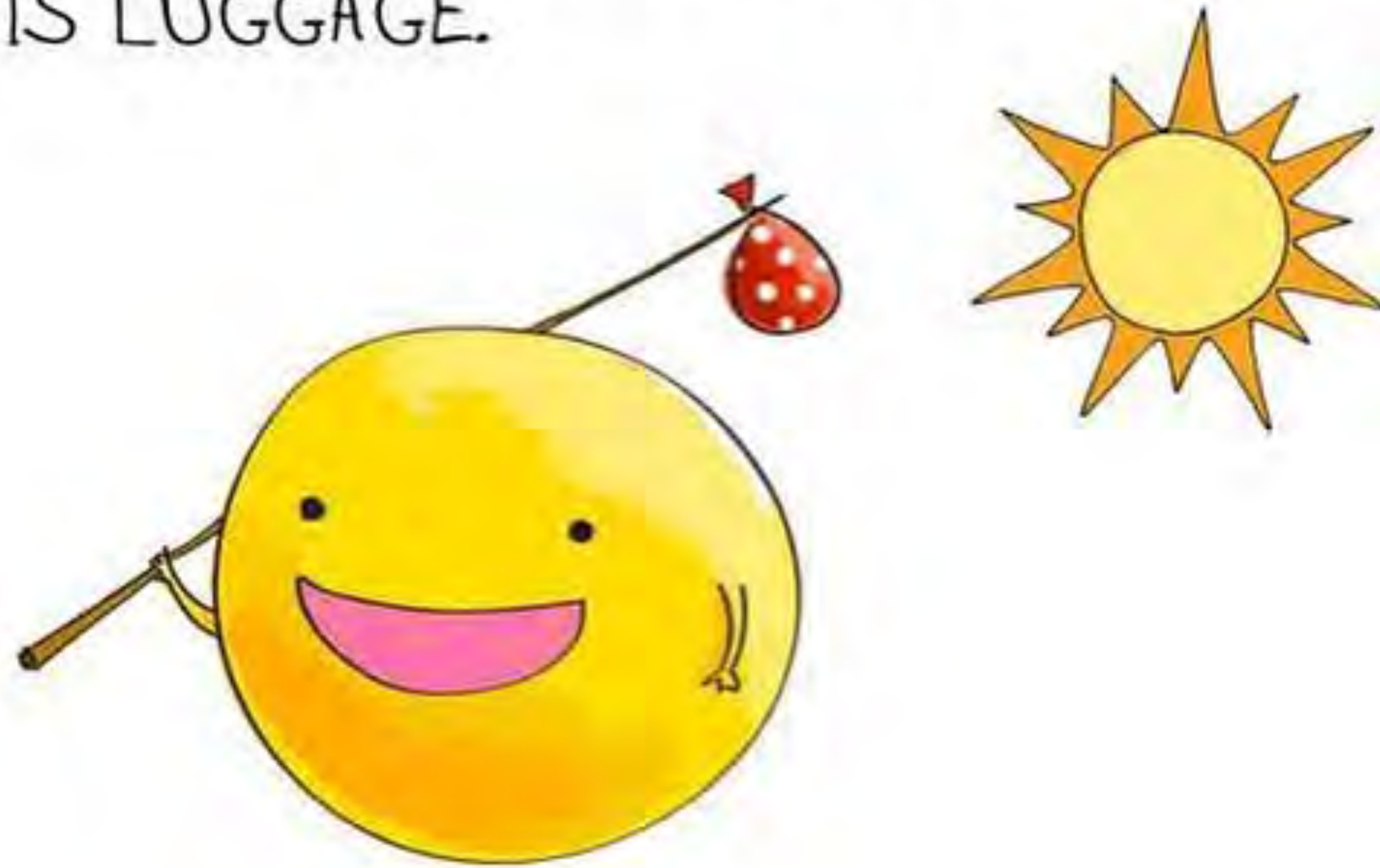
- Probabilistic Constellation Shaping
- Multi-Dimensional Modulation Techniques
- Variable Baud & Bit Rates
- Soft FEC and FEC Gain Sharing
- Digital Subcarriers
- Nonlinear Compensation & Mitigation

Future modems will undoubtedly have even more degrees of freedom...but where are the limits?

...We'll discuss that tomorrow!



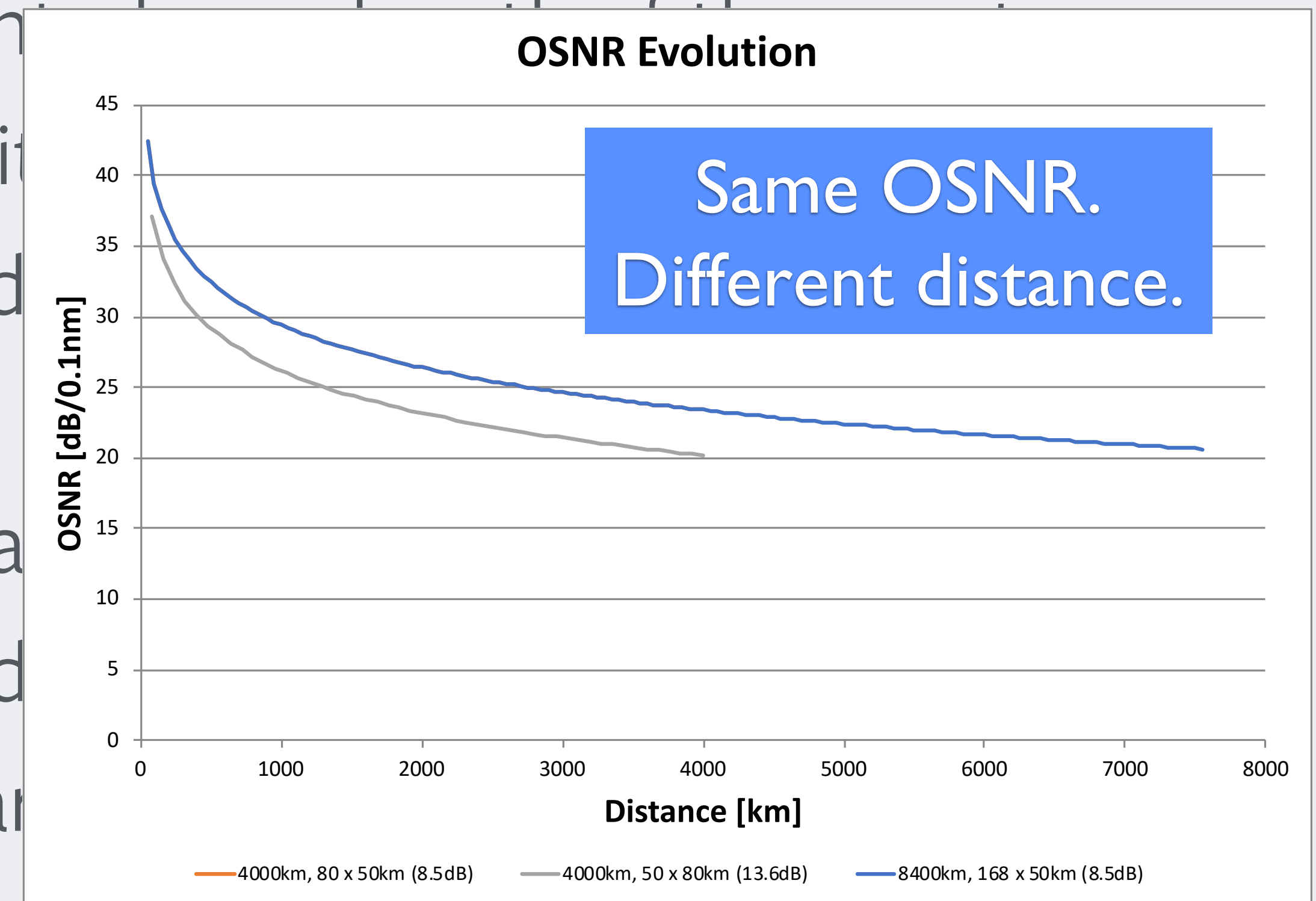
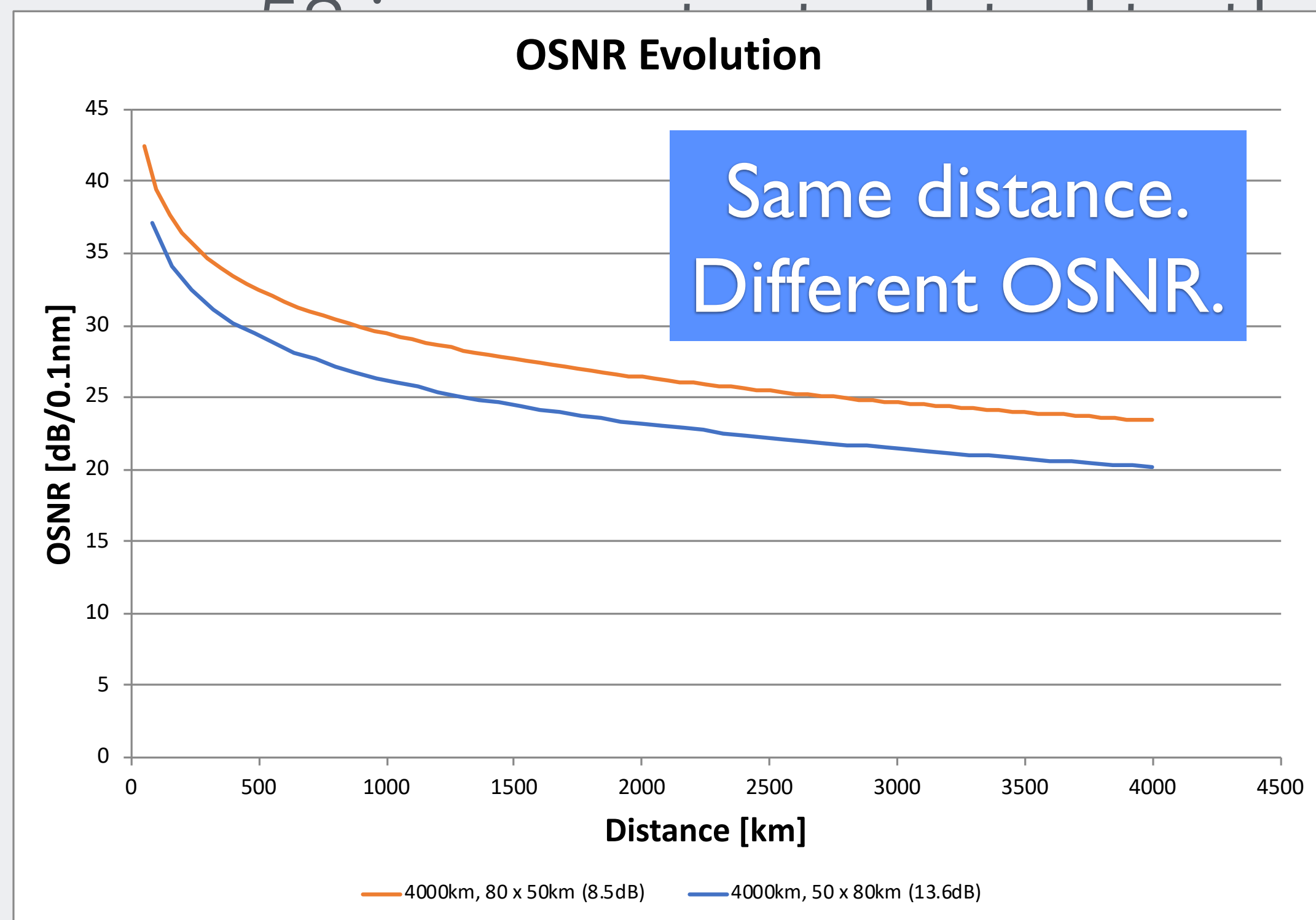
A PHOTON CHECKS INTO A HOTEL AND  
IS ASKED IF HE NEEDS ANY HELP WITH  
HIS LUGGAGE.



"NO, I'M TRAVELLING LIGHT."

# OSNR vs Distance – Does Distance Really Matter?

$$\text{OSNR}_{(\text{dB}/0.1\text{nm})} = 58 + P_{\text{TOP}} - N_{\text{Ch}} - G - \text{NF} - N_{\text{R}} \quad (*\text{all in dB})$$



Same TOP, N<sub>ch</sub>, and NF for all examples! Only changing G and N<sub>R</sub>  
 N<sub>R</sub> is Distance / Span Length – 1 and G is Span Length \* Fiber Loss per km

# Lecture 11 - System Deployment & Life of a Cable

Alan Cheung - Google Global Network Infrastructure (GNA  
APAC)

Subsea Optical Fiber Communication  
Finland, 2019



# Table of Contents - System Deployment & Life of a Cable

1. [System Deployment - What do you need to know?](#)
2. [Project Implementation and Management](#)
3. [Commissioning](#)
4. [Acceptance](#)
5. [Performance Bonds](#)
6. [Construction Challenges](#)
7. [System Budget \(Capex and Opex\)](#)
8. [Check-list before Provisional Acceptance](#)
9. [Operations and Maintenance](#)
10. [Life of a cable \(marine repairs, capacity upgrade\)](#)
11. [Decommissioning](#)

# System Deployment - What do you need to know?

1. Contractual Documents
  - a. Supply Contract
  - b. Joint Build Agreement
  - c. Landing Service Agreement
2. Purchasers Obligations
3. Supplier's Obligations and Scope of Work
4. People

# Supply Contract

Supply Contract generally consists of 6 Parts

Part 1 - Terms and Conditions of Contract

Part 2 - Technical Specifications

Part 3 - Price Schedule

Part 4 - Plan of Work

Part 5 - Billing Schedule

Part 6 - Supplier's System Description

# Supply Contract - Part 1 - Terms and Conditions of Contract

## Key terms

1. Contract Price
2. Completion Date
3. Condition Precedent for Coming Into Force
  - a. BM0 downpayment ?
  - b. Government approval ?
  - c. Letter of Performance Guarantee?
  - d. Payment Assurance ?
4. Acceptance
5. No suspension rights by Supplier -  
Supplier cannot suspend work even though non-payment from any of the Purchasers
6. Permits: Scope of Contractor
7. Liquidated Damages
8. Liability
  - a) Normally cap at contract price with exception of personal injury and death and environmental damage, etc.
  - b) Not joint but several liability among Purchasers
9. Financial liability of each Purchaser
10. Payment term
11. Force Majeure - extension of time but no money
12. Warranty
13. Long term support

# Supply Contract - Part 2 - Technical Specifications

## Key terms

1. Configuration
  - a. Main trunk and branches
  - b. Locations of Cable Landing Station / Point Of Presence
  - c. Locations of Beach Manholes
  - d. Number of Fibre Pairs
  - e. Power feeding configurations
  - f. Add / drop capacity to branch landings (e.g. optical switch and/or WSS)
  - g. Stubbed Branching Units, Optional landings if any
  - h. etc.
2. Transmission design parameters (e.g. OSNR, design capacity, etc.)
3. Commissioning Limit
4. Burial depths / Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) requirements
5. Route Position List / Cable types
6. Training
7. etc.

# Supply Contract - Permit Matrix

The Contractor shall identify, plan, obtain and procure the necessary licences, operational permits, work permits, permit-in-principle (“PIP”), authorisations from the appropriate authorities and pipelines/cable crossing agreements

No.	Permit Name/Description/ Activity	Permit Granting Authority & Point-of-Contact Details	Responsible Party	PIPs/Ops
<b>System Operating Permits</b>				
1.1	Unified Carrier Licence	Office of the Communications Authority	Purchaser	PIP
<b>Marine Route Survey Permits (inc survey vessel operational permits/notifications)</b>				
2.1	Marine Department Notice (MDN) - Notice to Mariners	Marine Department	Supplier	OPS
2.2	Vessel Temporary Operating Licence - if non Hong Kong registered vessel	Marine department	Supplier	OPS
2.3	Personnel temporary working visas - all non Hong Kong residents	Immigration Department	Supplier - with Purchaser Support	OPS
<b>Cable Station (CS) Permits</b>				
3.1	Regulatory Permit	Local Gov. Authority	Purchaser	PIP
<b>Outside Plant (OSP) Permits: includes land ducts, manholes and/or handholes between and exclusive of the cable station and Beach Manhole</b>				
4.1	Land Use Approvals	Highways Department	Purchaser	PIP
4.2	Excavation permit	Highways Department	Supplier	PIP
<b>Marine Installation Vessel(s) Permits/Notifications (i.e., Route Clearance, Pre-Lay Grapnel Run (PLGR), Main Lay, and Post-Lay Inspection &amp; Burial (PLIB))</b>				
8.1	Marine Department Notice (MDN) - Notice to Mariners	Marine Department	Supplier	OPS
8.2	Vessel Temporary Operating Licence - if non Hong Kong registered vessel	Marine department	Supplier	OPS
8.3	Construction Noise Permit	Environmental protection department (may be required for shore end operations)	Supplier	OPS
8.4	Marine Traffic Impact Assessment (MTIA)	Marine Department	Supplier	OPS
8.5	Personnel temporary working visas - all non Hong Kong residents	Immigration Department	Supplier - with Purchaser Support	OPS

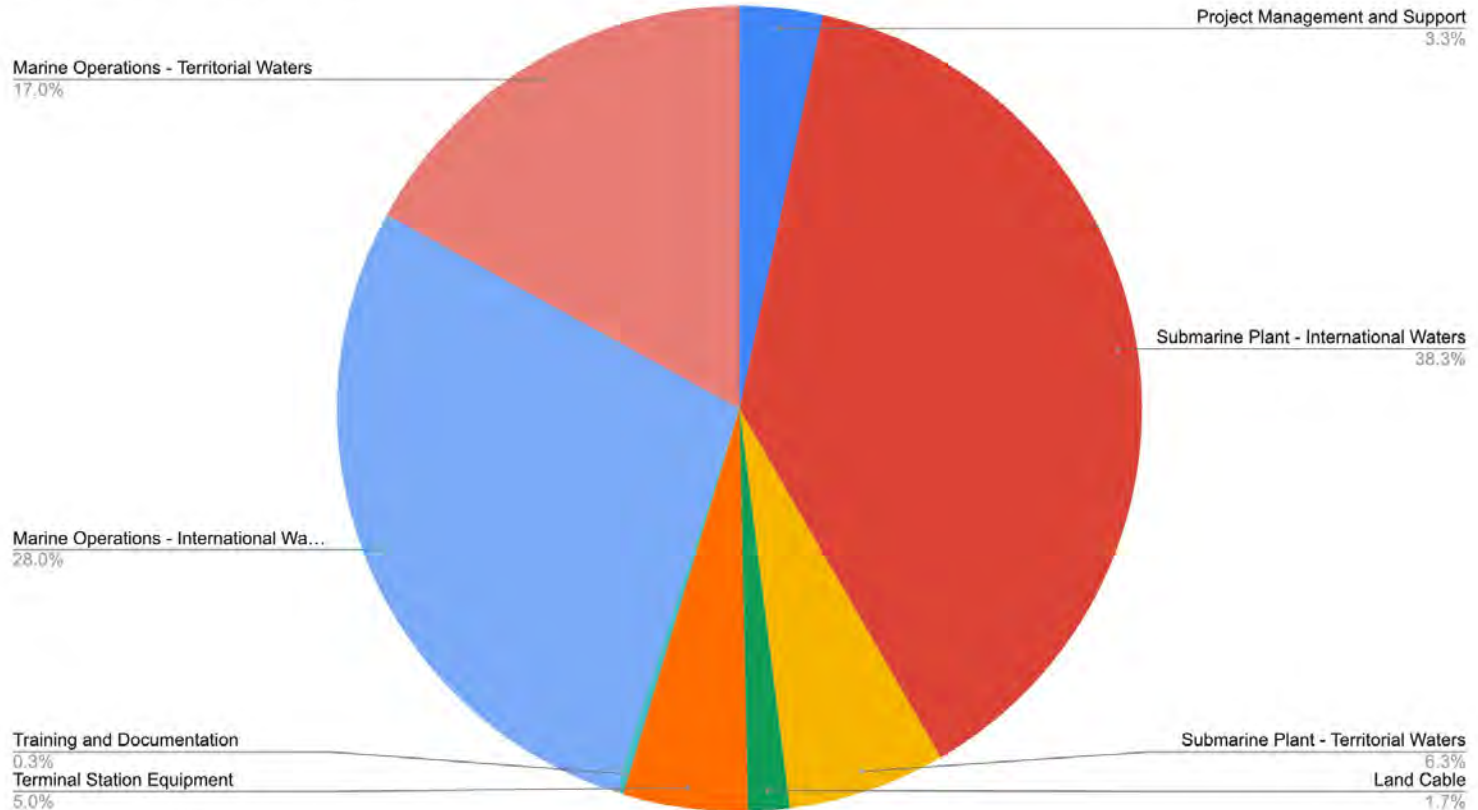
## Supply Contract - Part 3 - Price Schedule

A spreadsheet detailing the Supply Contract Cost giving the below breakdown

1. Project Management and Support
2. Submarine Plant - International Waters
3. Submarine Plant - Territorial Waters
4. Land Cable
5. Terminal Station Equipment
6. Training and Documentation
7. Marine Operations - International Waters
8. Marine Operations - Territorial Waters

# Supply Contract - Cost Allocation (Example)

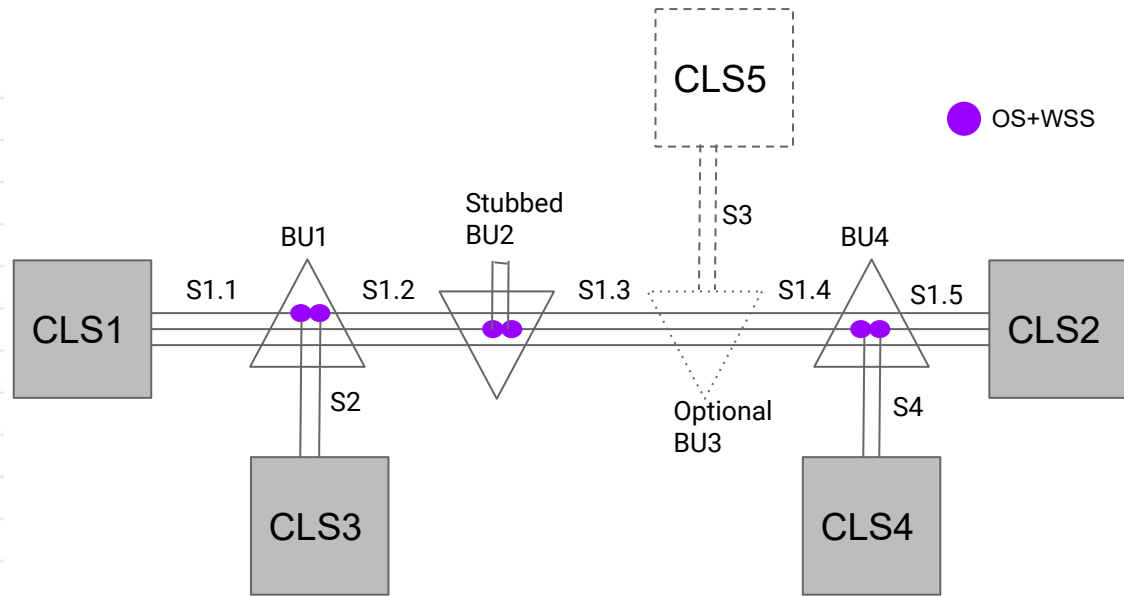
Supply Contract Cost Allocation





# Supply Contract - Price Breakdown

Trunk Segments	S1.1 (CLS1 - BU1)	\$?
	S1.2 (BU1 - BU2)	\$?
	S1.3 (BU2 - BU3)	\$?
	S1.4 (BU3 - BU4)	\$?
	S1.5 (BU4 - CLS2)	\$?
Branch Segments	S2 (BU1 - CLS3)	\$?
	S4 (BU4 - CLS4)	\$?
Stubbed BU	BU2	\$?
Optional branch	S3 (BU3 - CLS5)	\$?



# Supply Contract - Price Breakdown

	Cost				
Power Switch Branching Unit	\$?				
Optical Switch	\$?				
Wavelength Selective Switch	\$?				
	Cable Type	Cable	Repeater	Shape Equaliser	Tilt Equaliser
4FP	LW	\$?	\$?	\$?	\$?
	SA	\$?			
	DA	\$?			
8FP	LW	\$?	\$?	\$?	\$?
	SA	\$?			
	DA	\$?			
12FP	LW	\$?	\$?	\$?	\$?
	SA	\$?			
	DA	\$?			
16FP	LW	\$?	\$?	\$?	\$?
	SA	\$?			
	DA	\$?			

# Supply Contract - Part 4 - Plan of Work

Plan of Work to show the Milestones and Start / Finish date of each activity

	2019				2020				2021				2022			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Contract CIF			█													
Permit (Country X)			█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█				
Permit (Country Y)			█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█			
Desk Top Study			█	█												
Survey Permits				█	█											
Survey						█	█									
Cable Manufacture								█	█	█	█	█				
Repeater / BU Manufacturer								█	█	█	█					
Dry plant manufacturer								█	█	█						
Ready to Load											█					
Marine Lay											█	█	█	█	█	
Station Installation											█	█	█	█		
Training														█		
Testing and Commissioning															█	
Provisional Acceptance																█

# Supply Contract - Part 4 - Plan of Work

Purchasers' Deliverables - Purchasers' critical delivery and option decision dates will be shown in the POW:

- Readiness of Beach Manhole
- Readiness of CLS
- Decision dates for options election (add / reduction of FP, branches, etc.)
- Finalisation of spares
- Finalisation of marine maintenance and depot storages
- NOC location
- Readiness of licence

# Supply Contract - Part 6 - Supplier's System Descriptions

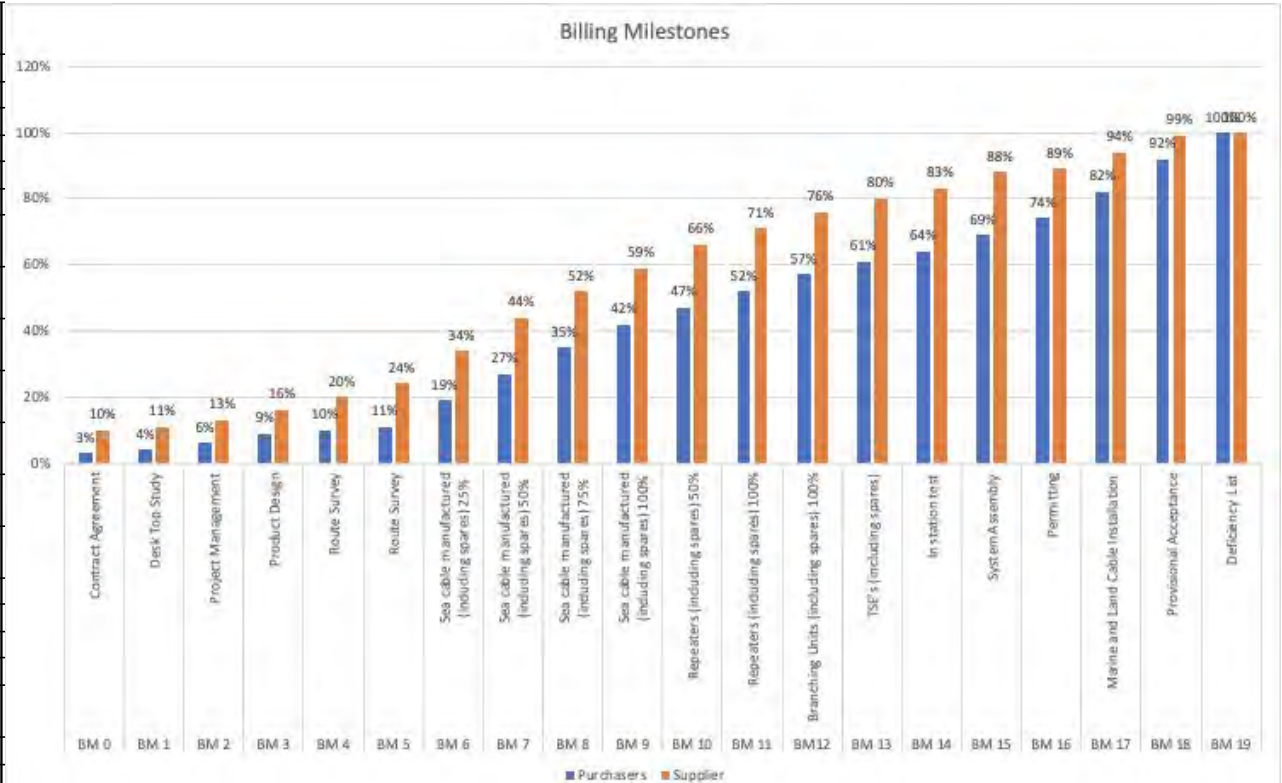
System Description is Supplier's document to specify how they implement the project so as to meet the Technical Specifications specified by the Purchasers.

1. Configuration and options
2. Optical connectivity
3. Power Configuration
4. Submerged plants
5. Terminal Station Equipment
6. System Performance
7. Acceptance test
8. Training
9. Documentations
10. Marine Descriptions
11. Permit Services Descriptions
12. Product descriptions
  - a. Cable
  - b. Repeaters
  - c. Branching Units
  - d. Management System
  - e. Dry Plants
  - f. SLTE, if applicable
  - g. etc.

# Supply Contract - Part 5 - Billing Schedule

Billing Milestones with criteria for achievement are well defined. The % allocation on each BM is mutually agreed prior to Contract CIF.

BM No.	Billing Milestone [BM]
BM 0	Contract Agreement
BM 1	Desk Top Study
BM 2	Project Management
BM 3	Product Design
BM 4	Route Survey
BM 5	Route Survey (Report)
BM 6	Sea cable manufactured (including spares) 25%
BM 7	Sea cable manufactured (including spares) 50%
BM 8	Sea cable manufactured (including spares) 75%
BM 9	Sea cable manufactured (including spares) 100%
BM 10	Repeaters (including spares) 50%
BM 11	Repeaters (including spares) 100%
BM 12	Branching Units (including spares) 100%
BM 13	TSE's (including spares)
BM 14	In station test
BM 15	System Assembly
BM 16	Permitting
BM 17	Marine and Land Cable Installation
BM 18	Provisional Acceptance
BM 19	Deficiency List



# Joint Build Agreement

## Key terms

1. System Configuration
2. Investment Level and Cost sharing principles
3. Participating Interest and Voting Rights
4. Open access principles
5. Management Structure, Decision and Voting
  - a. Management Committee
  - b. Procurement Group
  - c. Investment & Administrative SubCommittee
  - d. O&M Working Group
6. Landing Parties / Service Providers Responsibility and Obligations
7. Decommissioning
8. Joint System Maintenance Document Key Terms
9. Terms of Reference for
  - a. PG
  - b. OMG
  - c. NOC
  - d. CBP

# Joint Build Agreement - System Config & Cost Sharing

Trunk: Segment A & Segment B

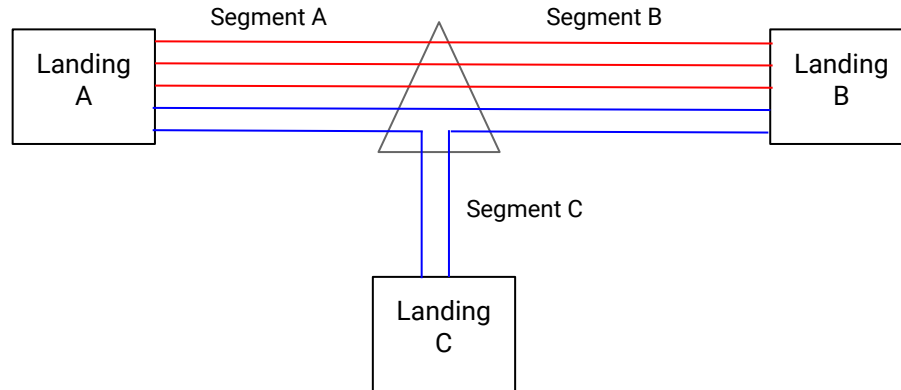
Branch: Segment C

No. of FP: Trunk (5); Branch (2)

OSNR: XX dB

Design capacity: XX Tbps per FP

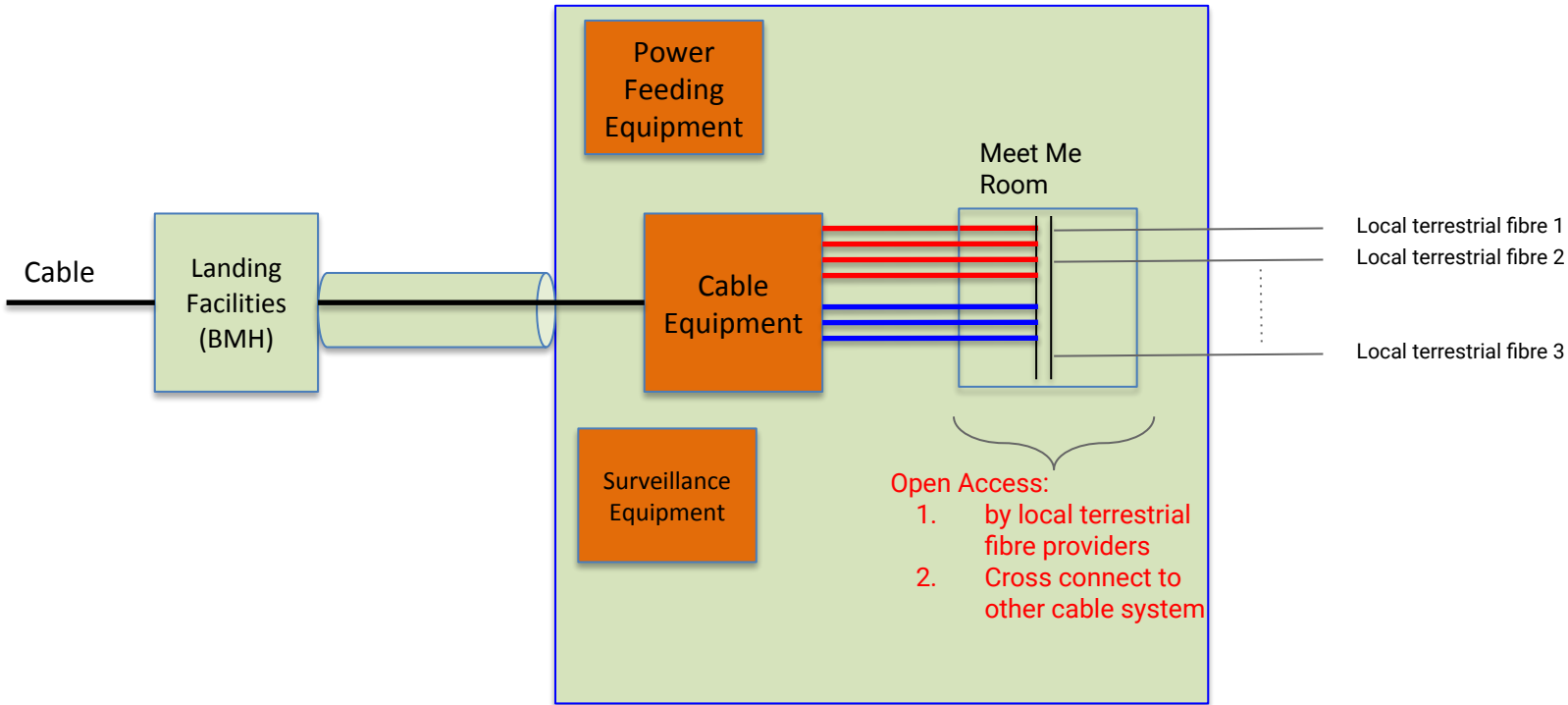
	Cost Sharing %		Total
	Purchaser 1	Purchaser 2	
Segment A	60%	40%	100%
Segment B	60%	40%	100%
Segment C (including BU)	0%	100%	100%





# Joint Build Agreement - Open Access

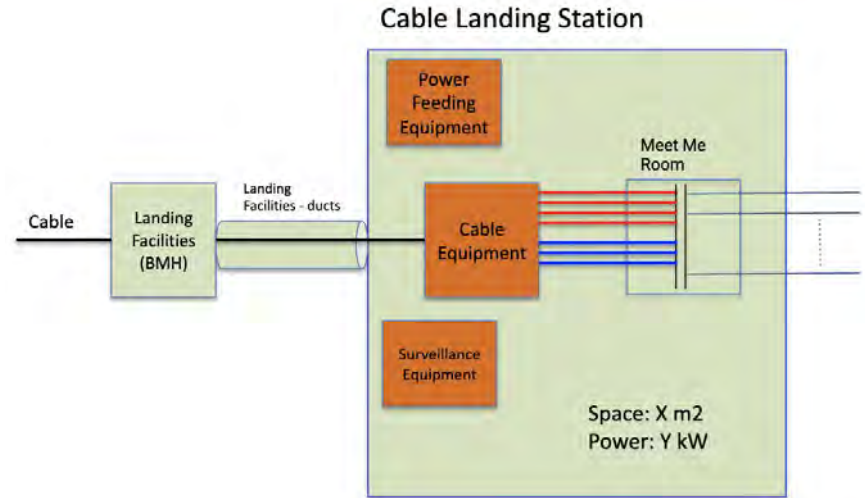
## Cable Landing Station



# Landing Service Agreement

## Key terms

1. Facilities / Services to be provided
  - a. Beach Manhole (BMH)
  - b. Land route from BMH to Cable Landing Station
  - c. Cable Landing Station Space and power (X sq meters, Y kW)
  - d. Permit application
  - e. Negotiation and signing of any fishery agreement, pipeline agreement
  - f. Manpower for Operations and Maintenance (O&M)
  - g. Importer of Record
2. Non Recurrent Cost and Recurrent Cost
3. Open access

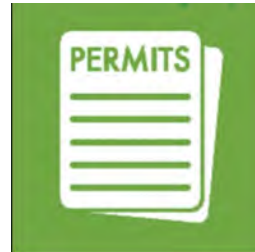


# Purchasers' Obligations

1. Provision of cable landing facilities (Cable Landing Station, Land route, Beach Manhole)
2. Make timely payments to Supplier



3. Obtain Purchasers' permits
  - a. submarine cable landing license (e.g. FCC license in USA)
  - b. permits needed to operate the System



# Supplier' Obligations and Scope of Work

1. Design review and demonstration of technology
2. Route engineering to optimise the cable route
3. Complete the work on time
  - a. Permits acquisition
  - b. manufacturing
  - c. Timely qualification for First Office Application (FOA)
4. Comply with laws and regulations
5. Meet technical specifications
6. Meet acceptance criteria
7. Mitigation of cost exposure



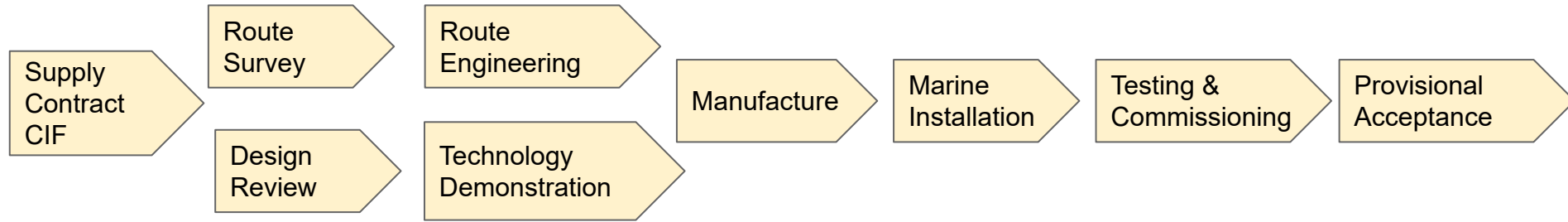
# People You need to know

1. Project Team from Supplier
  - a. Project Manager
  - b. Contract Manager
  - c. Marine Manager
  - d. Quality Manager
  - e. Escalation contact
  
2. Your own consortium members



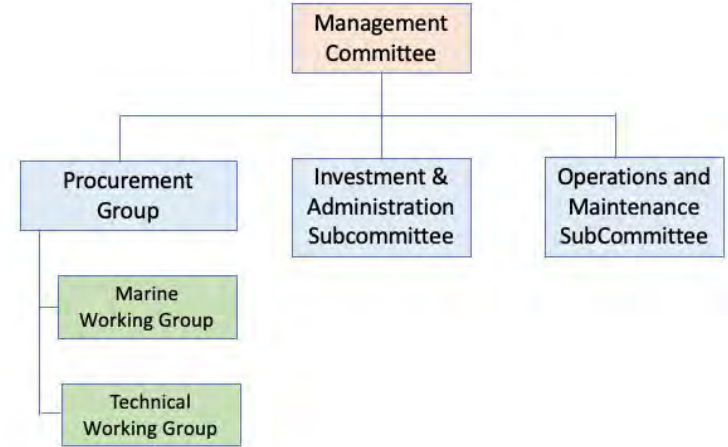
# Project Implementation and Management

# Project Implementation



# Project Management

1. Forming Subcommittees and Working Groups
2. Meetings / Conference Calls
  - a. Contractor Coordination meetings
  - b. Purchasers' internal meetings
3. Quality checks / audits
  - a. Factory audit
4. Factory Release Certificates
5. Sending Purchasers' shipboard representatives onboard vessels
6. Monthly Reports / Incident Reports





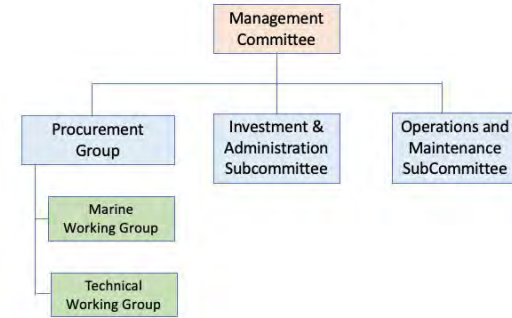
# Committees / Meetings

## Committees

1. Management Committee (MC) - decision making - exist throughout the cable life
2. Investment and Administrative SubCommittee (I&ASC) - deal with Joint Build Agreement / Landing Party Agreements - exist throughout the cable life
3. Procurement Group (PG) - deal with Suppliers
4. Technical Working Group (TWG) - assist PG on technical matters
5. Marine Working Group (MWG) - assist PG on marine matters
6. Operations and Maintenance SubCommittee Group (O&MSC) - Established ~9-12 months before Provisional Acceptance to deal with O&M matters

## Meetings

1. MC / I&ASC - Bi-annually / Quarterly / Ad-hoc
2. PG Meeting / TWG / MWG / Contract Coordination Meetings - Quarterly / Bi-monthly / Ad-hoc
3. O&MSC Meeting - quarterly before PA; once annually after PA



# Project Management - Reports

## Monthly Report

1. Critical project risks
2. Update on Milestones
3. Near term decisions
4. Purchasers deliverables and due dates
5. Manufacturing status
6. Dry plant installation
7. Permit and license acquisition status
8. Installation Programs
9. New product development
10. Updated Plan of Work
11. Revised Billing Milestones and payment status



**Marine Survey and Installation Report**

**Outside Plant Installation Report**

**Site Installation Report**

**Ship Representative Reports**

**Factory Release Certificate**

**Testing and Commissioning Report**

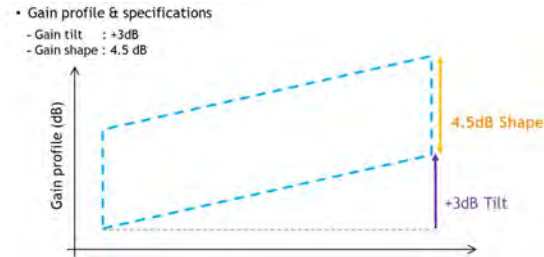
# Commissioning

# Commissioning

## High Tech & High Reliability Systems

- ▶ Recommendation: thorough testing & controlling by supplier & qualified inspection authority at
  - Pre-manufacturing
    - Technology Demonstration
    - Qualification
  - Manufacture
    - Component supply
    - Factory test
    - Assembly tests
  - Installation
    - Load & lay tests
    - On-site equipment tests
    - System test

- ▶ Why so many tests ?
  - System shall perform 25 years !
  - Time-consuming now but time-saving later
  - Many functionalities
- ▶ Test examples
  - Optical power, spectrum, margins, etc
  - Confidence trials, software tests
  - OSNR, GOSNR, Gain Tilt and Gain Shape



- ▶ Test passed -> Get the cash and go to next one
- ▶ Test failed ->



# Acceptance

# Acceptance

1. Acceptance - rejection



2. Commercial Acceptance - commissioning test not fully satisfied -> accept part of the System for commercial traffic



3. Provisional Acceptance - commissioning tests satisfied. May have some minor deficiencies but the System is good for carrying traffic.

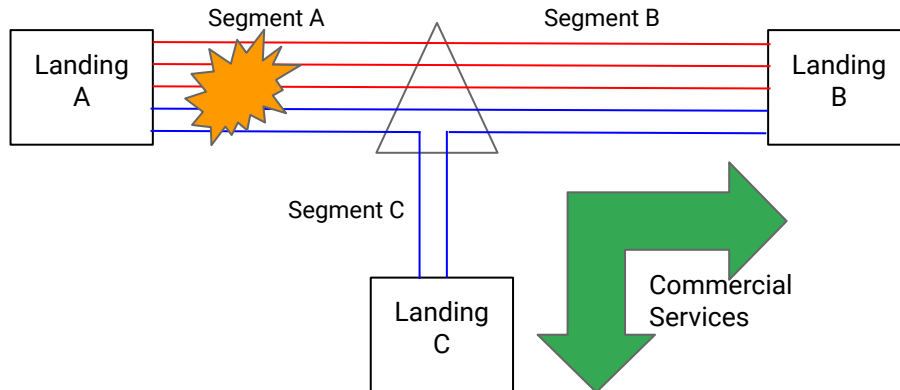


4. Final Acceptance - it is generally a 5-year period after PA to ensure the System is up and running before Final Acceptance.

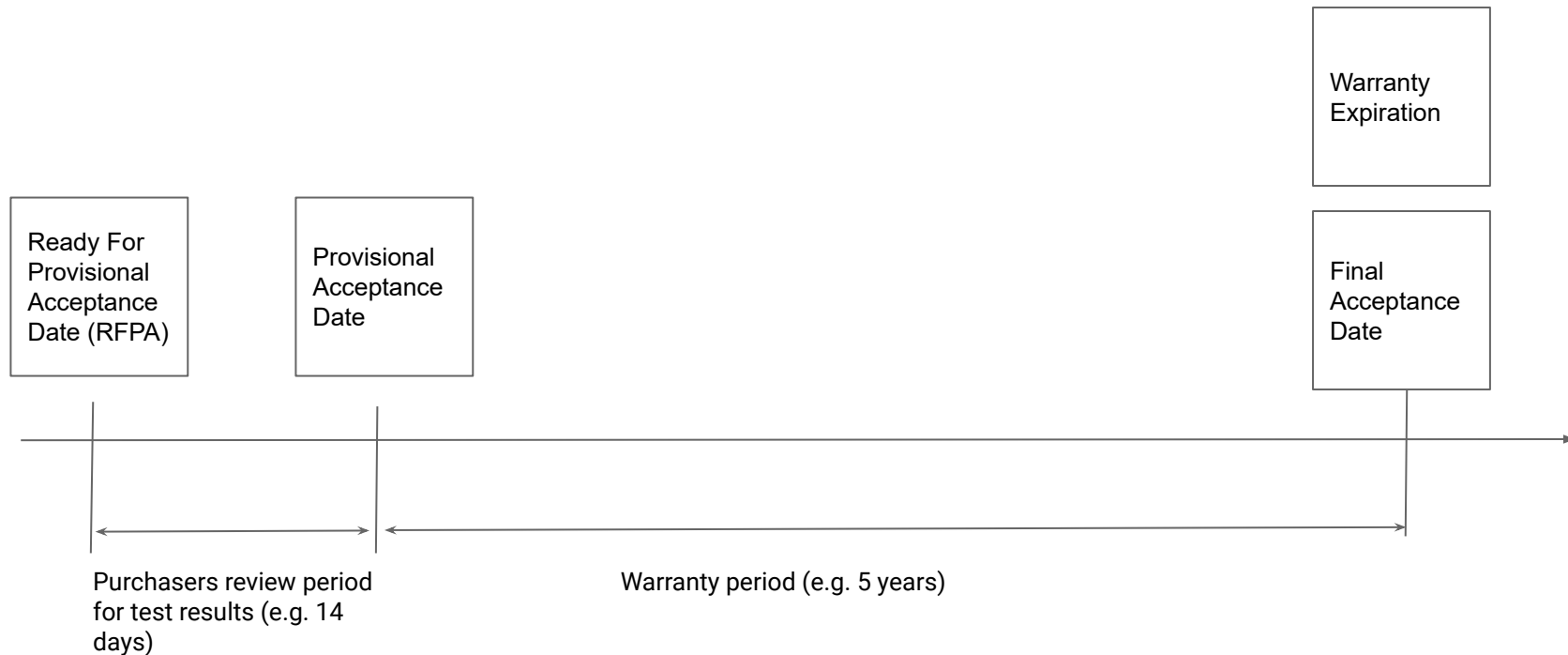


# Commercial Acceptance

1. Purchasers are not satisfied with the results of the Acceptance Tests but wish to put a part of or all the System into Commercial Services.
2. Terms and conditions to be mutually agreed between Purchasers and Supplier
3. Supplier shall continue to carry the risk of loss of the System or relevant Segments
4. Upon Supplier's remedy the deficiencies to meet full conformance of contract, Purchasers will issue a Certificate of Provisional Acceptance.



# Provisional Acceptance / Final Acceptance

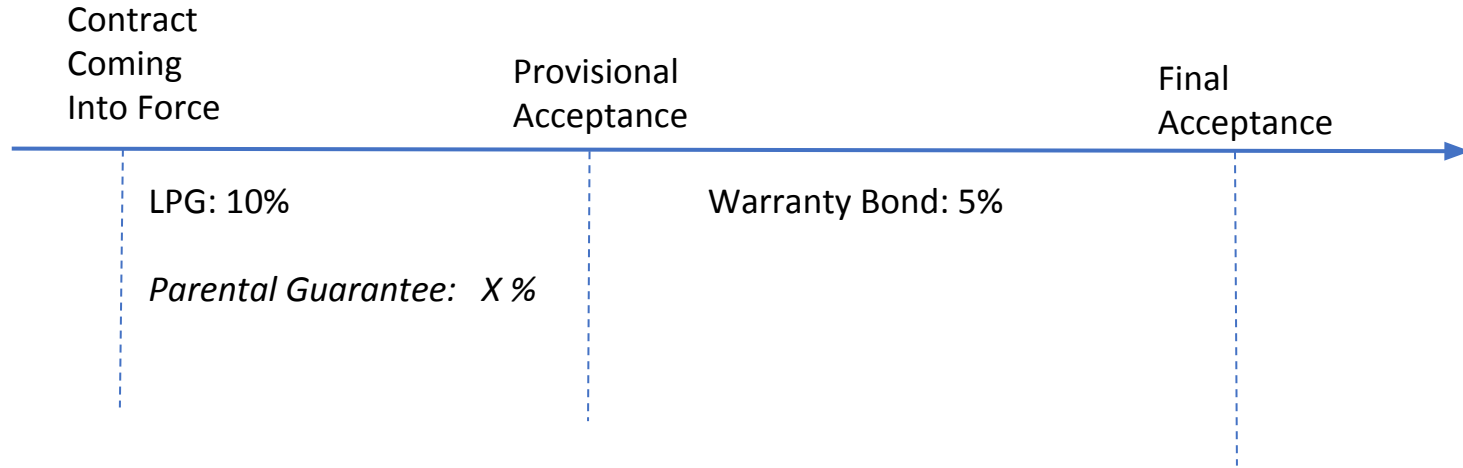




# Performance Bond

# Performance Bonds

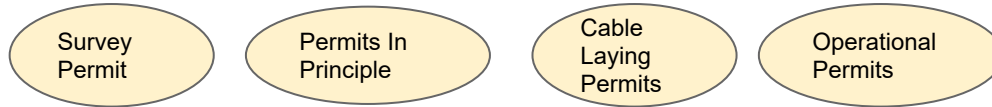
In order to guarantee the good and timely execution of all of the Contractor's contractual obligations from the signature date of the Contract through Final Acceptance, Contractor shall provide a Letter of Performance Guarantee (LPG) for a value equal to 10% of the Contract Price, which shall be reduced to 5% of the Contract Price upon the Provisional Acceptance, in favour of the Purchasers and in the form of an irrevocable and unconditional Bank Guarantee issued by a bank approved by Purchasers.



# Construction Challenges

# Construction Challenges

1. Permits / License - often on the critical path



2. National Security Agreement - Relevant authorities are increasingly more protective of its critical infrastructure.



3. Environment Impact Assessment - increased durations and scopes



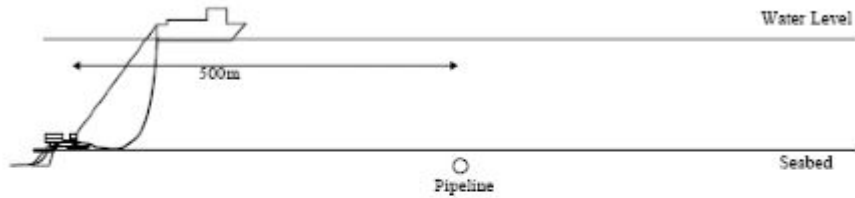
4. Fishery agreements



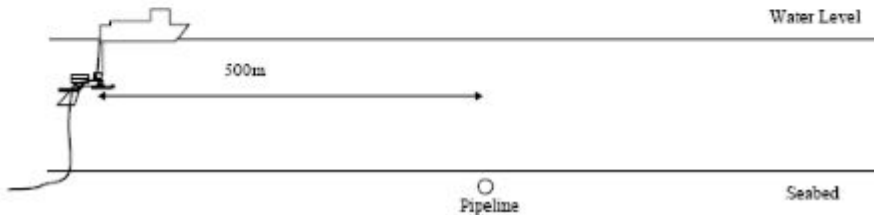
# Construction Challenges

## 5. Pipeline / Cable crossing agreement

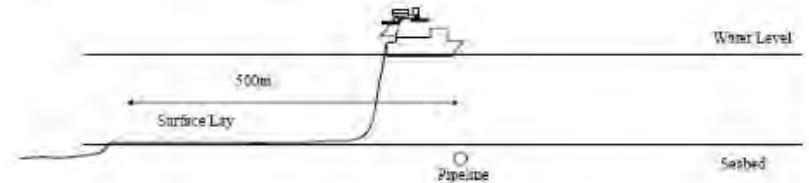
Phase-1 Cease Ploughing 500m before Crossing



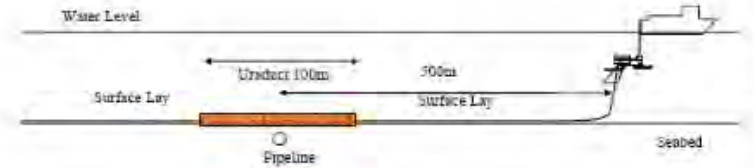
Phase-2 Plough Recovery to onboard Ship



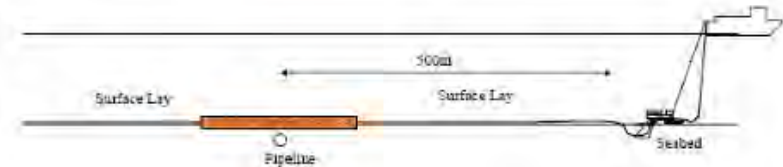
Phase-3 Surface Lay over Pipeline



Phase-4 Launch Plough after 500m from Crossing



Phase-5 Resume Ploughing



# Construction Challenges

6. Weather delay - wind, weather, sea conditions and currents that would force curtailment of the work (“Unworkable Weather”).

7. Route engineering - route selection, cost versus quality.

# Delay in Completion

1. Liquidated Damages for late completion - the compensation imposed on Supplier due to the delay in completion caused by Supplier
2. LD structure
  - a. Generally not exceeding 10% of the contract price
  - b. 0.1% of contract price per calendar day of delay up to 10% cap.

# System Budget



# System Budget (Capex)

1	Supply Contract Cost	Budget	Sharing Percentage			Financial Liability			
			Party A	Party B	Party C	Party A	Party B	Party C	
1.1	Trunk	\$300,000,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$100,000,000	\$100,000,000	\$100,000,000	
1.2	Branch A	\$10,000,000	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	\$10,000,000	\$0	\$0	
1.3	Branch B	\$15,000,000	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	\$0	\$15,000,000	\$0	
1.4	Branch C	\$20,000,000	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	\$0	\$0	\$20,000,000	
	Sub-total	<b>\$345,000,000</b>				Sub-total	<b>\$110,000,000</b>	<b>\$115,000,000</b>	<b>\$120,000,000</b>

## 2 Non Supply Contract Cost

2.1	MOU Cost	\$100,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$33,333	\$33,333	\$33,333	
2.2	Duries and Taxes	\$3,000,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	
2.3	Project Management	\$2,000,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$666,667	\$666,667	\$666,667	
2.4	Permits & Fishery Compensation	\$5,000,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$1,666,667	\$1,666,667	\$1,666,667	
2.5	Jointing Kits	\$900,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	
2.6	NOC	\$500,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$166,667	\$166,667	\$166,667	
	Sub-total	<b>\$11,500,000</b>				Sub-total	<b>\$3,833,333</b>	<b>\$3,833,333</b>	<b>\$3,833,333</b>

## 3 Cable Landing Station Costs

3.1	CLS 1	\$3,000,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	
3.2	CLS 2	\$3,000,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	
3.3	CLS 3	\$3,000,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	
		<b>\$9,000,000</b>				Sub-total	<b>\$3,000,000</b>	<b>\$3,000,000</b>	<b>\$3,000,000</b>

4	Contingency	\$17,250,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$5,750,000	\$5,750,000	\$5,750,000	
	Sub-total	<b>\$17,250,000</b>				Sub-total	<b>\$5,750,000</b>	<b>\$5,750,000</b>	<b>\$5,750,000</b>

Total	<b>\$382,750,000</b>				Total	<b>\$122,583,333</b>	<b>\$127,583,333</b>	<b>\$132,583,333</b>
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# System Budget (Opex)

	Budget	Sharing Percentage			Financial Liability		
		Party A	Party B	Party C	Party A	Party B	Party C
<b>1 Marine Maintenance</b>							
1.1 Zone 1: Cablesip Standing Charges	\$2,500,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$833,333	\$833,333	\$833,333
1.2 Zone 2: Cablesip Standing Charges	\$1,000,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$333,333	\$333,333	\$333,333
1.3 Zone 1: Repair Cost	\$500,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$166,667	\$166,667	\$166,667
1.4 Zone 2: Repair Cost	\$800,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$266,667	\$266,667	\$266,667
1.5 Spare consumption	\$300,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
	<b>\$5,100,000</b>			Sub-total	<b>\$1,700,000</b>	<b>\$1,700,000</b>	<b>\$1,700,000</b>
<b>2 Cable Landing Station Costs</b>							
2.1 CLS 1 - Manpower O&M	\$300,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
2.2 CLS 2 - Manpower O&M	\$400,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$133,333	\$133,333	\$133,333
2.3 CLS 3 - Manpower O&M	\$350,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$116,667	\$116,667	\$116,667
	<b>\$1,050,000</b>			Sub-total	<b>\$350,000</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>
<b>3 Power Consumption</b>							
2.1 CLS 1	\$300,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
2.2 CLS 2	\$200,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$66,667	\$66,667	\$66,667
2.3 CLS 3	\$300,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
	<b>\$800,000</b>			Sub-total	<b>\$266,667</b>	<b>\$266,667</b>	<b>\$266,667</b>
<b>4 Alternative DCN</b>							
Circuit 1	\$15,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Circuit 2	\$20,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$6,667	\$6,667	\$6,667
Circuit 3	\$10,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$3,333	\$3,333	\$3,333
Sub-total	<b>\$45,000</b>			Sub-total	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
<b>5 Others</b>	\$1,500,000	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
5.1 Wayleave / Permits							
5.2 Supplier Technical Support (after warranty period)							
5.2 Cable protection							
5.4 NOC							
5.5 Central Billing Party							
5.6 Etc							
Sub-total	<b>\$1,500,000</b>			Sub-total	<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,495,000</b>			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,831,667</b>	<b>\$2,831,667</b>	<b>\$2,831,667</b>

# Check-list before Provisional Acceptance

# Check-list before Provisional Acceptance

1. Satisfactory acceptance test
2. List of deficiency items, if any
3. Record of permits / licenses
4. Marine maintenance in place
5. Spare submersible plants, jointing kits
6. Readiness of Network Operation Centre (NOC)
7. Appointment of Central Billing Party (CBP)
8. Completion Training (NOC, CLS, land cable, etc.)
9. Land cable maintenance
10. Test equipment (CLS and depot)
11. System Manuals / Handbooks, update of Route Position List (RPL)
12. Joint System Maintenance Document
13. Alternative Data Communications Network
14. Supplier's issuance of performance bond from 10% of contract price to 5%
15. Check fulfilment of Terms of Reference of each SubCommittee and Working Groups
16. Press Release ?



***Ready to Go !***

# Operations and Maintenance

# Joint System Maintenance Document

JSMD sets out the agreed by all the Maintenance Authorities to be followed for all aspects concerning the maintenance and repair of equipment and facilities.

O&M Organisation, Maintenance Representatives and Contacts:

- a) Maintenance Authority
- b) Cable Landing Station contacts
- c) Marine Maintenance arrangement
- d) Land cable maintenance arrangement
- e) NOC

Power Safety: provides procedures to handle electrical and optical power handling during normal operation and during repair. To define Power Safety Rules and Power Safety Rules:

Power Safety Officer (PSO)

- a) Terminal Power Safety Office (TPSO)
- b) Deputy Terminal Power Safety Office (Deputy TPSO)
- c) Ship PSO

# Joint System Maintenance Document (Cont'd/...)

## **Power Safety Message (PSM)**

The purpose of power safety message (PSM) is to ensure the communication between cable stations and cables ship during cable repair so as to avoid any misunderstanding among all the participants of the repair work and prevent any accident.

“One Action One PSM” is the fundamental rule and the most important for safety operation. The message to be used for the PSM must be as simple as possible so that cable stations and cables ship can understand quickly and easily. Time to be used in PSM must be UTC in principle.

The exchange of PSM must be made on in a written form.








After receiving the PSM, recipient must be acknowledged by PSM.

Copies of PSMs must be retained in the submarine power safety logbooks.

Reference Number must be put on PSM.

# Joint System Maintenance Document (Cont'd/...)

## **Power Safety Message (PSM) - PROHIBITED ACTIONS FOR POWER SAFETY OFFICER**

-  To omit the respective power safety procedures and to communicate other PSOs verbally without exchange of power safety messages (PSM).
-  To prepare signed PSMs in advance of each process.
-  To make judgments at the mere sight of situation without confirmation.
-  Not to observe power feeding process step by step.
-  To make other staff to sign the PSM.
-  To send PSM other than PSO or deputy PSO.
-  To accept the existence of plural power control at the stations or cablesips, in case of simultaneous cable repairs in the same system (in terms of power feeding configuration) by plural number of cablesips.



# Joint System Maintenance Document (Cont'd/...)

## Power Safety Message (PSM) - Sample

### CablesHIP

#### PSM - ABC Cable Segment 1 Repair No. 1

**CablesHIP to CLS PSM No. 1**                      **Date**

CablesHIP XX will arrive at repair ground at XX LT on DDMMYY.  
CablesHIP PSO is XXX, Deputy PSO is YYY.

Please nominate Terminal Station Power Safety Officer and your  
contact point and advise the PFE status.

Signature

#### PSM - ABC Cable Segment 1 Repair No. 1

**CablesHIP to CLS PSM No. 2**                      **Date**

Your PSM No.1 is received. Please inform the power feeding  
(voltage and current) of your Power Feeding Equipment and  
transfer responsibility of power safety control from CLS to  
cablesHIP.

Signature

### CLS

#### PSM - ABC Cable Segment 1 Repair No. 1

**CLS to CablesHIP PSM No. 1**                      **Date**

Your PSM No. 1 is received. Our TPSO and DPSO are XXX  
and YYY. Contact information is xxx.

Signature

#### PSM - ABC Cable Segment 1 Repair No. 1

**CLS to CablesHIP PSM No. 2**                      **Date**

Your PSM No. 2 is received. Our PFE current status is:

V= XX Volt; Current = XX mA

The Power Safety Control is handed over to cablesHIP

Signature

# Marine Maintenance

## Zone Maintenance Agreements

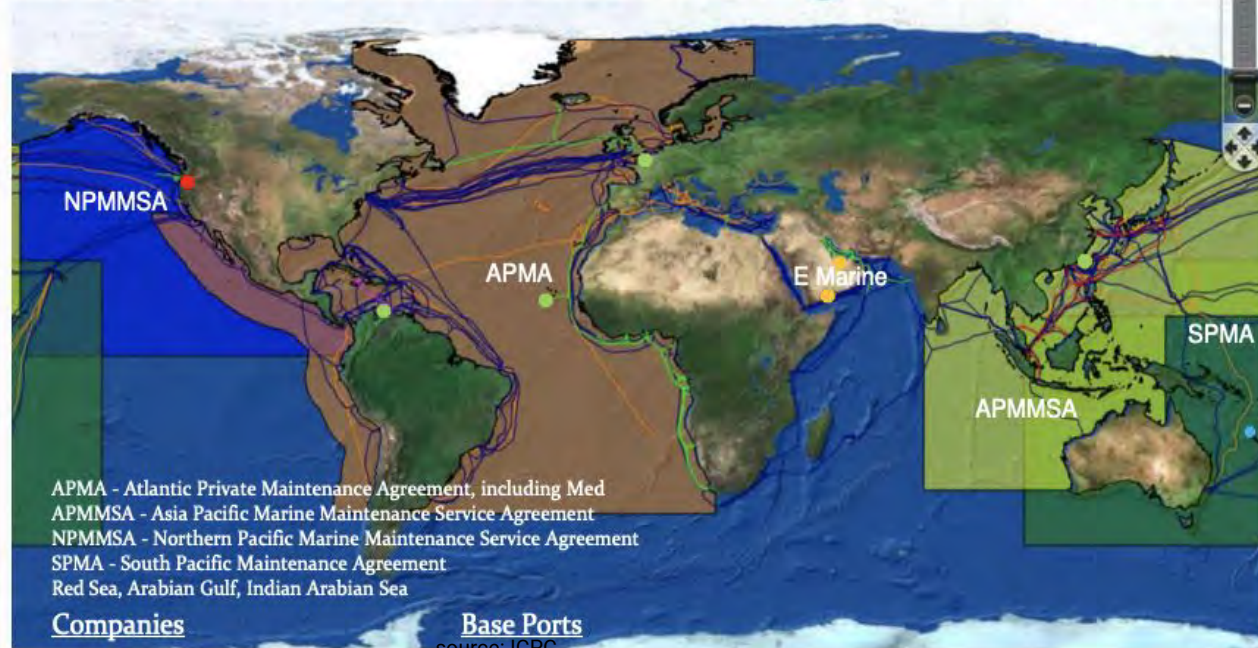


source: ICPC



# Marine Maintenance

## Private Maintenance Agreements



APMA - Atlantic Private Maintenance Agreement, including Med  
APMMSA - Asia Pacific Marine Maintenance Service Agreement  
NPMMSA - Northern Pacific Marine Maintenance Service Agreement  
SPMA - South Pacific Maintenance Agreement  
Red Sea, Arabian Gulf, Indian Arabian Sea

### Companies

- = ASN / TE SubCom
- = TE SubCom
- = ASN
- = eMarine

### Base Ports

source: ICPC

- Calais, France; Cape Verde; Curacao (APMA)
- Taichung, Taiwan (APMMSA)
- Portland, USA (NPMMSA)
- Noumea, New Caledonia (SPMA)
- Hamriya, UAE; Salalah, Oman

source: ICPC

# Marine Maintenance

Considerations for selection of Marine Maintenance Providers:

1. Geographical coverage
2. Based ports and depots locations
3. Capability of cables ships and ROVs
4. Service availability
5. Number of scheduled cables covered
6. Commercial (Standing Charges, Running Costs, Storage Charges)
7. Direct Measure of Quality (DMOQ)
  - a. Time to mobilize Cable ship
  - b. Average transit speed
  - c. Time to complete a cable repair
  - d. Time to issue Completion Report after the repair

# NOC

# NOC & Network Administrator

NOC = Network Operation Center

- Overall control of the System
- A 24/7 experienced team
- Location may be restricted due to licensing requirement

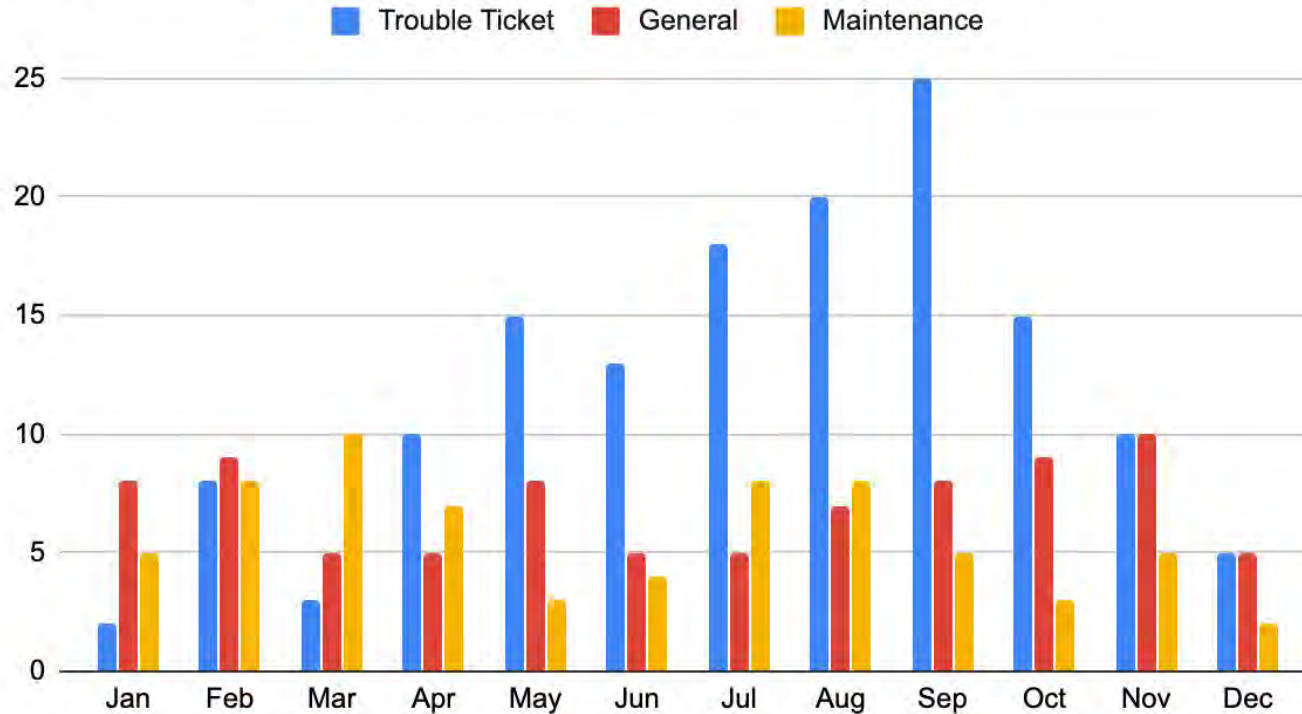
## Tasks

- Monitor wet plant performance
- Coordinate fault localisation
- Coordinate cable repairs
- Coordinate planned maintenance
- Coordinate capacity upgrades
- Implement and supervise traffic
- Monitor traffic quality
- Generate capacity reports
- Keep logs of daily events (alarms, etc.)



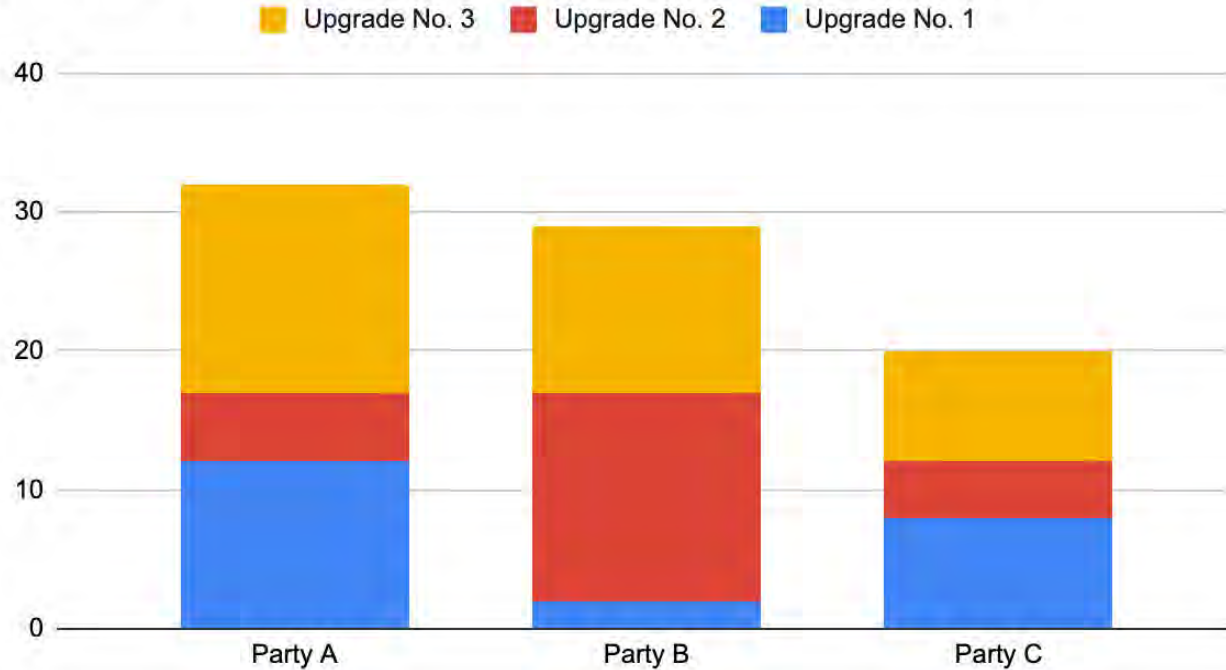
# NOC & Network Administrator - Activities

## XXX Cable System - NOC Activities Year 2019 (Sample)



# NOC & Network Administrator - Report on Activated Capacity

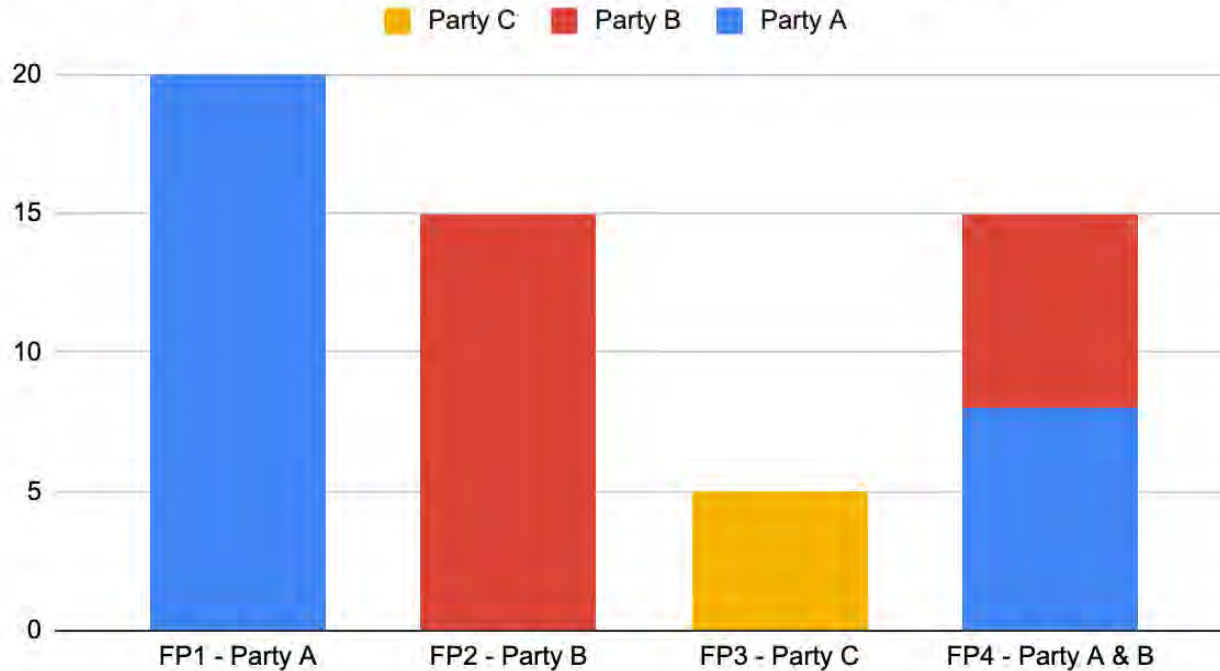
## Activated Capacity By Party (No. of 100G Wavelength)





# NOC & Network Administrator - Report on Activated Capacity

Activated Capacity By FP (No. of 100G Wavelength)



# Life of a Cable

# Life of a Cable

1. Cable Repairs
2. Update of JSMD, System Handbooks and maintenance procedures
3. Update of system parameters (SLD, RPL)
4. Marine Maintenance
5. Replenishment of spares
6. Renewal of licenses / permits
7. Compliance to regulations
8. Route diversions (land and subsea)



# Life of a Cable

## 9. Cable Landing Station O&M

- a. Security
- b. Routine Maintenance
- c. Repair and return
- d. Land route patrol

## 10. Capacity Upgrades

## 11. Update of Mux Plan (channel assignment table)

## 12. Cable Protection / Awareness

## 13. Keeping of maintenance of records

## 14. O&M Budget Control

## 15. Annual O&M meeting

# Capacity Upgrade

1. System is Dark on day-1. Need to augment capacity on a regular basis to meet demand
2. Open Cable: Purchasers can freely select any equipment suppliers
3. Consider individual upgrade versus consortium upgrade
4. Selection of upgrade supplier (cost, lead time, modulation formats, channel spacing, FEC limit, etc.)
5. Wavelength allocations / assignment
6. Guard band between spectrum from different suppliers and different technology
7. Ensure no interruption on existing capacity throughout the upgrade operations
8. Perform capacity upgrade during any maintenance window
9. Engage NOC to monitor traffic throughout the upgrade operation
10. Provide training to CLS and NOC if a new platform is introduced

# Decommissioning

# Decommissioning

1. Decision on decommissioning or retirement shall be contemplated at JBA stage.

For example:

- i. Design life is 25 years
  - ii. Unanimous decision: early decommissioning or retirement if the cable is operated for less than 25 years
  - iii. Simple Majority: if the System has been in operations for more than 25 years
2. Upon decommissioning, Parties shall:
  - a. use all reasonable efforts to liquidate System
  - b. The net proceeds or costs of decommissioning such as removal / recovery of plants shall be shared by the Parties.

# Photos - Cable Landing





# Alternative Applications and SMART Cables

Simon WEBSTER  
NEC Europe Ltd.

# Contents

## I. Cabled Environmental Sensing

- Context
- Dedicated vs. Multipurpose Systems
- SMART Cables – concept and commercial challenges

## II. Oil & Gas Applications

## III. Summary

# Acknowledgements

Special thanks to the **ITU/WMO/UNESCO IOC Joint Task Force (JTF)**, for providing much of the content on climate change and SMART Cables

... particularly Bruce Howe, JTF Chair and Research Professor at University of Hawaii at Manoa



SMART = **S**cientific **M**onitoring **A**nd **R**eliable **T**elecommunications

The JTF is tasked with developing a **strategy and roadmap** that could lead to enabling the availability of submarine repeaters equipped with scientific sensors for ocean and climate monitoring and disaster risk reduction (tsunamis).

<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/climatechange/task-force-sc/Pages/default.aspx>

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# Tsunamis

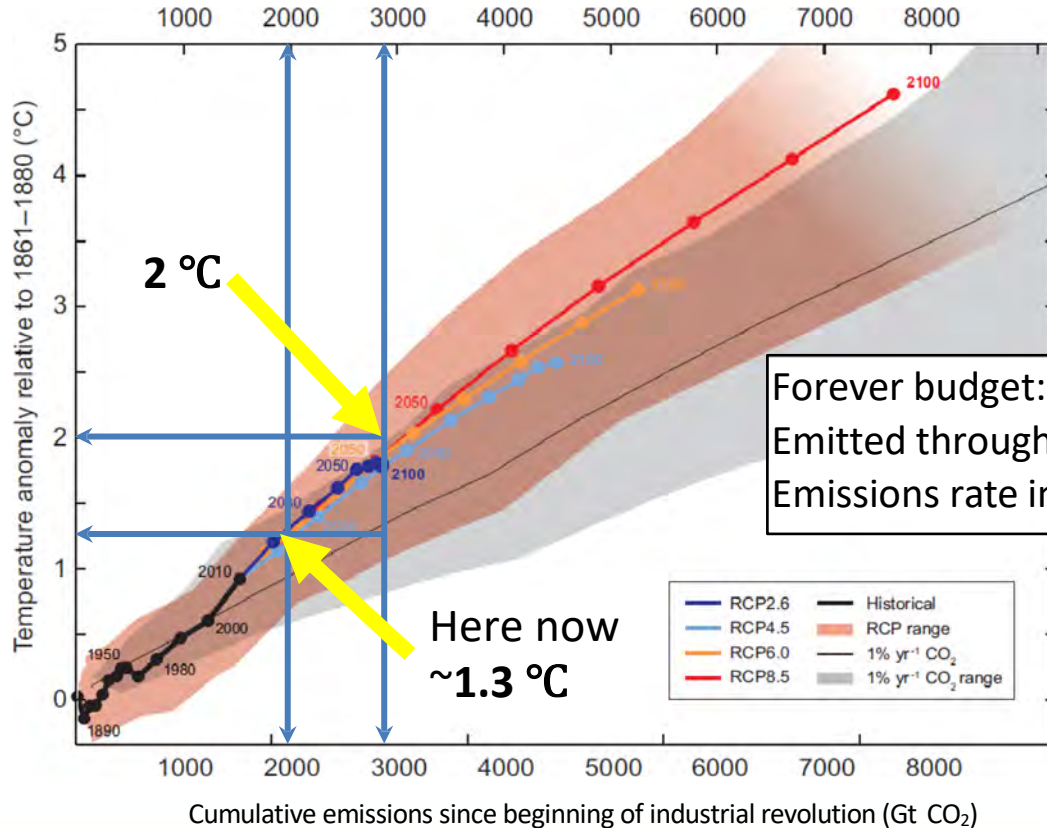


Place	Year	Mag	H(m)	Deaths
Chile	1960	9.5	25	6,000
Alaska	1964	9.2	30	132
Mindinao	1976	7.9	9	7,800
Tumaco	1979	8.1	6	350
Hokkaido	1993	7.8	30	250
Papua New Guinea	1998	7.1	15	2,200
Sumatra	2004	9.2	33	230,000
Solomon Islands	2007	8.1	12	52
Samoa	2009	8.1	14	192
Tohoku	2011	9.0	10	19,000
Palu	2018	7.5	7	1,703 + 1,075

Source: JTF

# Climate – temperature vs cumulative CO<sub>2</sub>

## Temperature



Sources:

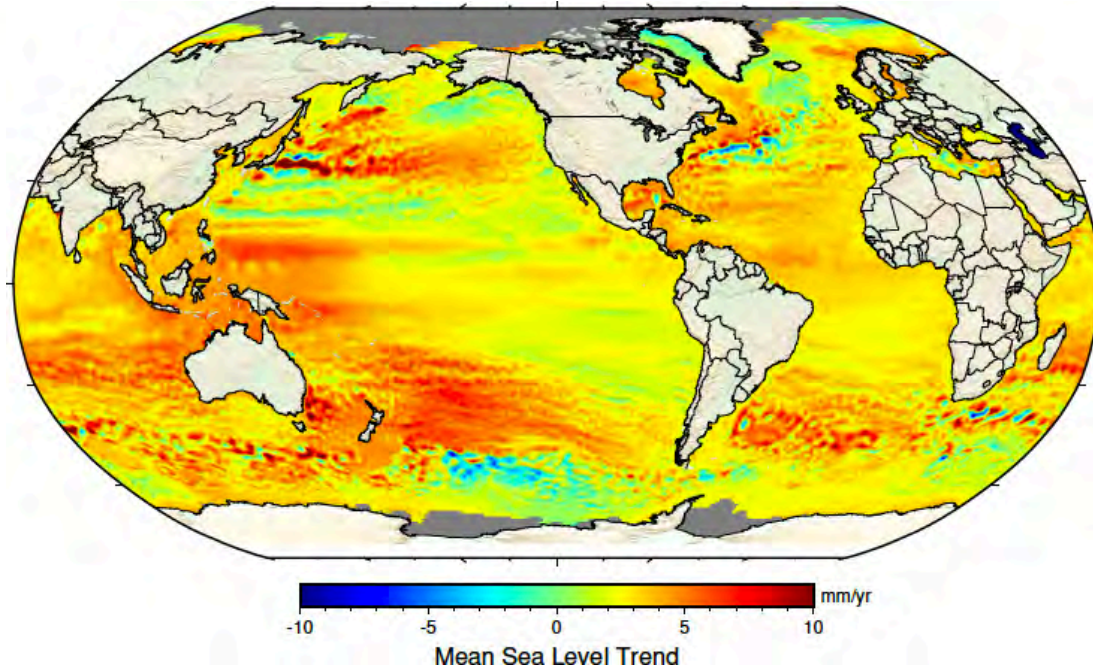
- IPCC, WG I, 2013
- JTF

Forever budget: 2900 Gt CO<sub>2</sub>e for 66% prob. ≤ 2°C  
 Emitted through 2016: 2133 Gt CO<sub>2</sub>e  
 Emissions rate in 2016: 49.3 Gt CO<sub>2</sub>e

→ ~15 years at present rate

Carbon burned

# Sea level rise



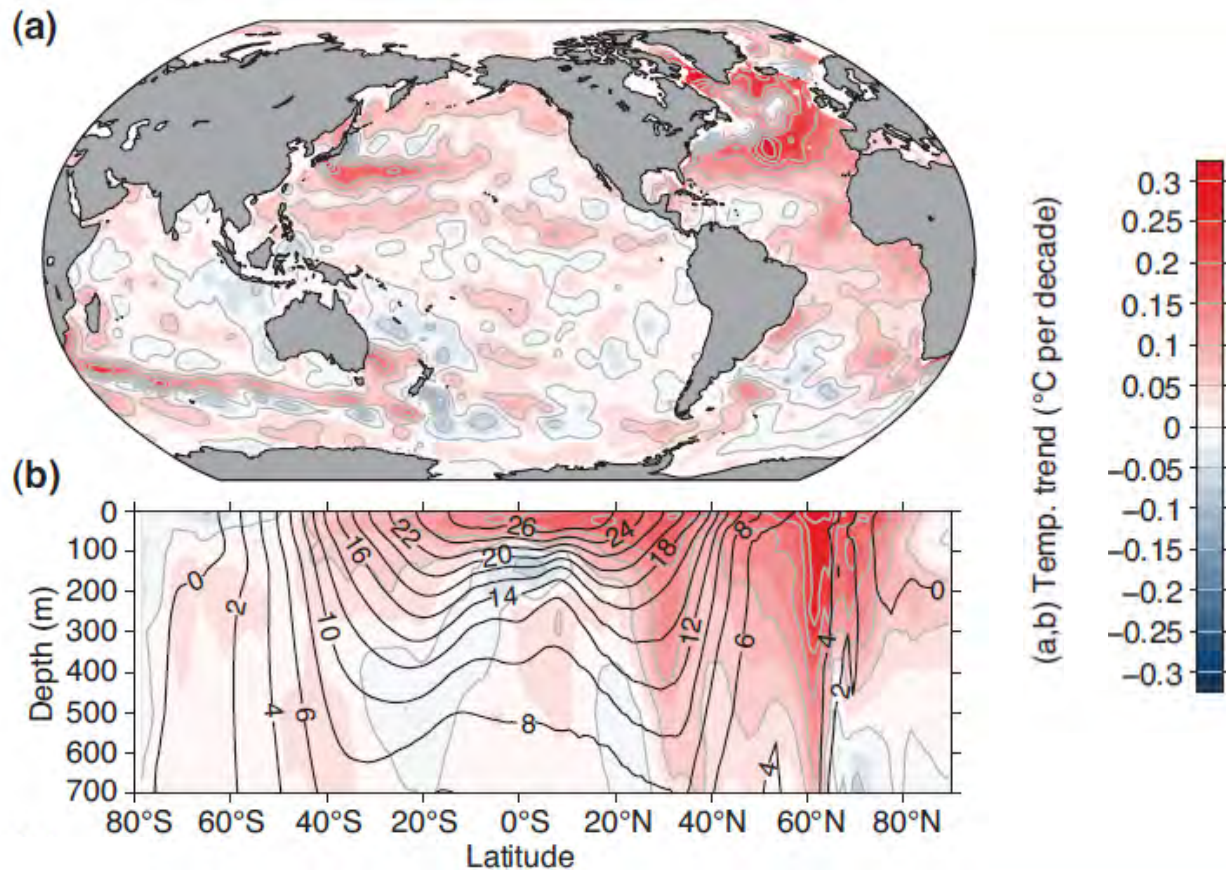
Now: globally 3.2 mm/y  
By 2100: 8mm/y, +65cm since  
2005

Sea level rise is not uniform in time and space – it is accelerating

## Sources:

- IPCC, WG I, 2013
- JTF
- J. T. Fasullo et al., Scientific Reports volume 6, Article number: 31245 (2016)

# Ocean temperature rise



Few observations  
in deep water

Source:  
- IPCC, WG I, 2013



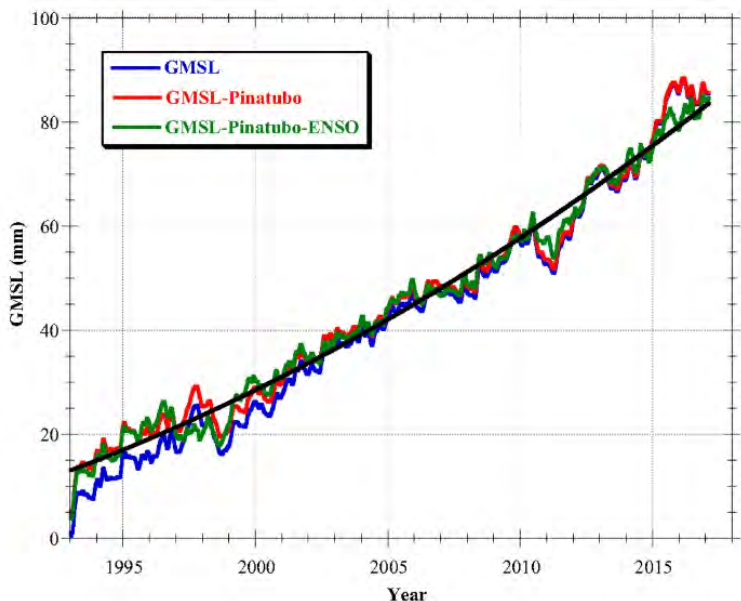
# Declining sea ice extent and thickness



Source: NOAA,  
<https://www.climate.gov/>

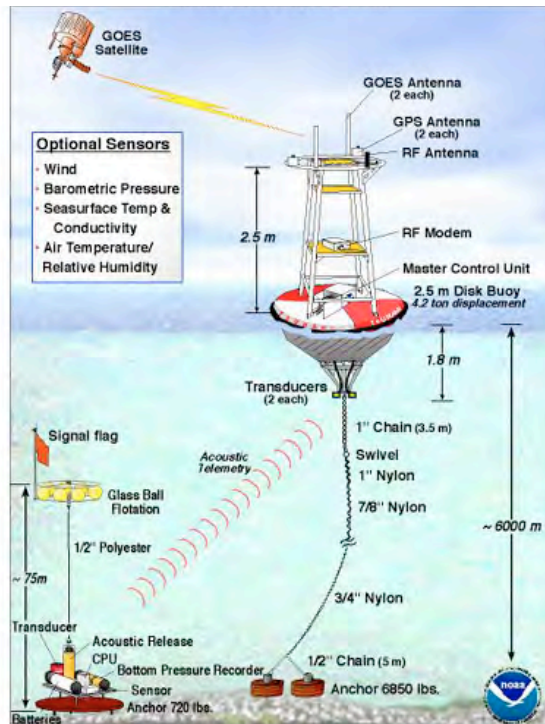
# Techniques available

Satellite altimetry shows  
Global Mean Sea Level rise



Source: R. S. Nerem et al., PNAS February 27, 2018 115 (9) 2022-2025

DART buoys send bottom  
pressure data to satellites



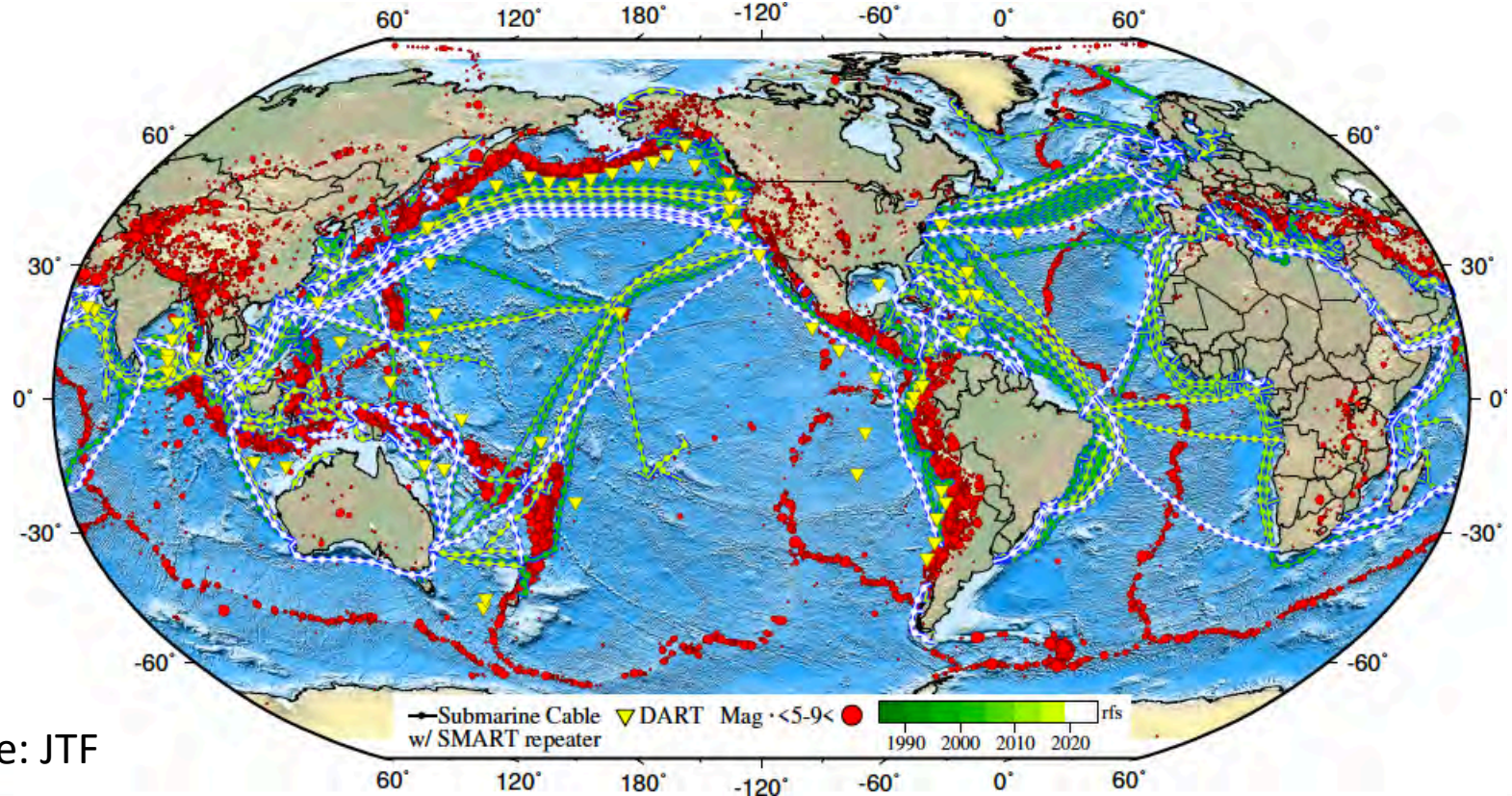
Source: NOAA

Other basic  
methods



# Tsunamis – where do we need to measure?

Comparing the locations of earthquakes, DART buoys and telecom cables



Source: JTF

# Context – what could we gain from deep ocean measurements?

Ocean bottom observations of earthquake and tsunami effects offer:

- Longer-term understanding of submarine seismic activity and tsunamis, including the establishment an accumulated database for future reference
- Increased global coverage may lead to reduced location uncertainties, better seismic magnitude calculations, and reduced detection thresholds
- Prompt real-time monitoring for early warning to the public

Ocean bottom observations of water temperature offer:

- Better understanding of global ocean currents
- Better models for climate science to refine predictions of climate change

# How fast do seismic waves travel?

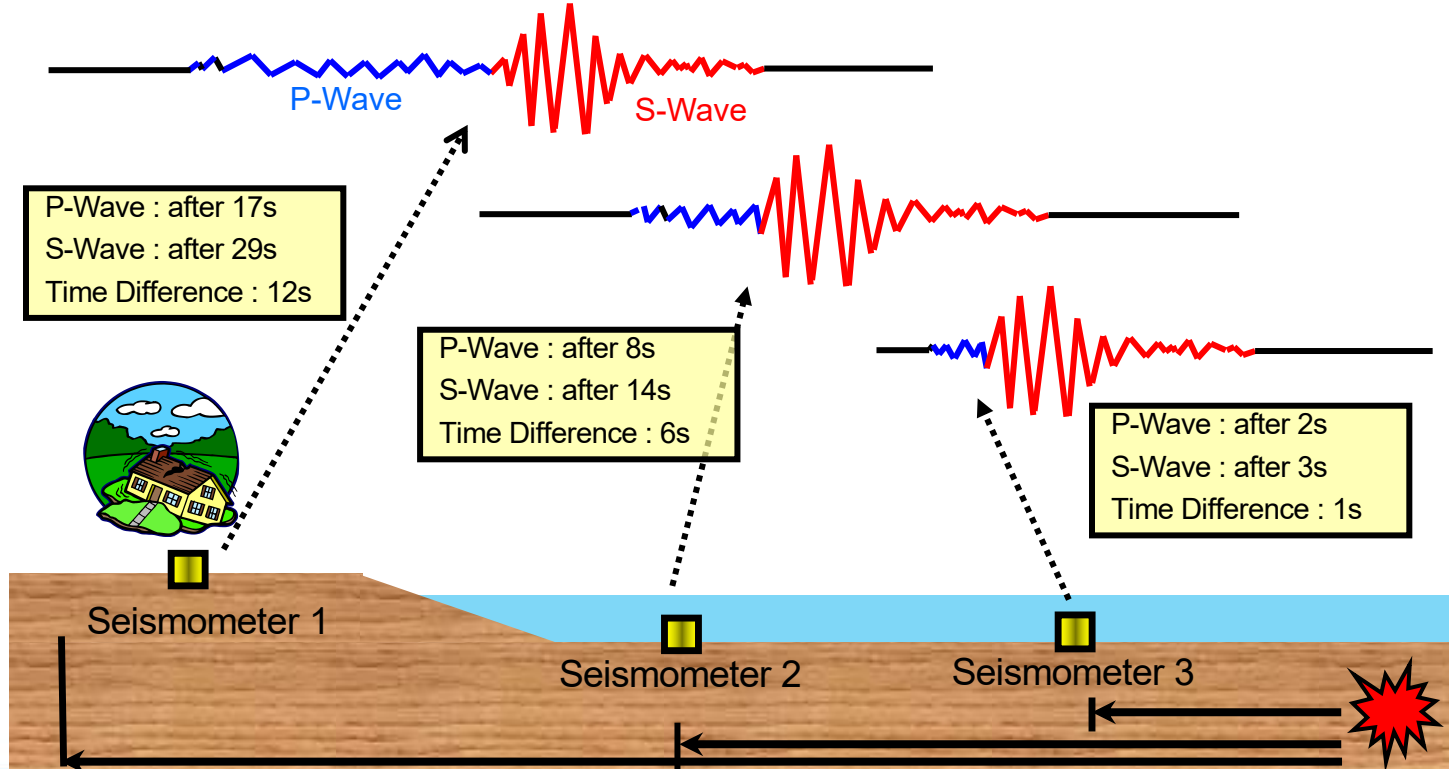
Seismic Wave Velocity:

Primary Wave (P-Wave) = 5 ~ 7 km/s

Secondary Wave (S-Wave) = 3 ~ 4 km/s

P-wave arrives first

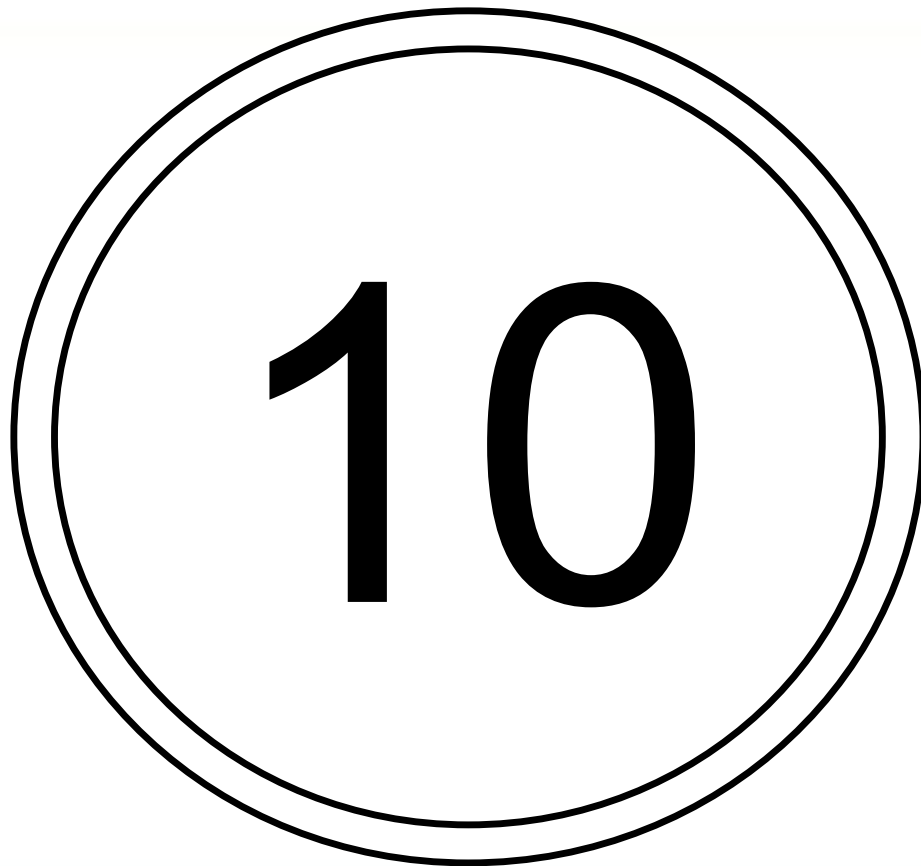
S-wave arrives later



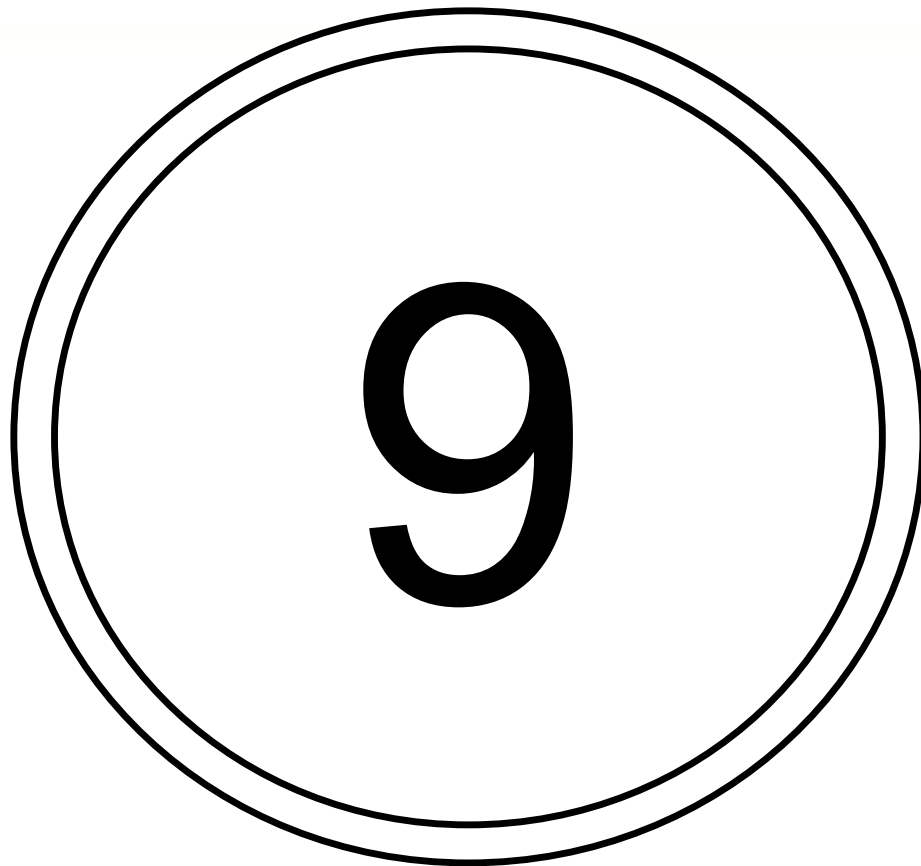
# What can you achieve with advance earthquake warning?



# What can you achieve with advance earthquake warning?

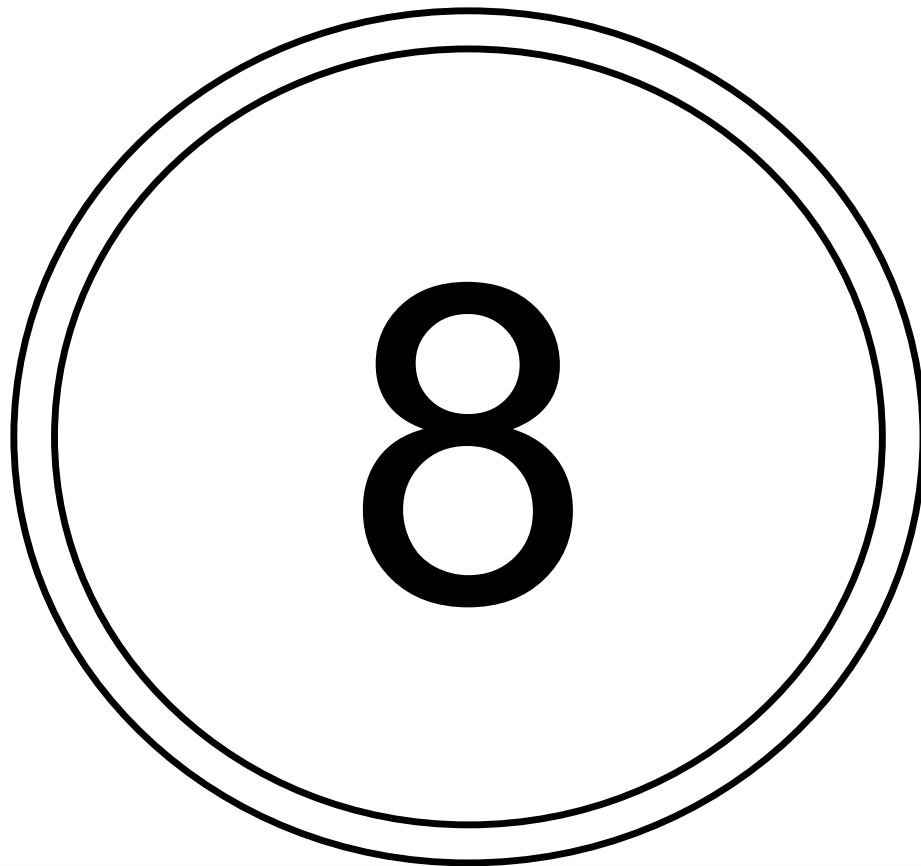


# What can you achieve with advance earthquake warning?





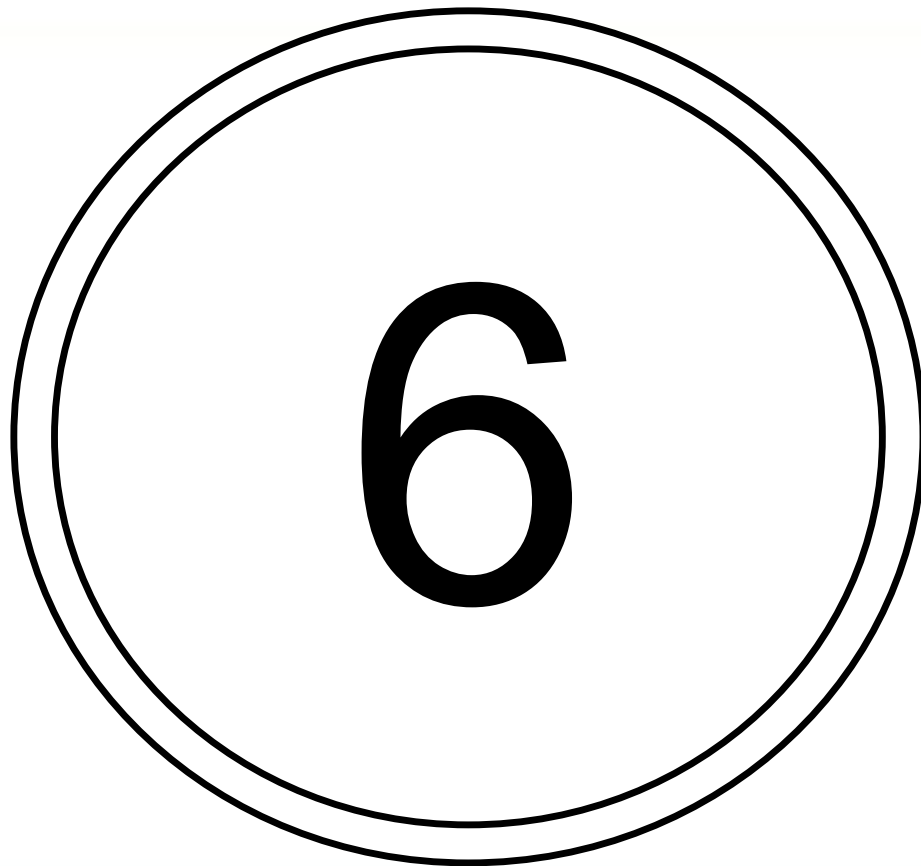
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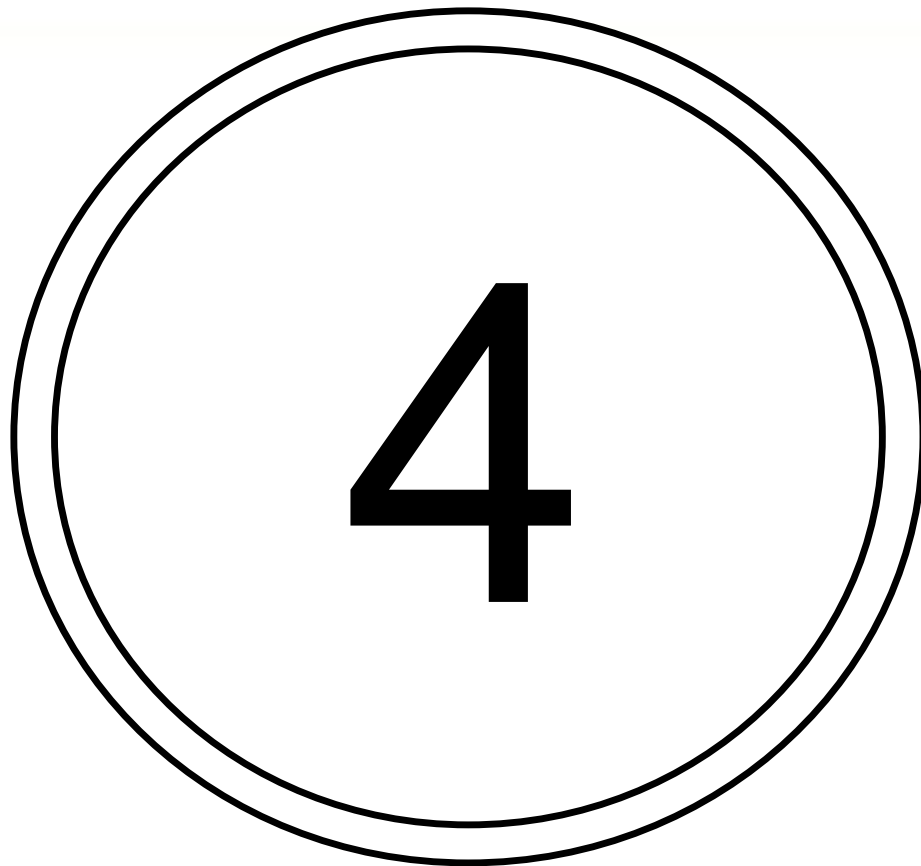
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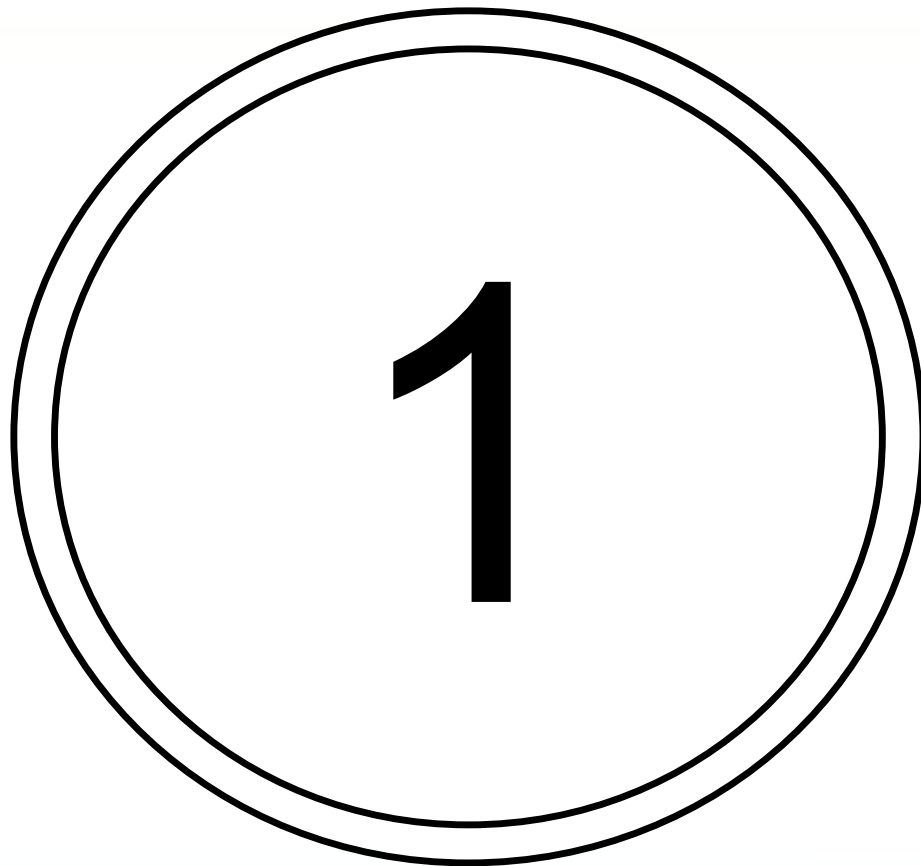
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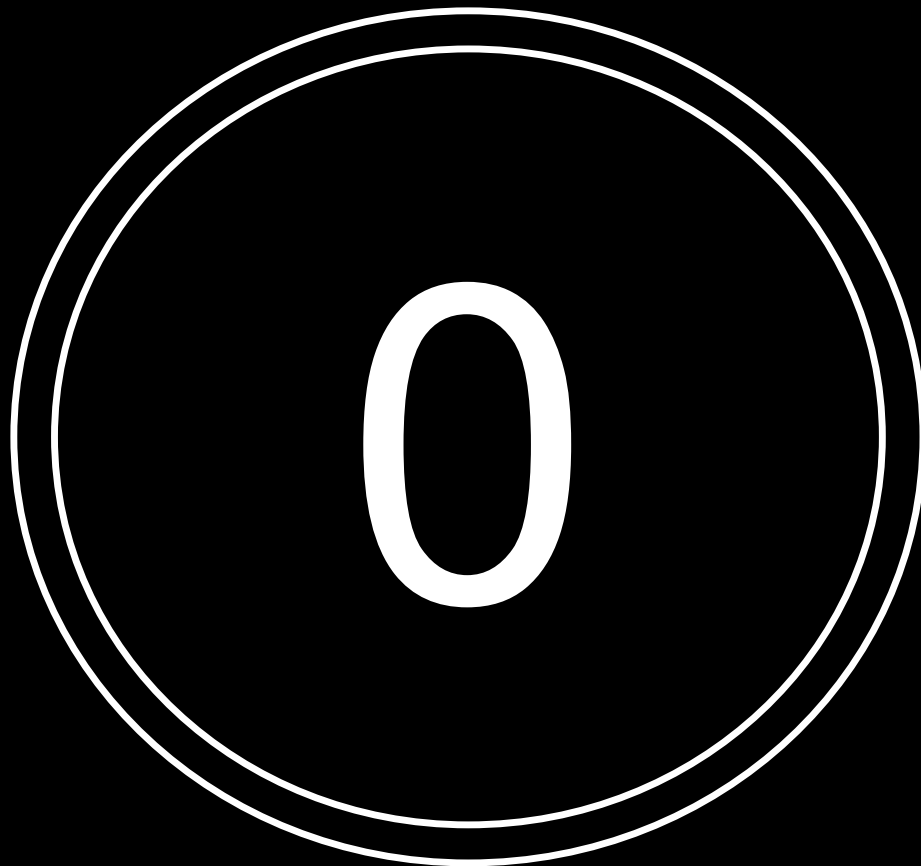


# What can you achieve with advance earthquake warning?





# What can you achieve with advance earthquake warning?



# What can you achieve with advance earthquake warning?

Source: <http://www.jma.go.jp/jma/en/Activities/eew.html>



Controlling trains



Controlling factory lines  
--> To mitigate damage



To prevent traffic accidents



Controlling elevators  
--> To prevent people from being trapped



At home  
--> To enable personal protection



Suspending work in progress  
--> To avoid mistakes



Workers performing hazardous tasks  
--> To secure safety



Alerting schools and assembly halls  
--> To guide evacuation

# Tsunami waves

Mainly triggered by subsea earthquakes with large vertical seafloor displacement

Parameter	Normal waves	Tsunami waves*
Wavelength	100-200m	100-500km
Period	5-20s	10-120min
Amplitude	Metres	Metres * In deep water



## 津波

Tsunami – “harbor wave”

## Earthquakes

- Small earthquakes: acceleration amplitudes as low as  $10^{-9} \text{ ms}^{-2}$
- Large earthquakes: up to  $20 \text{ ms}^{-2}$
- Observable earthquake frequencies cover a range from 0.02Hz to 100Hz
- Slow slip events may be observed on timescales such as days or months

## Tsunamis

- Absolute pressure gauges DC – 1Hz for tsunami monitoring
- Differential pressure gauges to observe broadband seismic waves 1/200 Hz to 20 Hz
- Measurement resolution as good as 1mm of water, operating down to 7700m WD

Date rate requirement is very low – can be measured in kbps or Mbps

# Ocean Bottom Observation Networks (Japan)

- Early detection of earthquakes and tsunamis

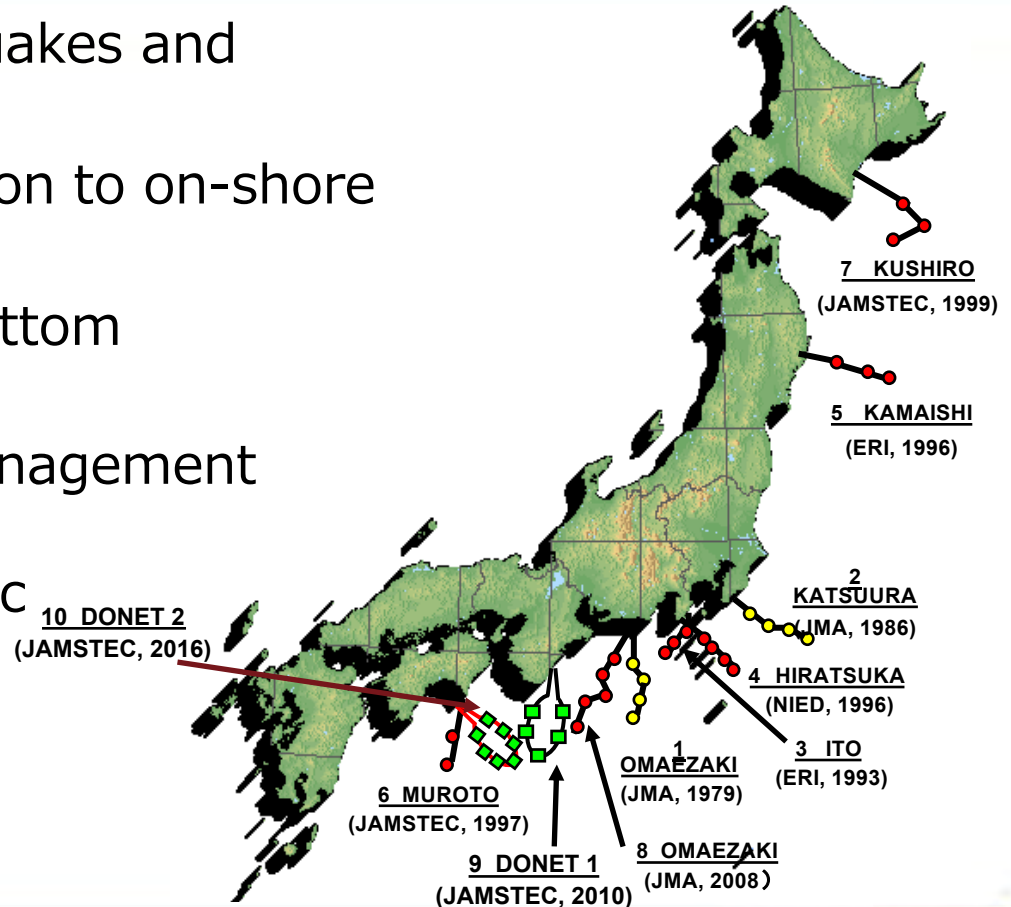
- Real time data transmission to on-shore stations

- Long-term 24/7 ocean bottom observation

- Contribute to disaster management through early warning to the public

## Legend

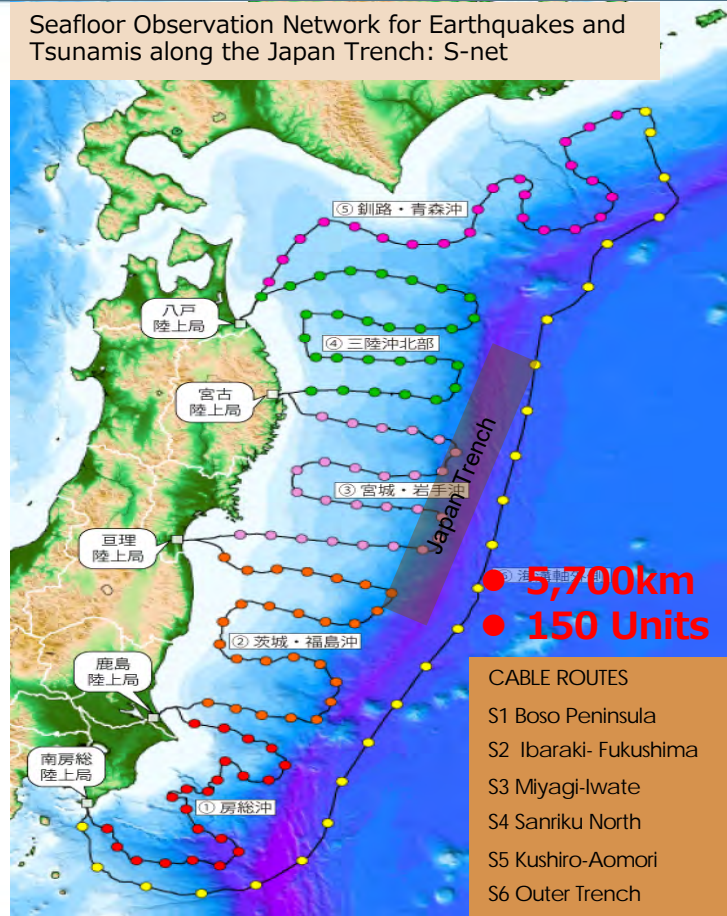
- In-Line (Digital)
- In-Line(Analog)
- NODE (Digital)



# New observation networks for eastern Japan

- Planned and owned by the Japanese Government
- Multi-year plan accelerated after 2011 East Japan earthquake and tsunami
- Completed in 2017 and now in use
- Used for real-time observation of earthquakes and tsunamis as well as long-term geophysical studies
- Over 5,700km of submarine fiber optic cable
- 150 undersea units with seismometers and tsunami sensors

Seafloor Observation Network for Earthquakes and Tsunamis along the Japan Trench: S-net



# In-line systems

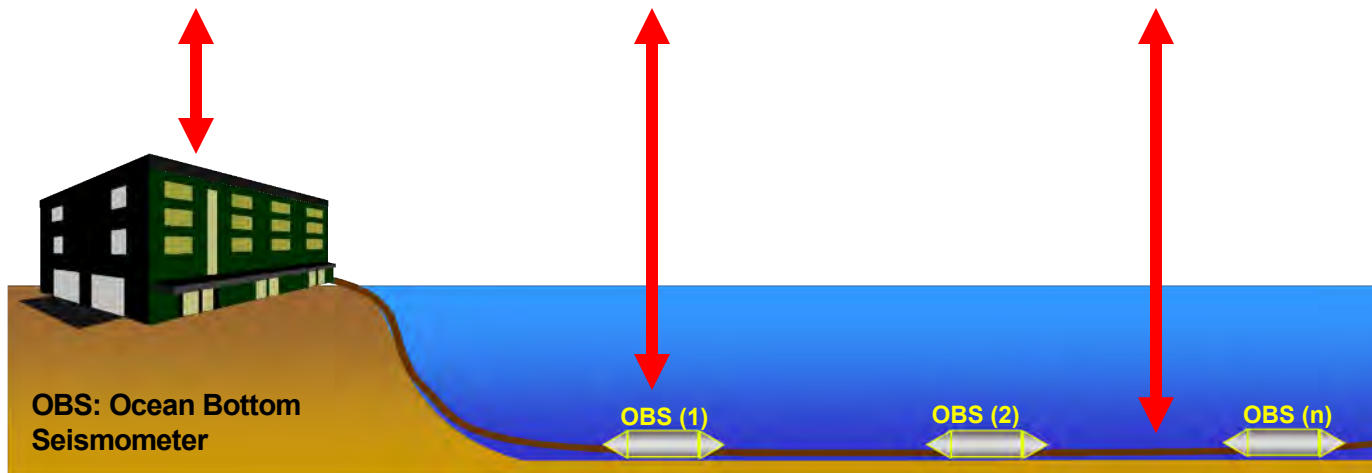
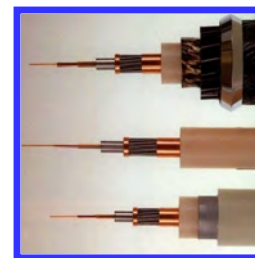
Terminal Equipment



Ocean Bottom Units



Cables & Fibres



# Ocean Bottom Seismometer/ Tsunami Sensors (2)





# Ocean bottom observation units (in-line system)



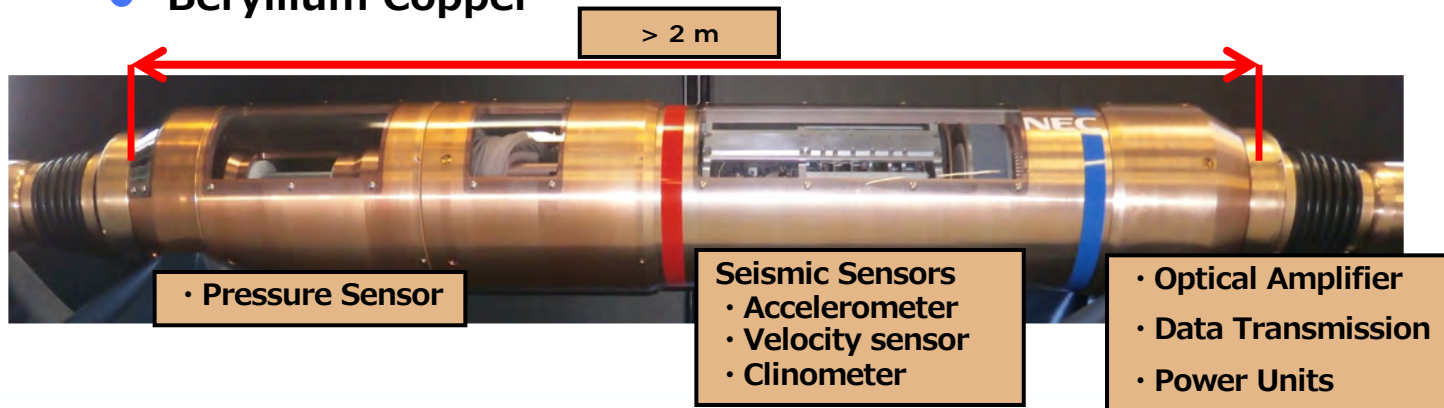
# Ocean bottom sensor unit (example)

## Unit Configuration

- Pressure Sensor (Tsunami Sensor)
- Seismometer (ACC/VEL)
- Clinometer
- Optical Amplifier
- Data Transmission
- Power Units

## Pressure Tight Case

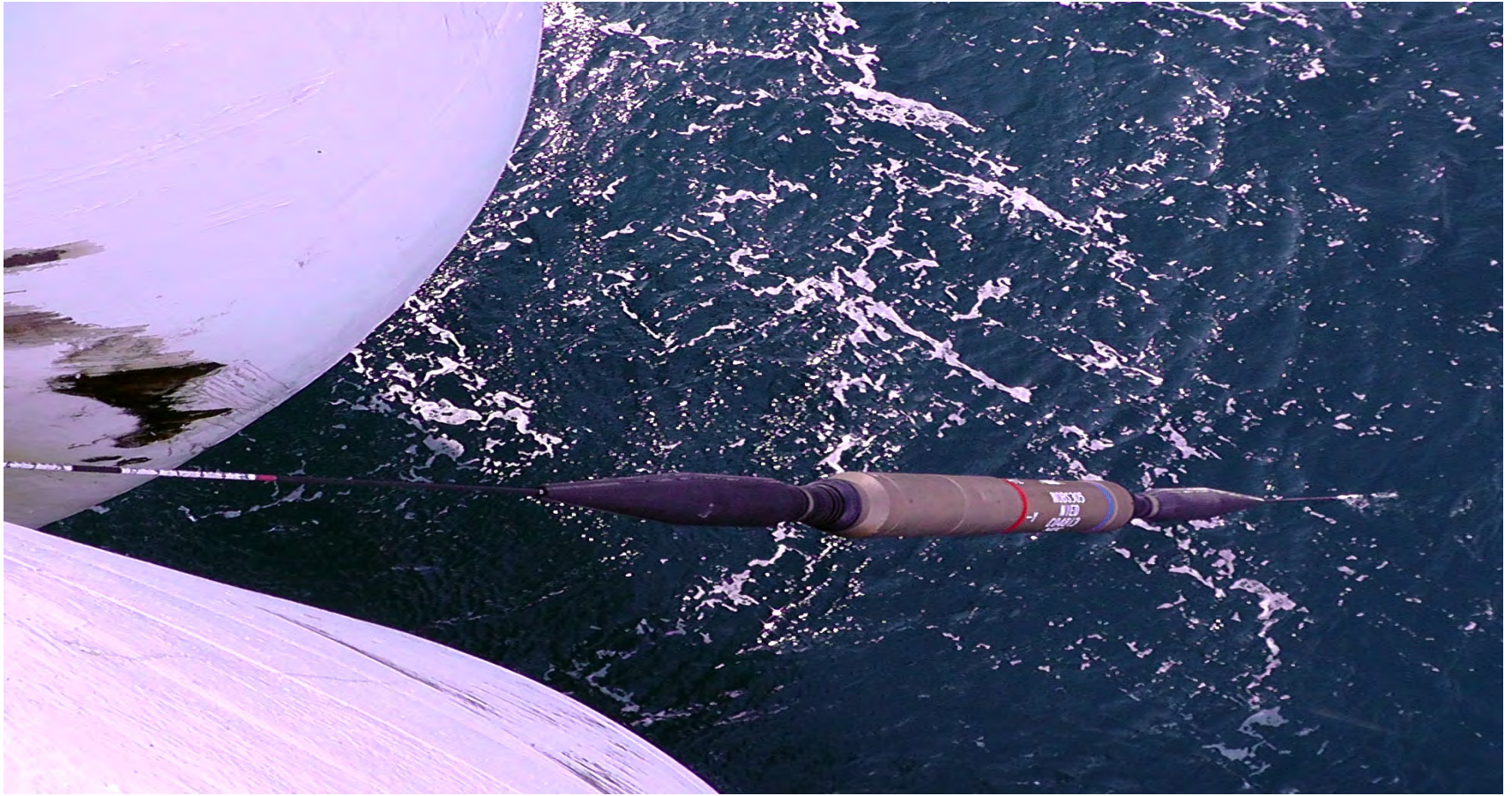
- Resistant to 8,000m depth
- Beryllium Copper



# Installation vessel (example)



# Laying operation







# NODE System (DONET by JAMSTEC)

Dense Ocean floor Network System  
for Earthquakes and Tsunamis

## System Characteristics

- Mobile
- Expandable
- Replaceable

Submarine Cable



Back Bone



Branching Unit

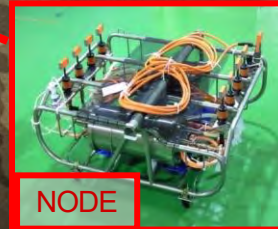


Extension Cable

Multidisciplinary  
Sensors

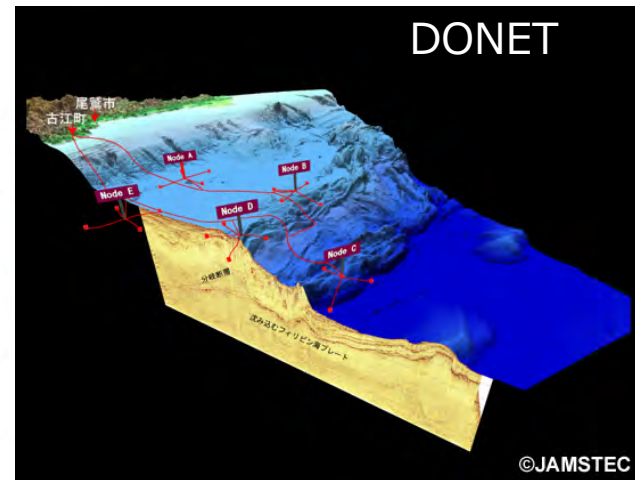
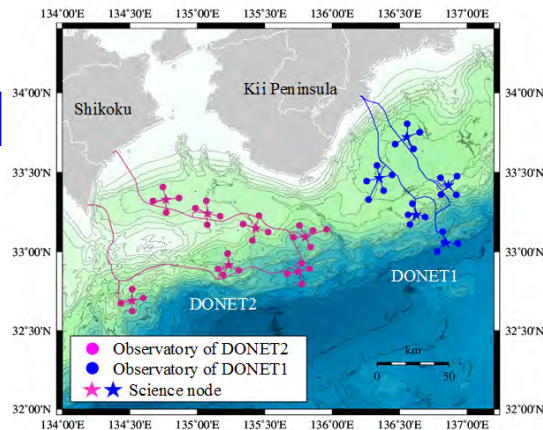
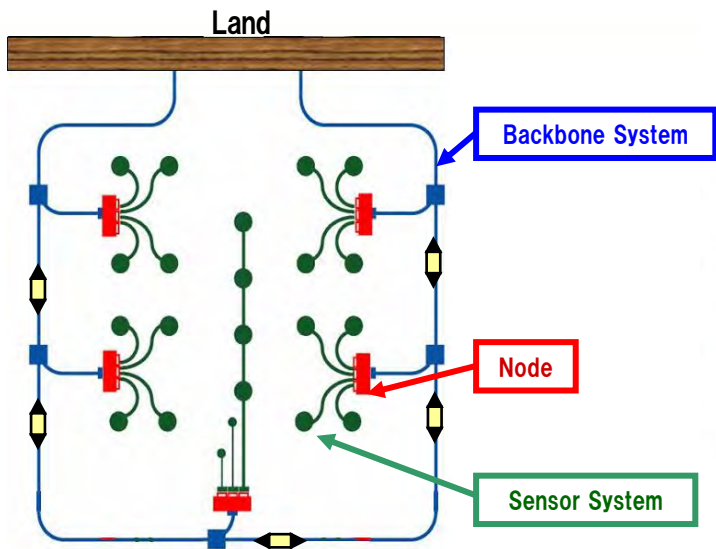


NODE



Source: JAMSTEC

# DONET and DONET2



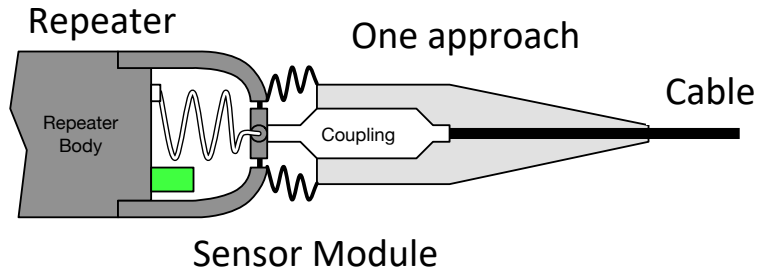
DONET: 5 nodes, 2000 - 4400m  
WD  
DONET2: 7 nodes, 1400 - 2400m  
WD

Source: JAMSTEC



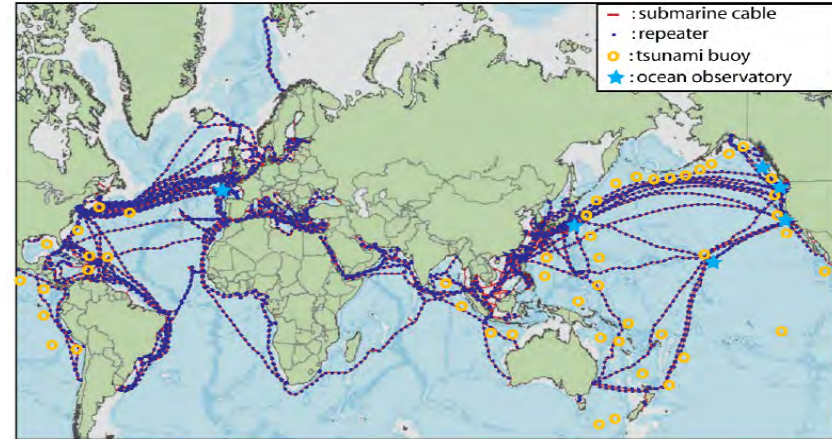
# SMART Cables - the idea

## A global array of sensors spanning the oceans



Install routinely on new cables

Deploy by cable ship, no maintenance



- **Telecoms, plus science at low marginal cost**
- Cable repeaters host sensors, not to interfere
- Potential: trans-ocean, ~10,000 repeaters
- Initially: bottom pressure, temperature and acceleration

<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/climatechange/task-force-sc/Pages/default.aspx>

John You, Nature, 2010 – Harnessing telecoms cables for science

Source: JTF

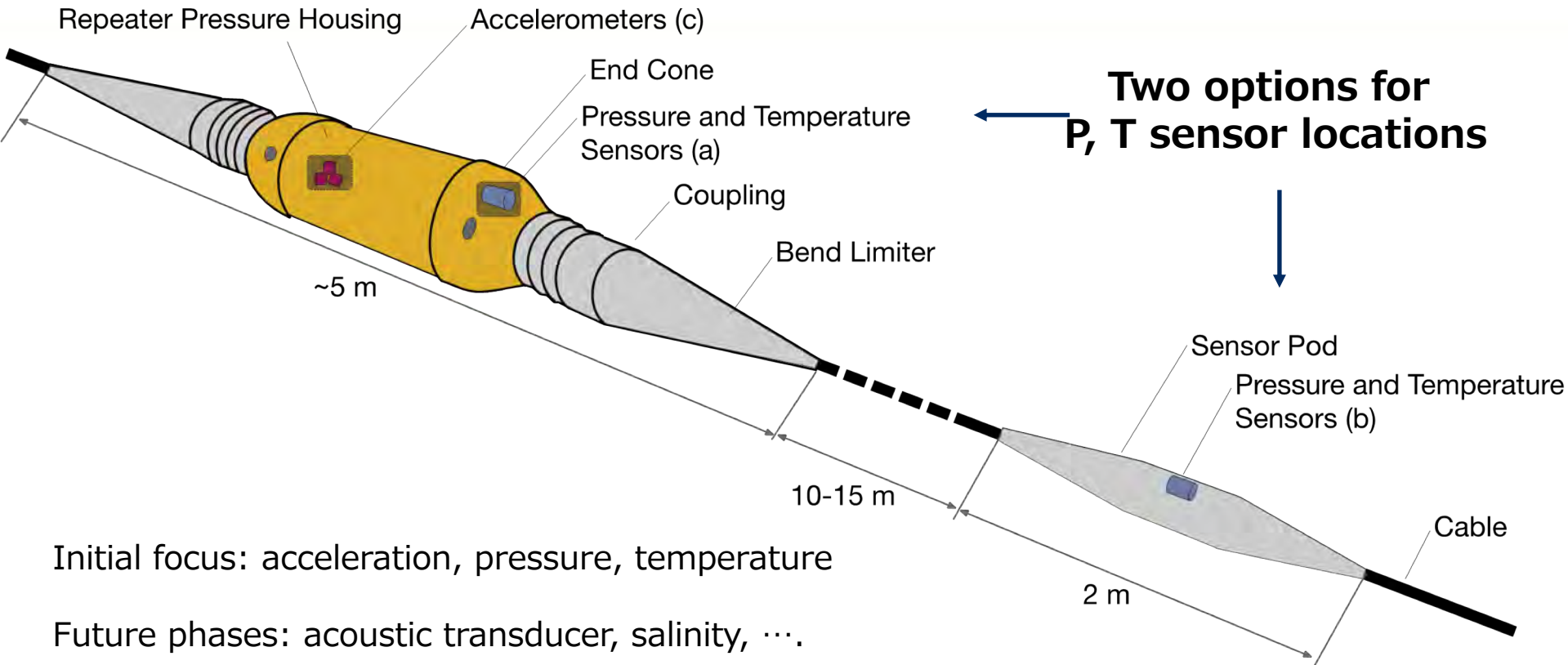
## Joint Task Force ITU / UNESCO-IOC / WMO

■ A Joint Task Force to investigate the potential of using submarine telecommunications cables for ocean and climate monitoring and disaster warning, initiated by;



Discussions continue to take place among the participants including cable system owners, academic institutions, national agencies, consultants and system suppliers.

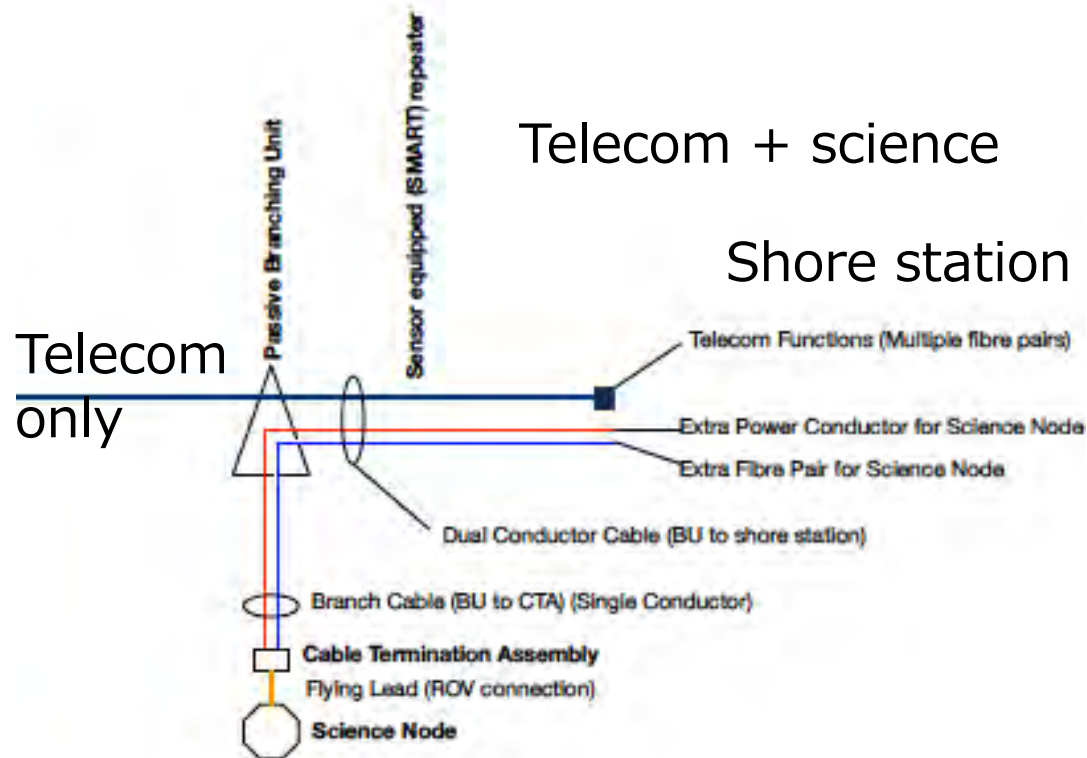
# SMART repeaters



Source: JTF

# One step to a SMART repeater

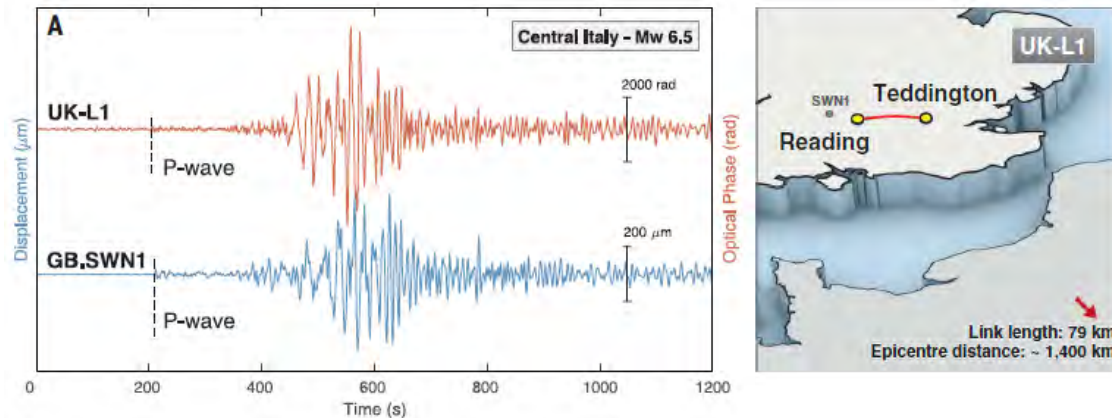
- Wet demo – show science, mechanical packaging, ideally combine with telecom
- Branch unit on commercial cable
- May need dual conductor cable
- Could develop/qualify BU isolated power supply



Source: JTF

# Fiber sensing (recent studies)

- Earthquakes detected by phase/length changes in fiber (ultra-stable laser)
- Good correlation with terrestrial seismometers
- Potentially low impact on commercial telecoms systems
- Results suggest earthquake events can be located using cable network



Source: G. Marra et al., *Science* 10.1126/science.aat4458 (2018)

# SMART cables - the Idea

Ocean  
Science

**nature**

2010:  
SMART  
Cable

Public  
Safety

Synergy  
With  
Telecoms

Who Could  
Object?

**SMART:** Sensor Enabled Scientific Monitoring and Reliable Telecommunications

# SMART Cables – The Pitch to the Board



- Additional risks to my cable?
- How much commercial traffic I am sacrificing?
- Will my cable take longer to build?
- Additional CapEx costs?
- Additional OpEx costs?
- ...





Security impacts  
on Telecom  
System?

Marine  
installation  
impacts?

Independence  
of Systems?

Testing and  
Commissioning?

Design  
philosophy?

Permitting?



Ship repair rate?

System  
Availability?

Backhaul  
Needs?

POW?

Space & Power?

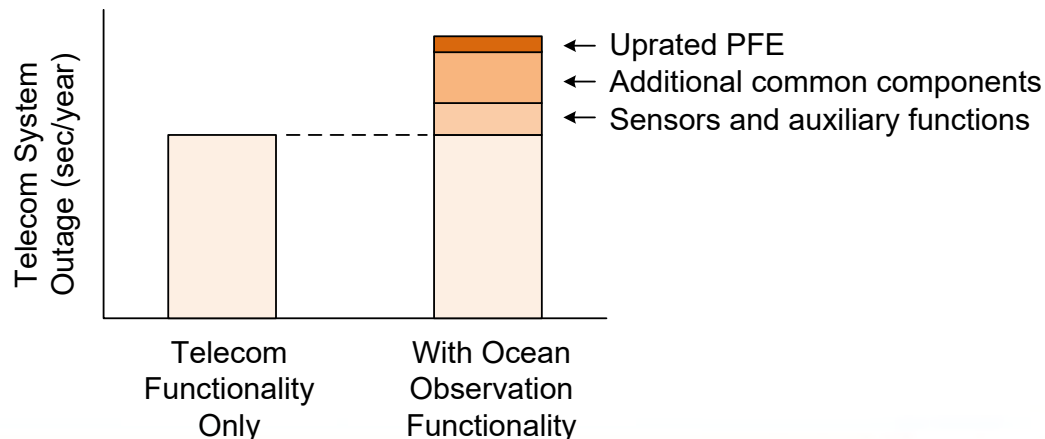
CapEx vs.  
OpEx?



# Example: System Availability

## Reasonable Questions:

- Does the addition of sensors to a repeater increase its FIT rate?
- What about adding DC/DC converters to power a sensor pod?
- Is a higher voltage PFE needed to power the sensors?



## Commercial Challenges - Summary

- Dedicated sensor cables are funded by governments / academia
- Telecom cables are funded by telcos and content providers
- SMART cables are... more difficult (so far)

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## I. Cabled Environmental Sensing

- Context
- Dedicated vs. Multipurpose Systems
- SMART Cables – concept and commercial challenges

## II. Oil & Gas Applications

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# Summary

 **Orchestrating** a brighter world

**NEC**



# Subsea Upgrades

Elizabeth Rivera Hartling

August, 2019

# Outline

- Introduction to SubOptic
- DAY 5: Submarine Cable Upgrades
  - Upgrades on Legacy Cables
  - Open Cables & Convergence with Terrestrial
  - Open Cable Metrics - OSNR & GSNR
  - Open Cable Commissioning & Acceptance
  - Future Evolution

# What is SubOptic?

- SubOptic is the premier technical conference for the Subsea industry!
  - Established in 1986, held only once every 3 years
- SubOptic 2019 was just held in New Orleans in April:

SUBOPTIC 2019 BY THE NUMBERS					
<b>900+</b>	<b>100+</b>	<b>75+</b>	<b>65+</b>	<b>50+</b>	<b>35+</b>
<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Speakers</b>	<b>Nationalities</b>	<b>Sponsors/Exhibitors</b>	<b>Posters</b>	<b>Sessions</b>

- But SubOptic lives outside of the conference as well through it's working groups!

# Open Cables Working Group Team



Pascal Pecci  
ASN



Priyanth Mehta  
Ciena



Darwin Evans  
Ciena



Elizabeth Rivera Hartling  
Facebook (WG Chair)



Valey Kamalov  
Google



Mattia Cantono  
Google



Eduardo Mateo  
NEC



Fatih Yaman  
NEC



Alexei Pilipetskii  
Subcom



Chris Mott  
Telstra



Philip Murphy  
Telstra



Paul Lomas  
Telstra

# Open Cables Working Group **Output**

We've been **BUSY!**

The team has generated a very extensive white paper (book?) detailing collectively agreed ideas and recommendations on Open Cables, that can be consumed by *experts* and *non-experts* alike!

## Subsea Open Cables: A Practical Perspective on the Guidelines and Gotchas

### Key Takeaways:

- Open Cables have many benefits, including capacity maximization at system RFS, and allowing independent best of breed selection for both wetplant and SLTE technologies
- New wetplant performance metrics are required that are fully independent from SLTE
  - Comparing wetplant designs based on traditional turnkey capacity can be highly misleading
  - Ongoing monitoring of wetplant performance over the system lifetime must have continuity and meaning regardless of SLTE technology used
- OSNR and GSNR, when considered together, can give a clear picture of the optical performance of a subsea system, offer a fair comparison between different wetplant designs, and enable 3<sup>rd</sup> party SLTE capacity estimation

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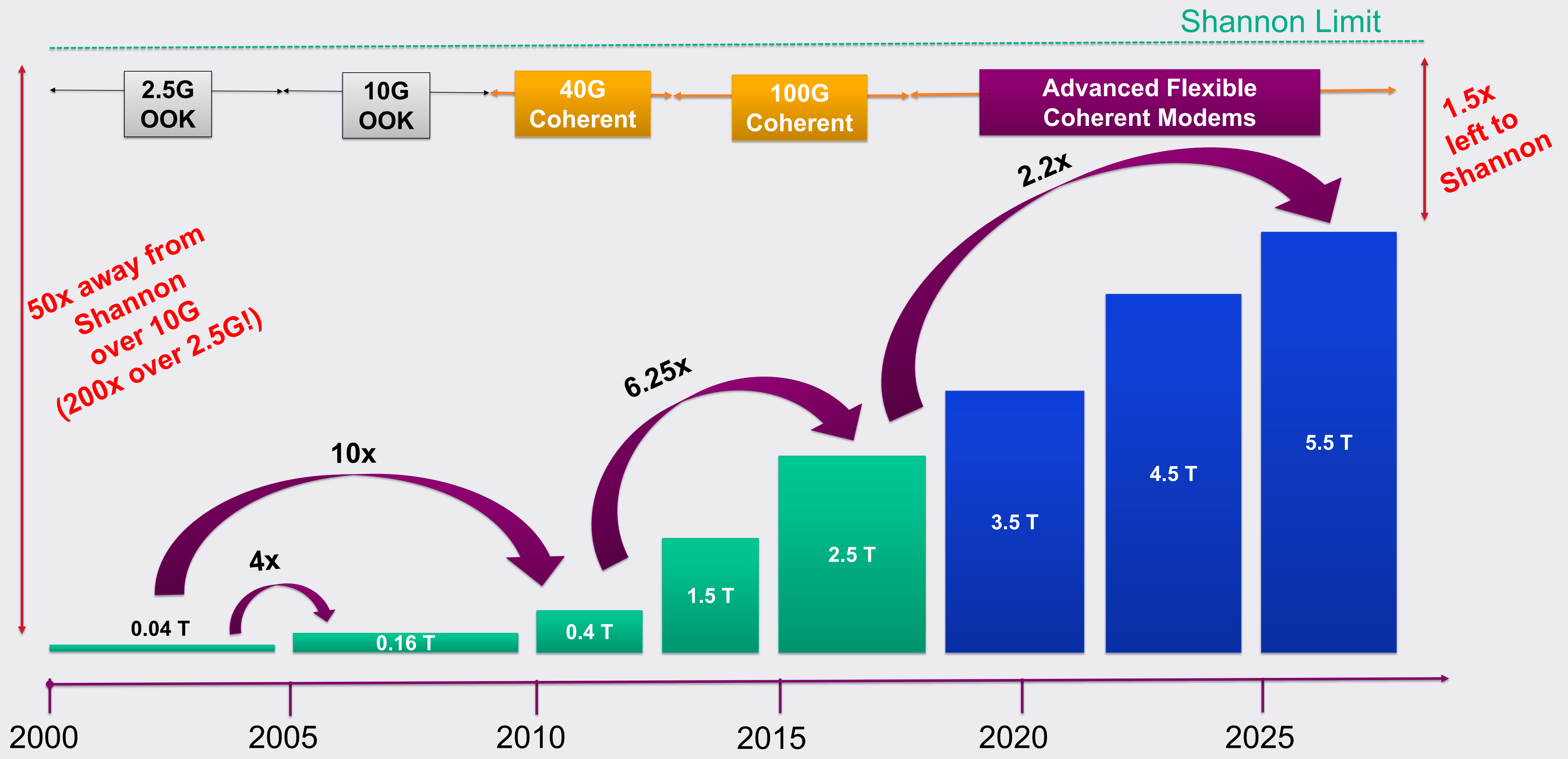


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# Subsea Upgrades

# Shannon's Limit on Legacy Cables – Room to Grow with Coherent!





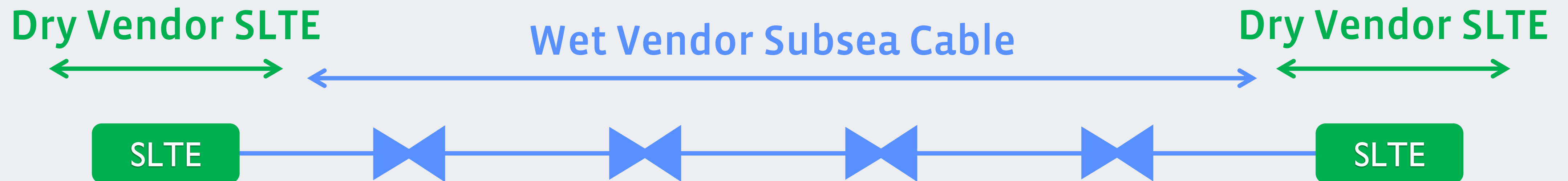
# Enter: The “Upgrade Market”

“Dry Vendor”  
Terrestrial Vendor  
Upgrade Vendor  
3<sup>rd</sup> Party  
...all used the same!

Traditional “Turnkey” Subsea Cable Capacity Model



Early “Upgrade” Subsea Cable Capacity Model

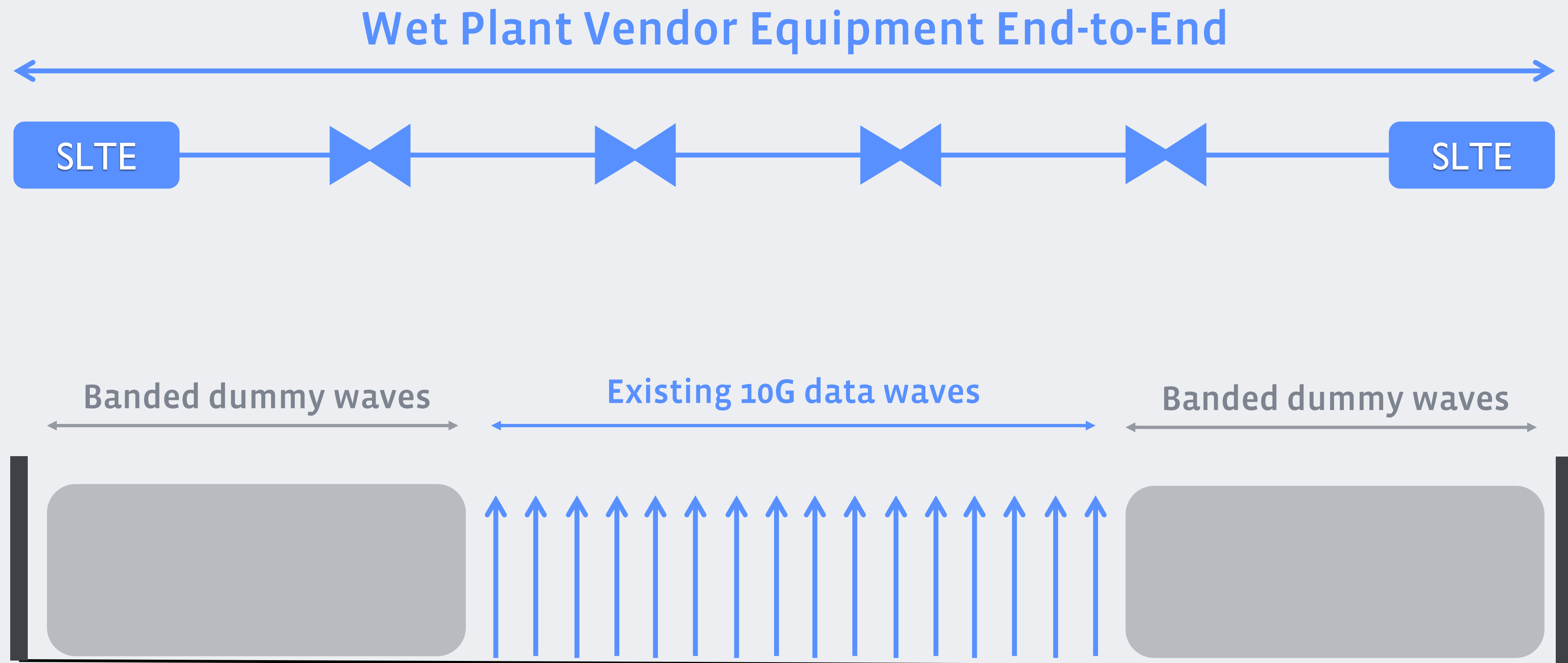


# Wait. But Why Terrestrial Vendors?

- Timing. It's everything. That's why.
- Terrestrial Optical companies were the first to develop and productize coherent technology and introduce it to the Subsea space.
- Some thought that coherent would never work in optical.
- And when it did. It happened FAST, and changed the course of the subsea industry!
- The benefits of coherent were so big, it was too expensive NOT to adopt it.

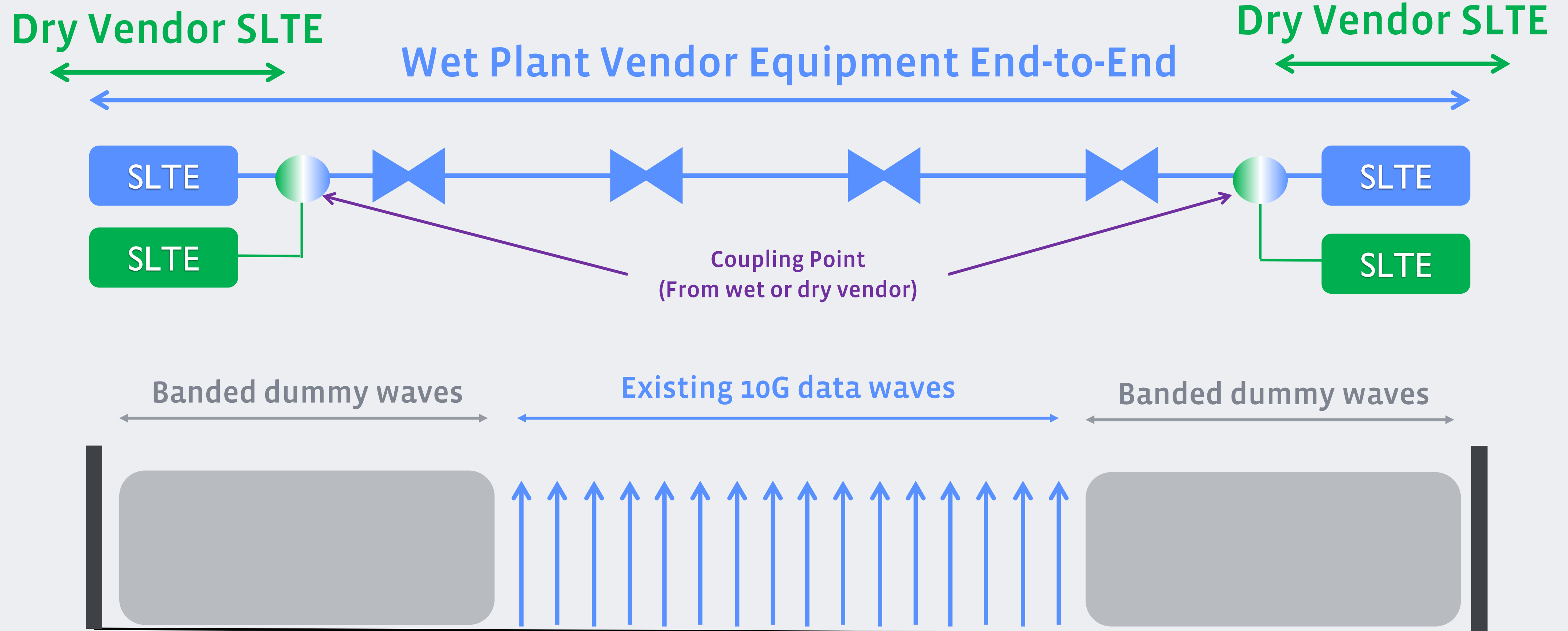
# Many Ways to Upgrade Existing Cables

## Option 1: Overlay New & Old Technology



# Many Ways to Upgrade Existing Cables

## Option 1: Overlay New & Old Technology

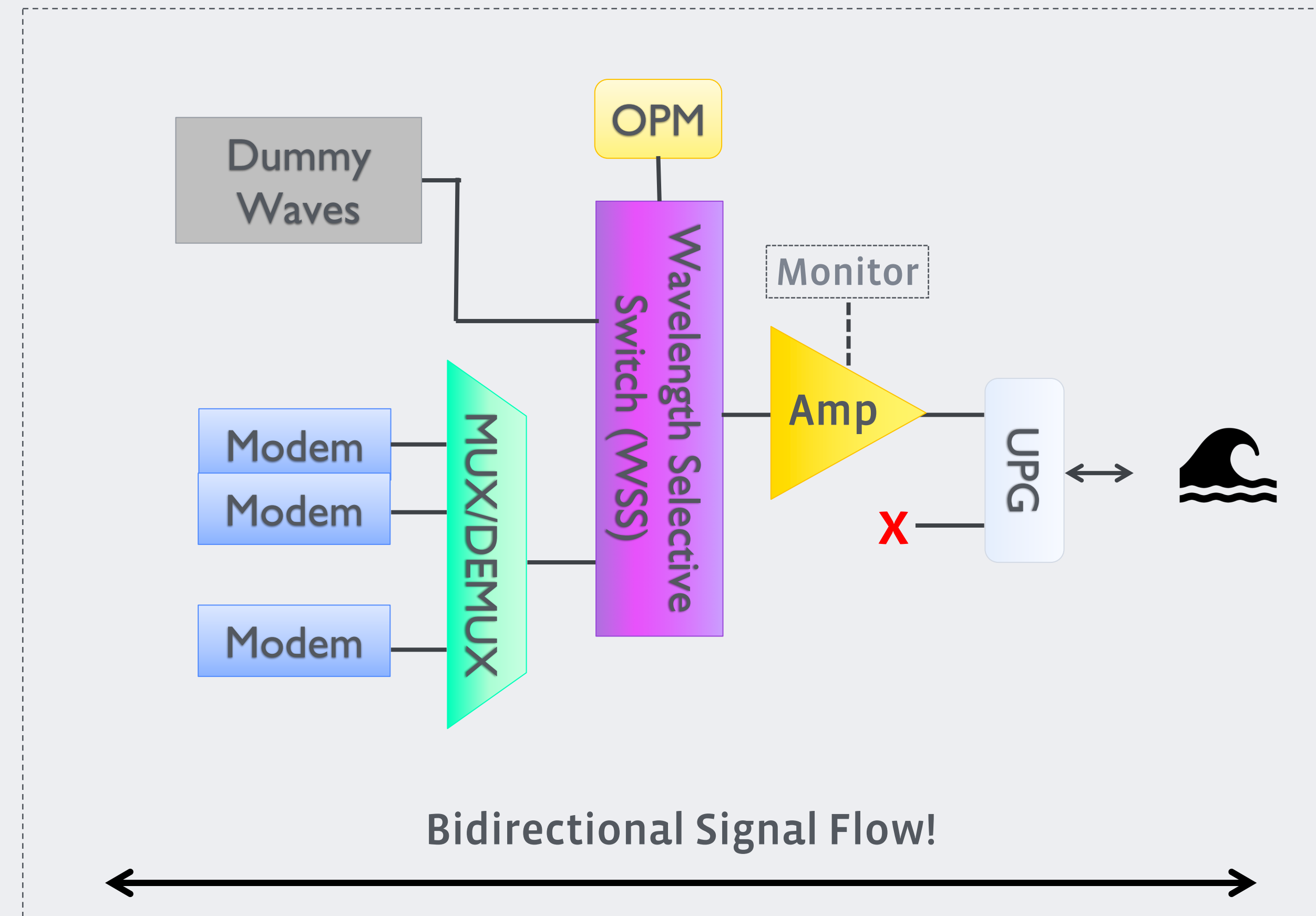


# Recap from Yesterday: SLTE Coupling Point

Below are the key functional building blocks of SLTE from yesterday!

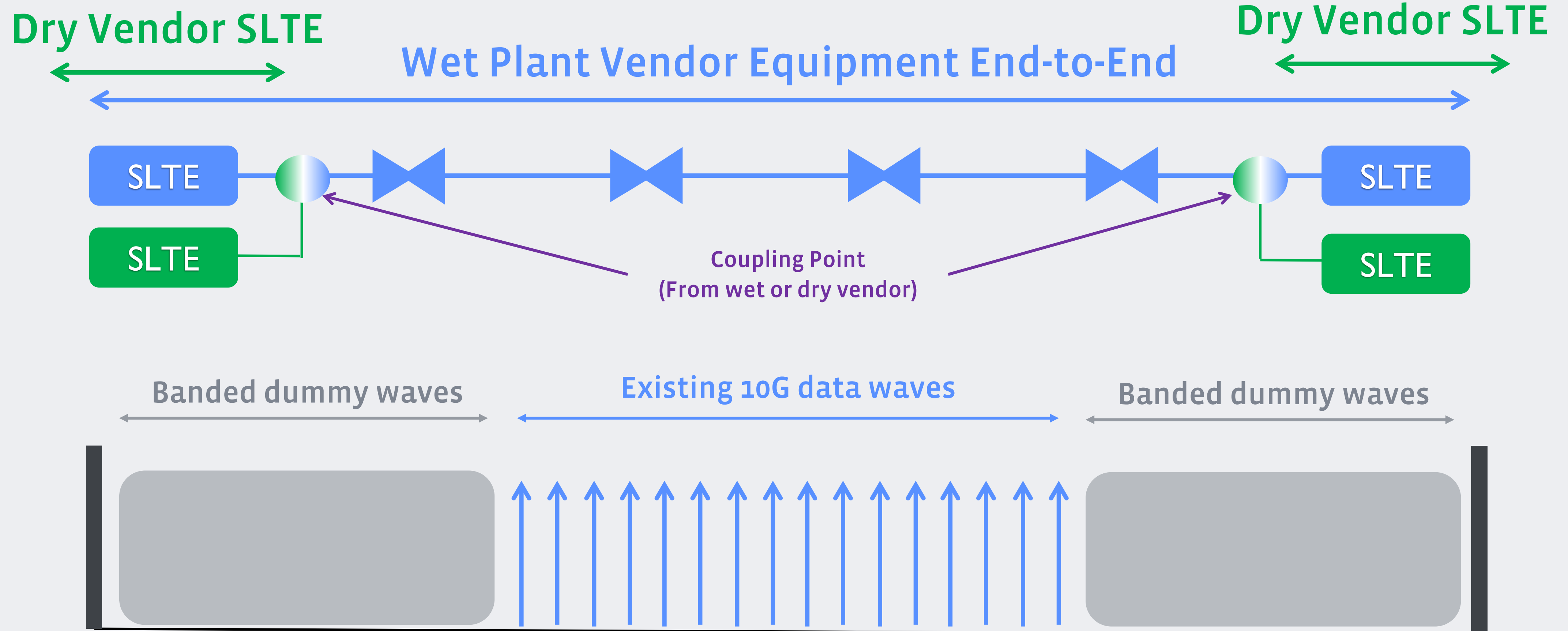
SO how do we couple 2x SLTE onto one fiber?

- Upgrade Couplers, which leave an open port for added equipment insertion in case you ever want to replace your equipment without traffic interruption
- HOWEVER, the traditional model didn't have upgrades in mind, so most SLTE before this time did not have upgrade couplers.
- So, an Upgrade coupler either needs to be inserted (interrupting traffic momentarily), or a non-ideal coupling point needs to be found
- Note, older SLTE often did not use WSS either!



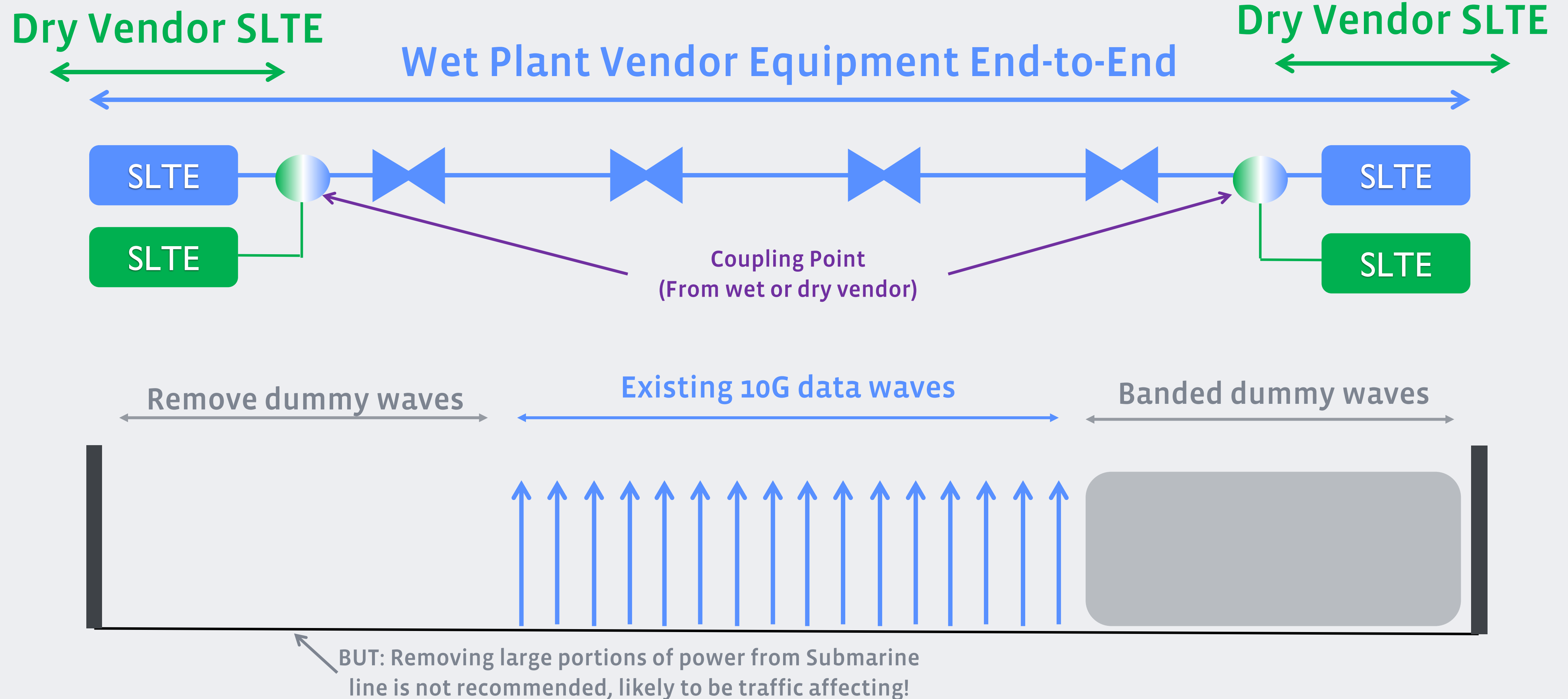
# Many Ways to Upgrade Existing Cables

## Option 1: Overlay New & Old Technology



# Many Ways to Upgrade Existing Cables

## Option 1: Overlay New & Old Technology



# What Would Really Happen?

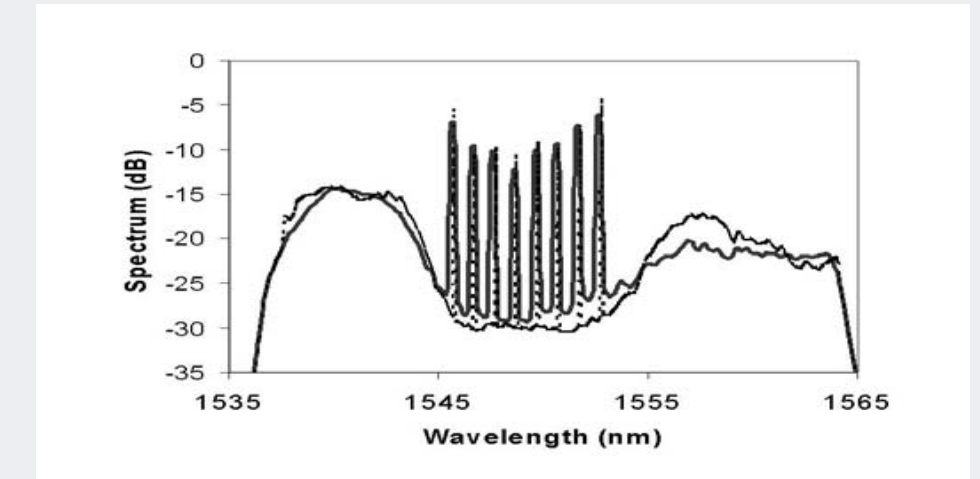
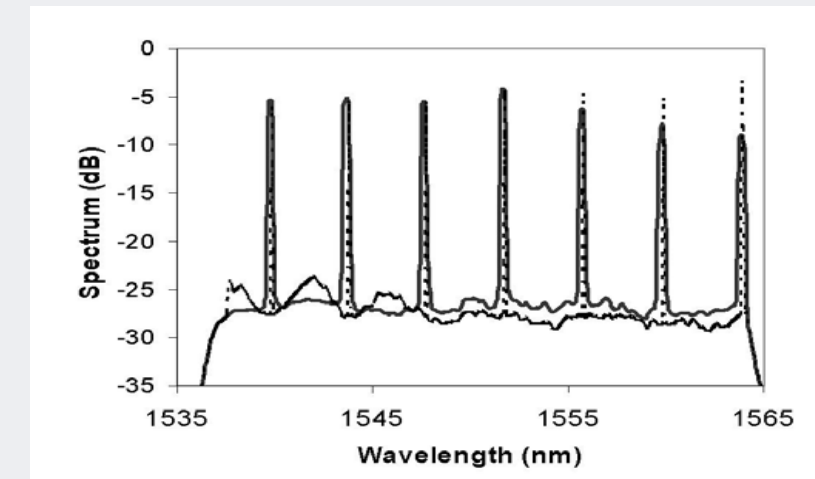
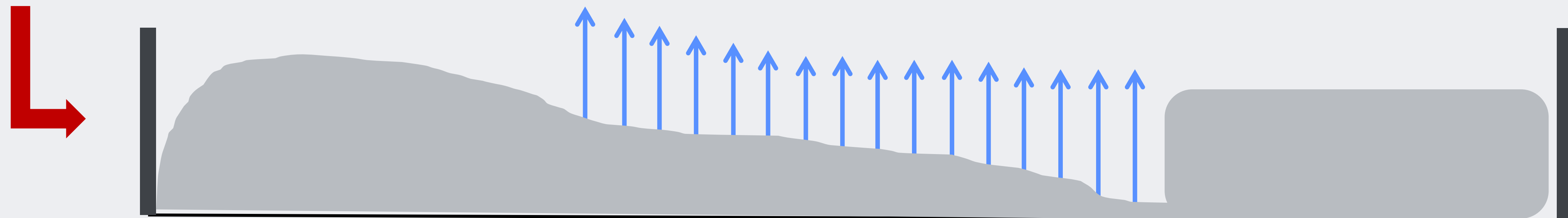


Figure Ref: JLT Invited Tutorial: Wavelength Division Multiplexing in Long-Haul Transoceanic Transmission Systems, Neal S. Bergano, *Fellow IEEE, Fellow OSA*

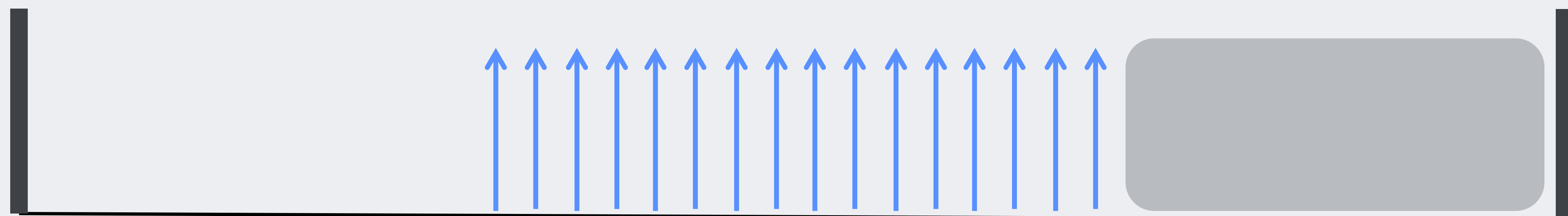
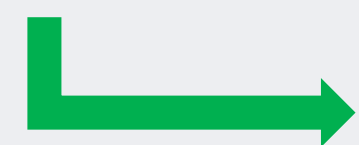
From Yesterday 

Something along these lines:



Remove dummy waves      Existing 10G data waves      Banded dummy waves

Very  
Ideal  
Picture:

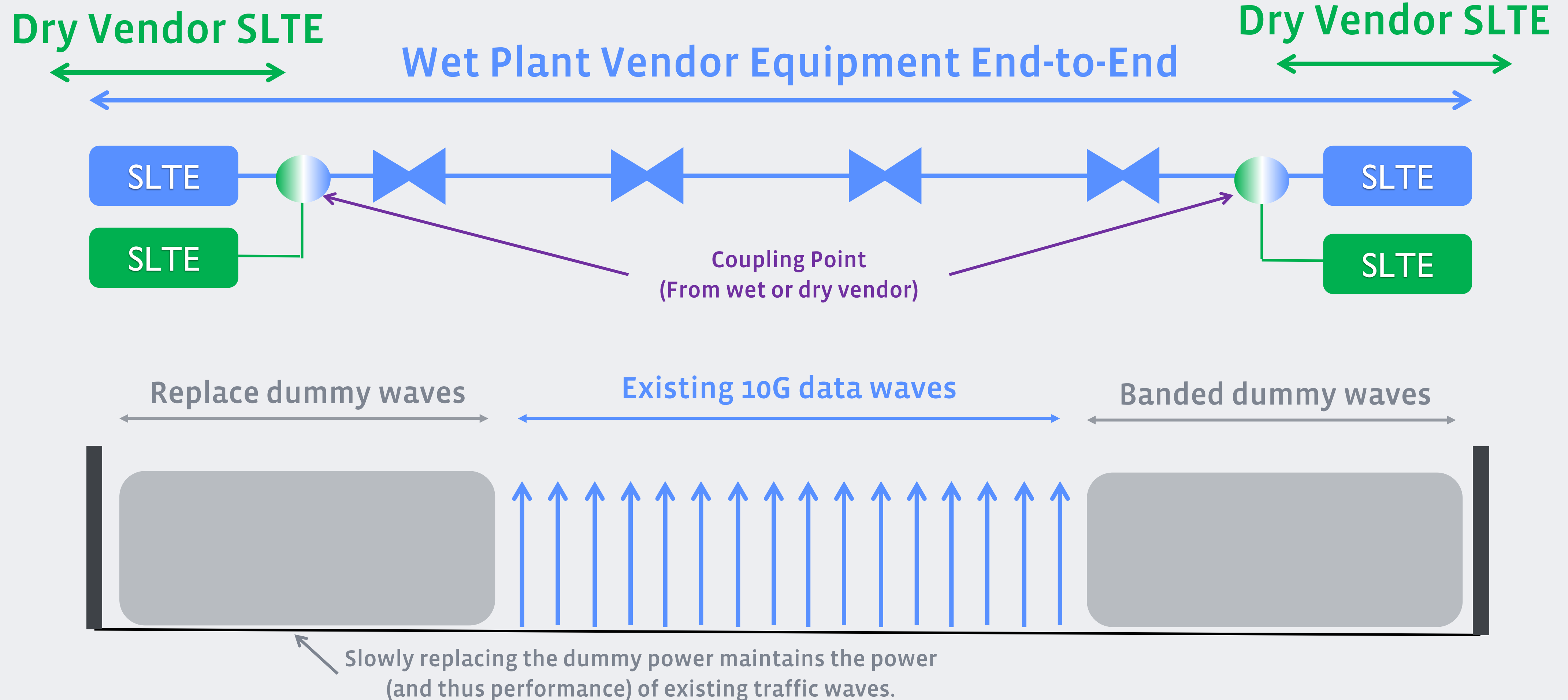


BUT: Removing large portions of power from Submarine line is not recommended, likely to be traffic affecting!



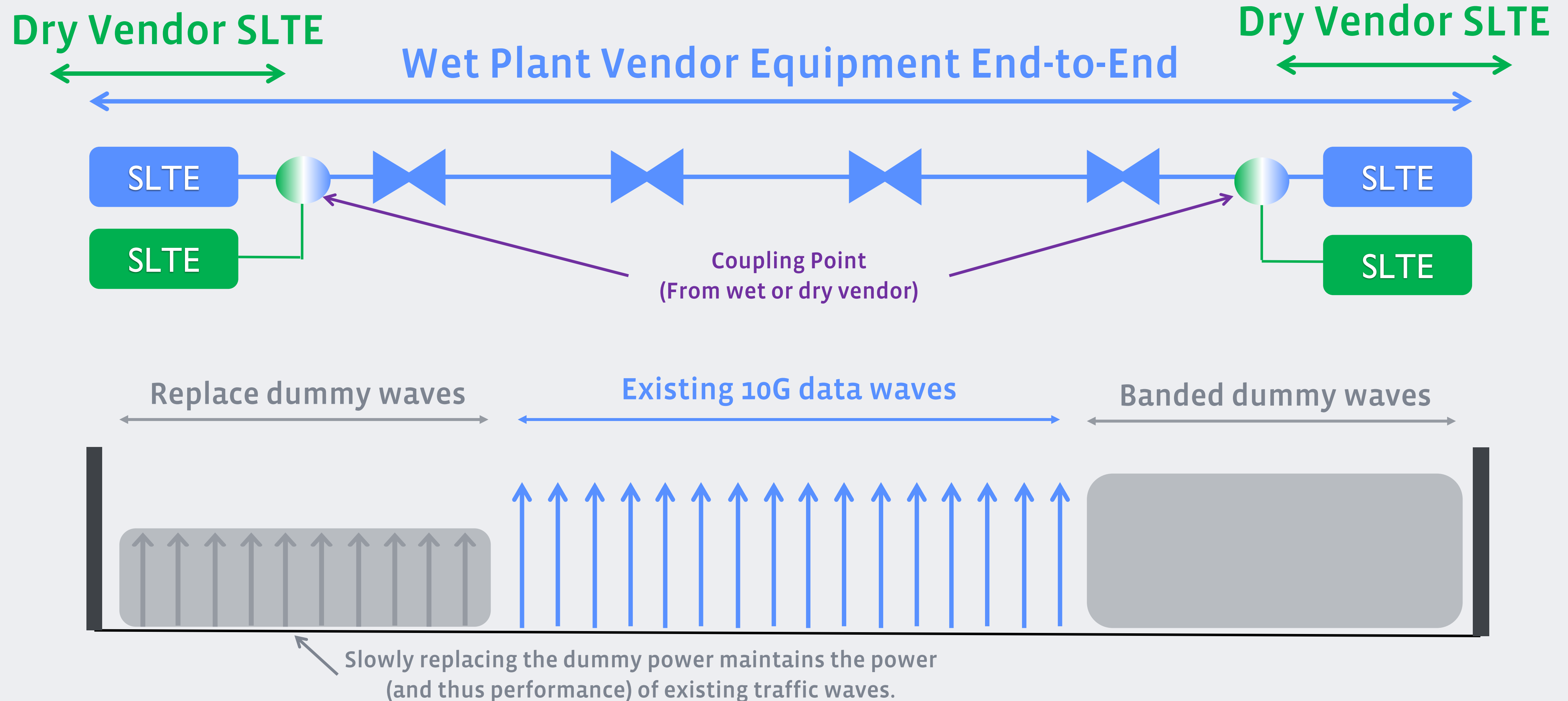
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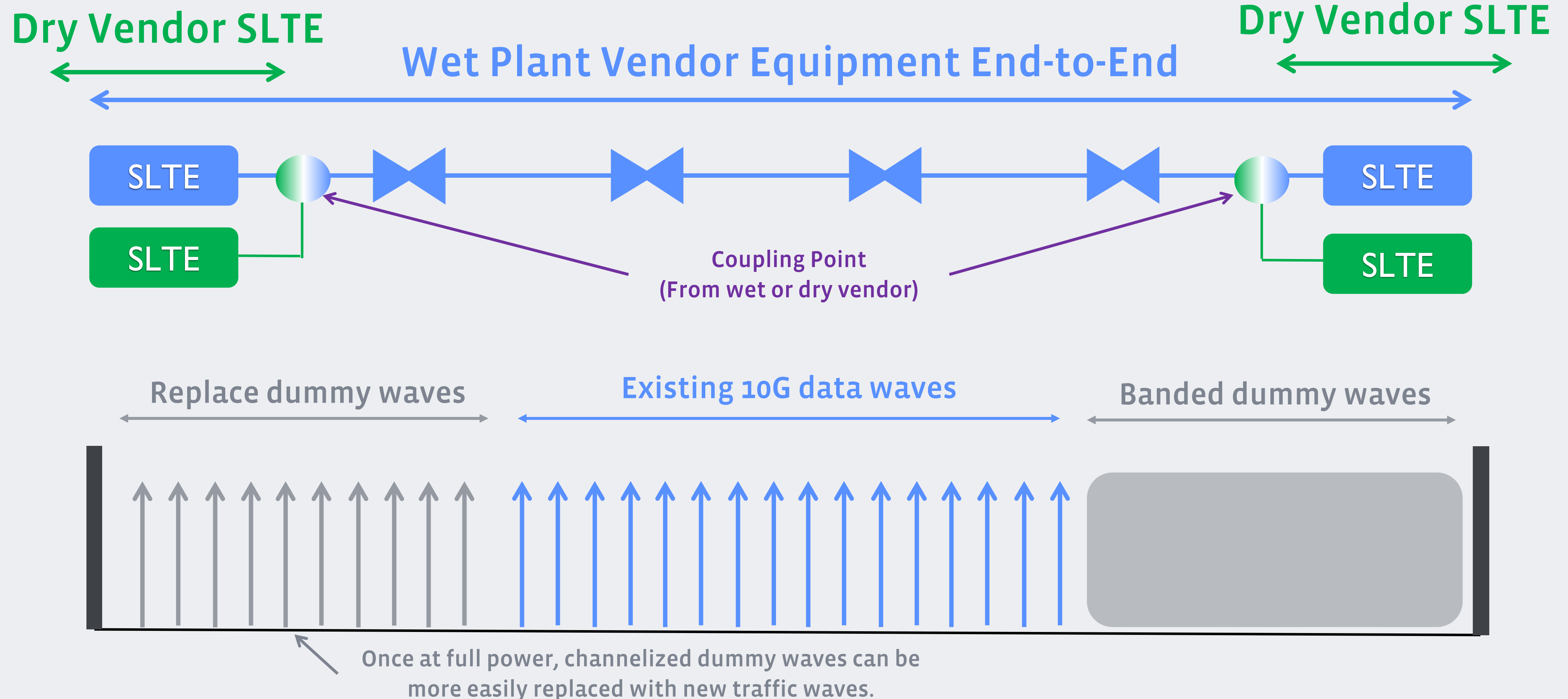
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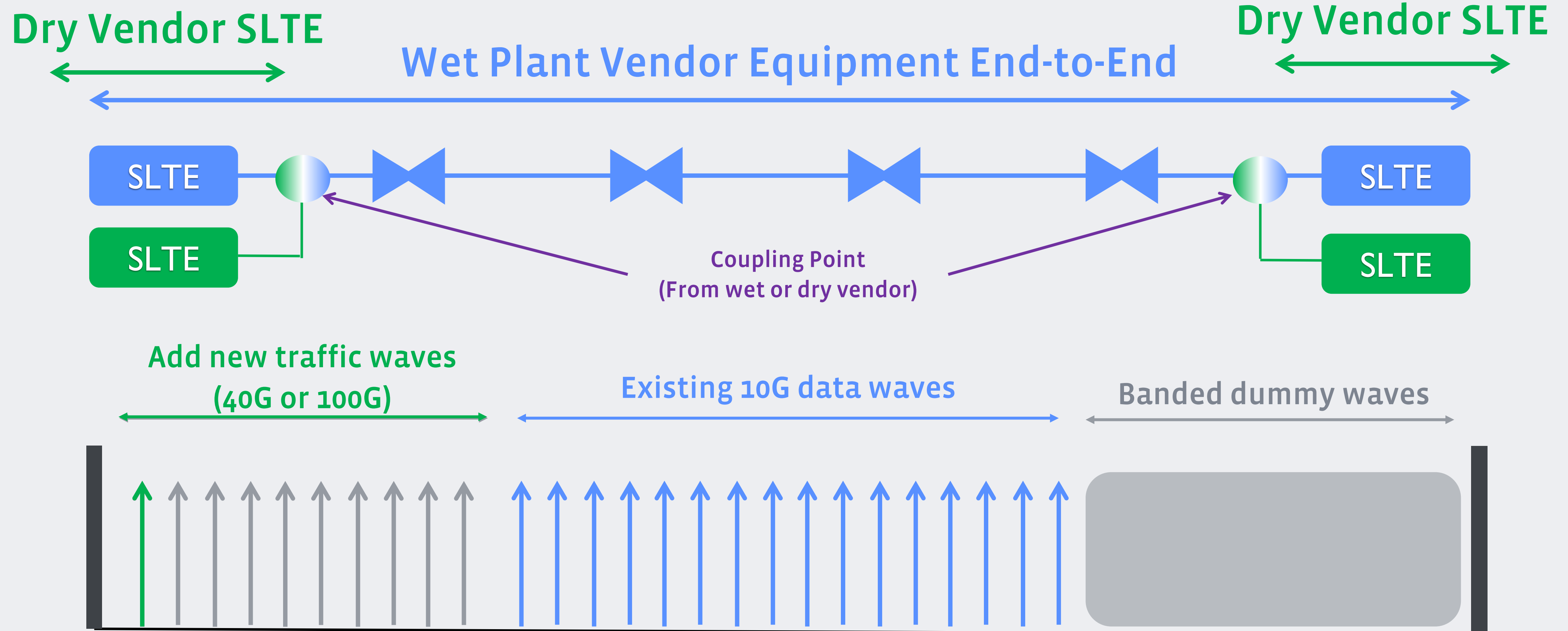
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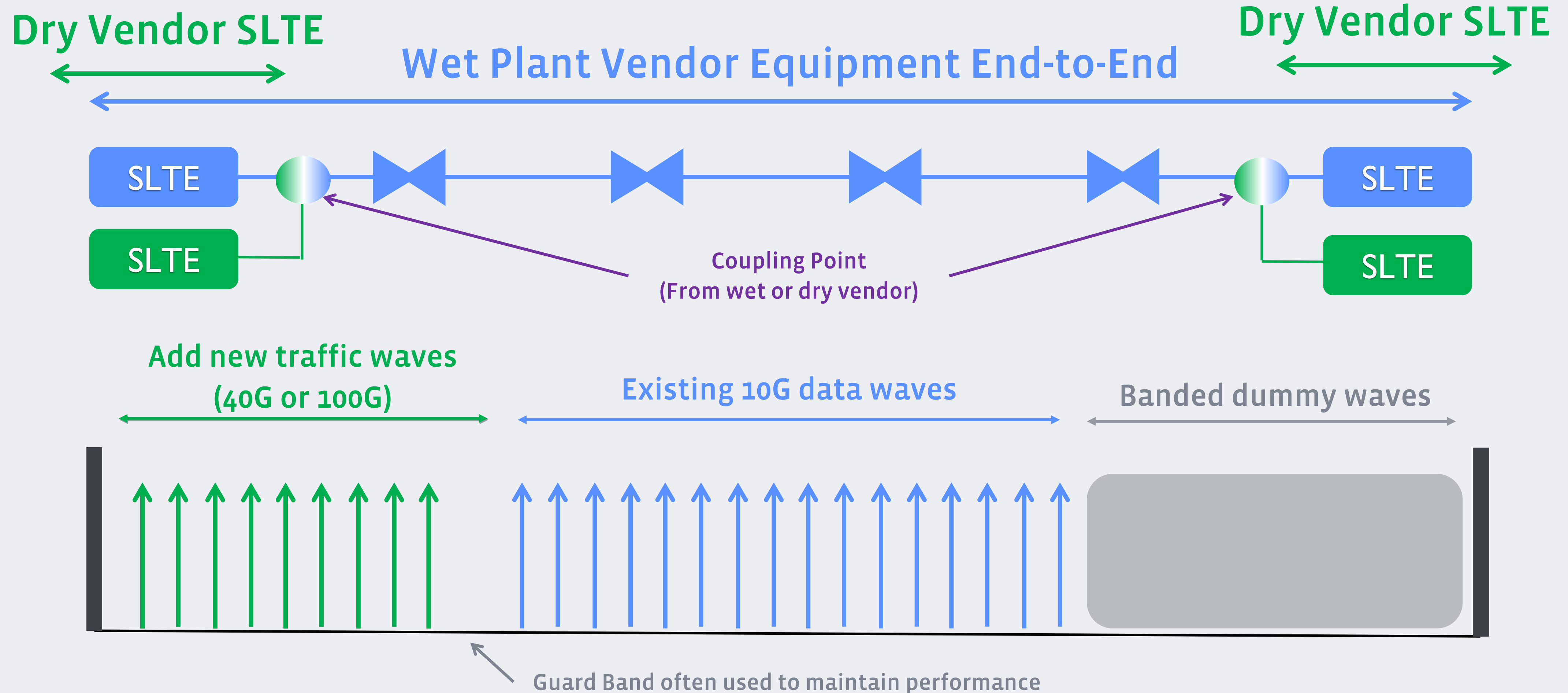
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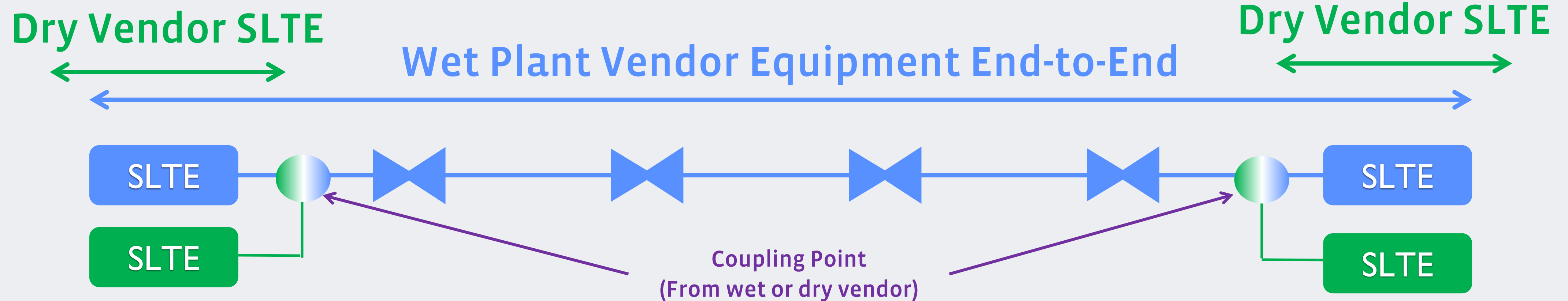
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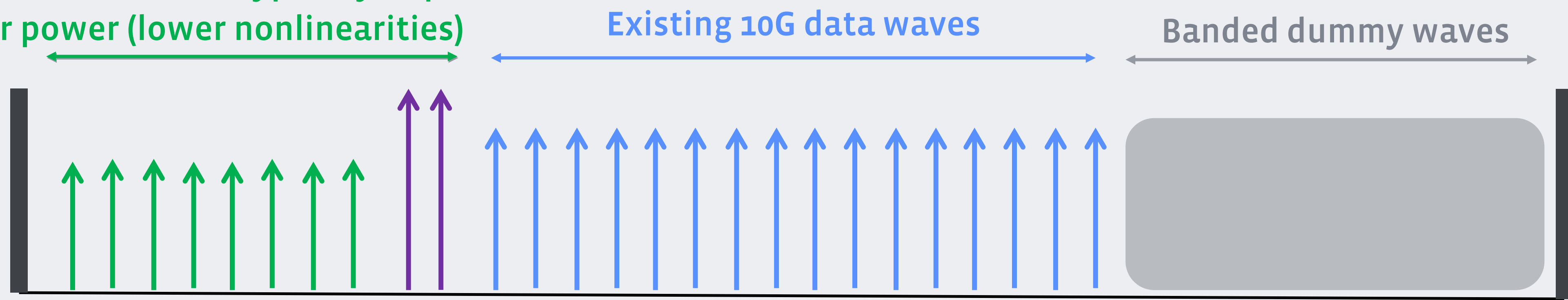


# Many Ways to Upgrade Existing Cables

## Option 1: Overlay New & Old Technology



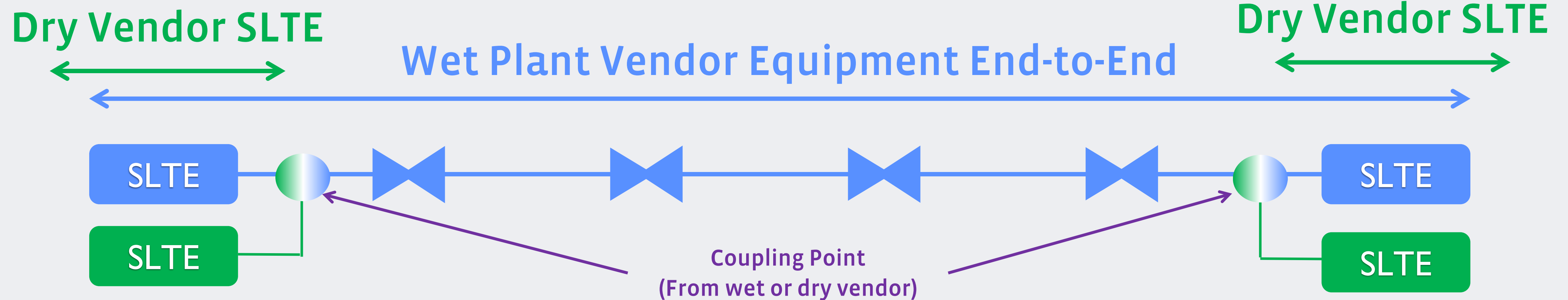
**\*BUT, coherent waves typically require lower power (lower nonlinearities)**



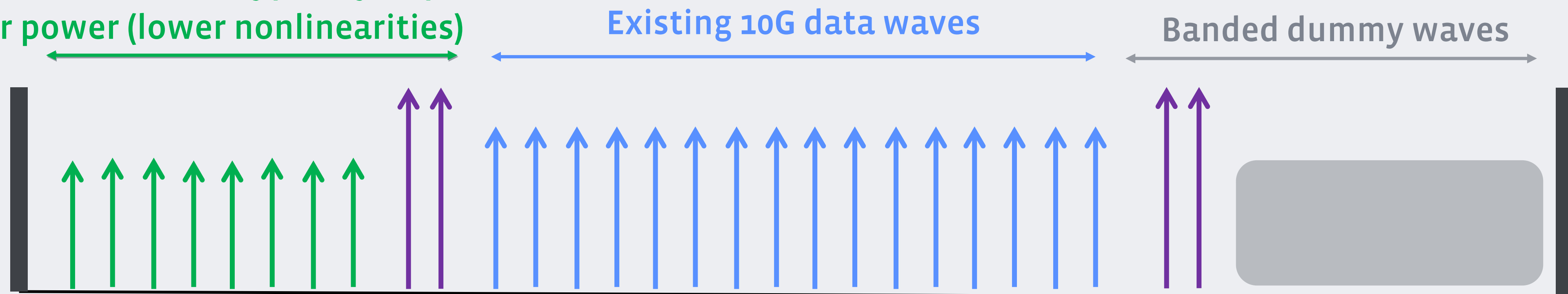
Specialized CW dummy waves can be used to "hold" excess power to optimize performance of all waves, new and old.

# Many Ways to Upgrade Existing Cables

## Option 1: Overlay New & Old Technology



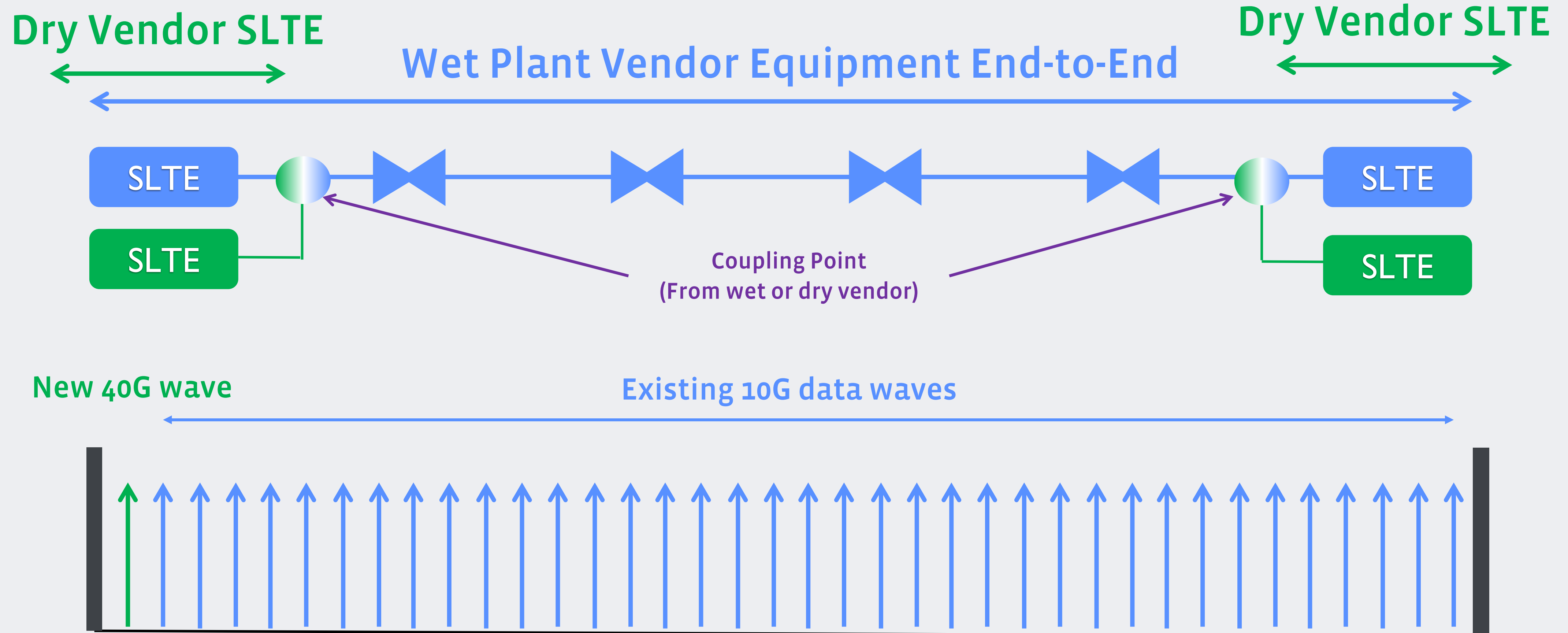
**\*BUT, coherent waves typically require lower power (lower nonlinearities)**



But power must be balanced, so typically CW idlers are placed as symmetrically as possible, and in some cases are strategically placed to minimize the impact of tilt.

# Many Ways to Upgrade Existing Cables

## Option 2: Traffic Migration to New Technology

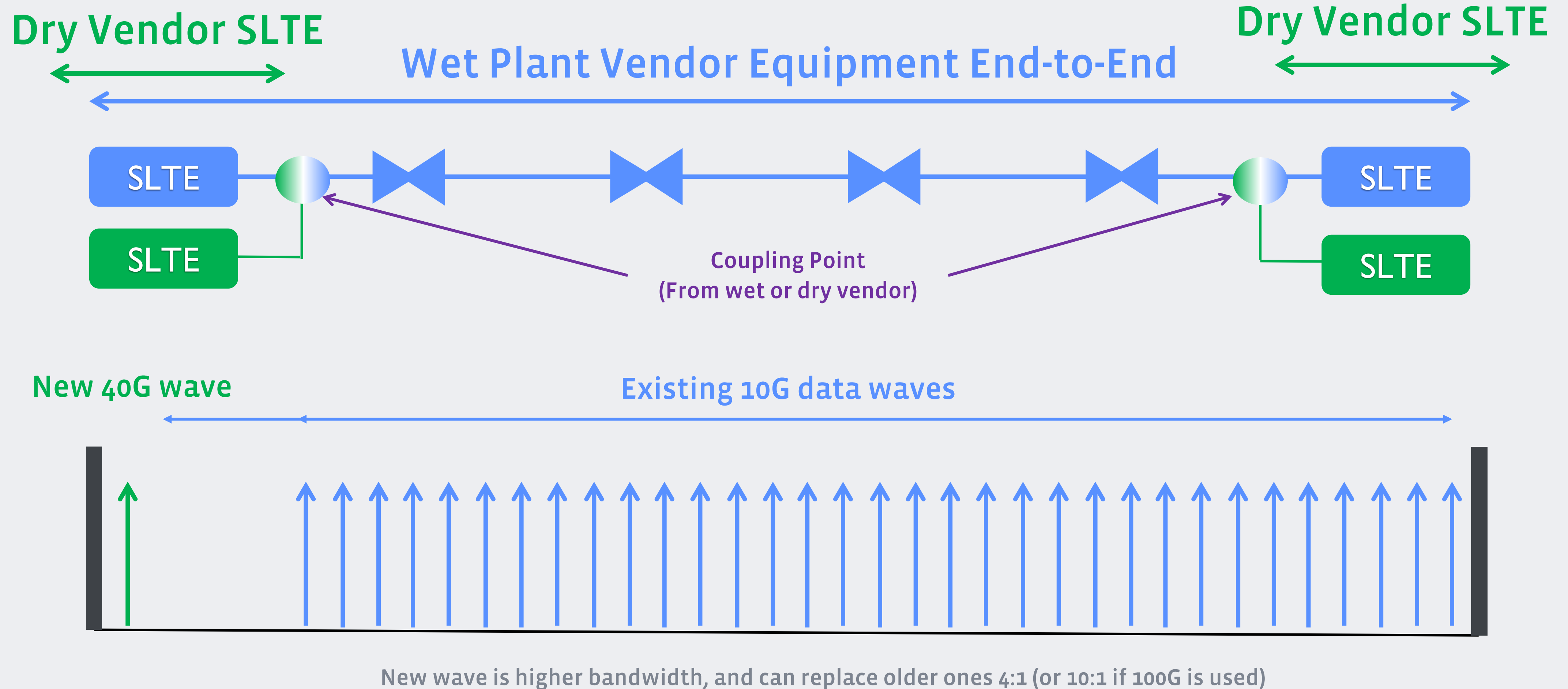


Sometimes, there is little or no open spectrum remaining on a fiber. Space is needed for a new wave.



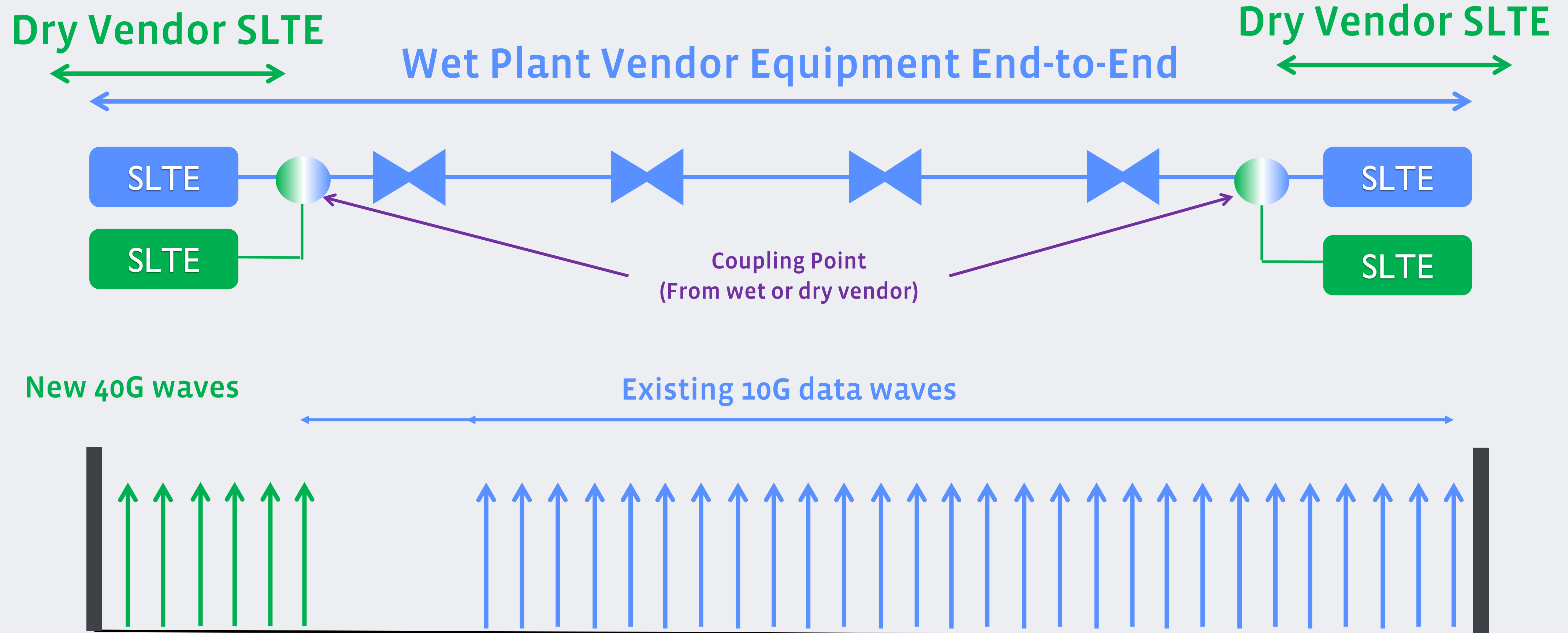
# Many Ways to Upgrade Existing Cables

## Option 2: Traffic Migration to New Technology



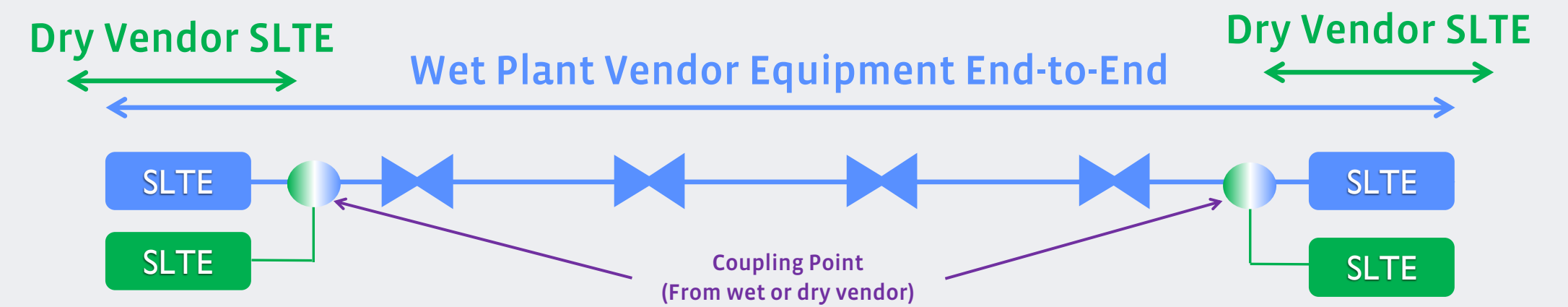
# Many Ways to Upgrade Existing Cables

## Option 2: Traffic Migration to New Technology



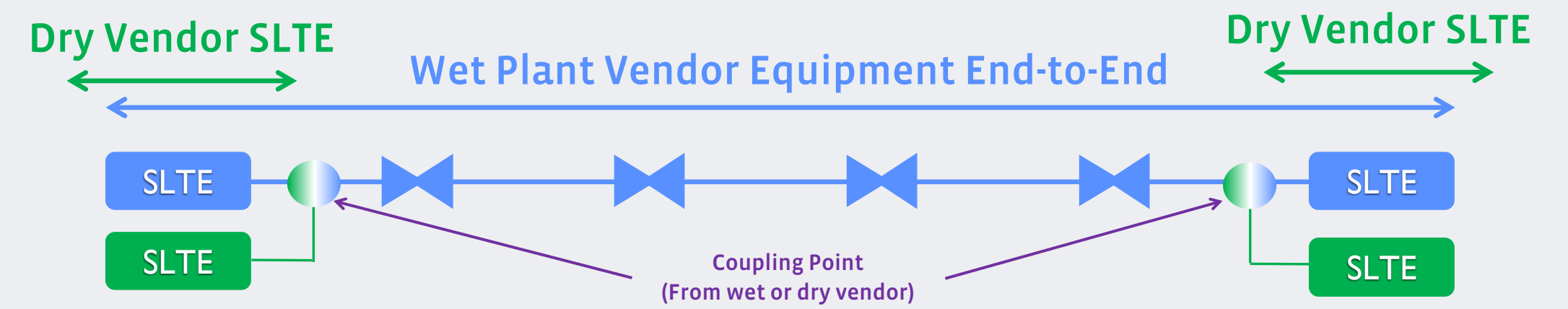
Process can be repeated until full spectrum is replaced or target capacity is achieved. Dummy lights will be needed at some point.

# Upgrade Considerations



- Coupling Point:
  - Sometimes, existing SLTE has an open coupling point that is suitable for use
  - If not, new coupler must be inserted during a brief maintenance activity window, where traffic will be interrupted
- Dummy Replacement:
  - If banded dummy lights are used, new channelized dummy lights will be gradually inserted, maintaining the same power levels. Guard bands are often needed.
  - Traffic channels can then be inserted one by one using new dummy lights. CW idlers may also be needed if optimal channel power is lower than what is available
- Traffic Migration:
  - If there is no open spectrum available, then a single wave may need to be removed and replaced by a new, higher bandwidth wave. Sometimes though, we can find space for just one wave on the outer edges!
  - Then traffic can be migrated onto the new wave, and older waves can be removed in a 4:1 (40G upgrade from 10G) or 10:1 (100G upgrade from 10G) ratio (or more!)
  - Coherent DP-PSK technology overlays with single pol. IMDD waves on legacy cables requires very careful power control and guard band management. Traffic soaks are crucial to ensuring performance long term.

# Field Trials

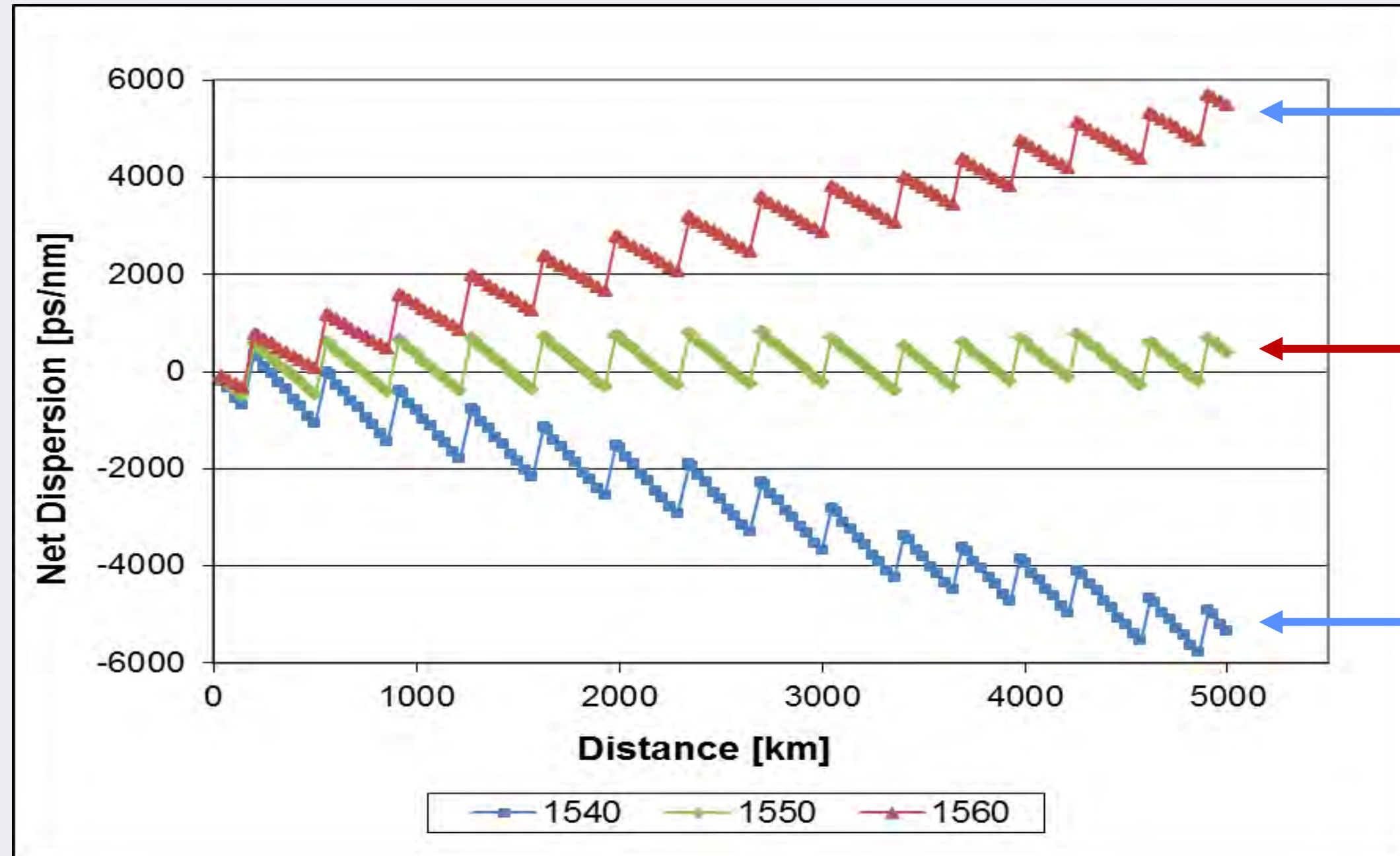


- How They are Done:
  - Field trials follow the same coupling and power replacement process as upgrades, however they are only temporary, and the steps need to be exactly reversed at the end of a field trial
  - Maintaining power and performance of existing traffic waves is highly critical, and not a trivial task!
- Why Field Trial?
  - Field trials are typically used to prove a new technology works as expected, but just as importantly, used to characterize the performance effect of the old technology on the new technology
  - In particular for coherent technology overlays on older cables and 10G waves, there are many nonlinear effects at play that must be carefully considered. These can be difficult to simulate, especially with so many unknowns about the actual propagation conditions (the “black box”). So field trials are typically the norm for these applications
- New “Coherent” cable designs have since changed the norms...

# What About Greenfield on Legacy Cables?

There are many dimensions that can be used to optimize capacity on a legacy cable, with highly variable performance across the spectrum:

- Modulation formats, channel spacing, channel power, pre-dispersion, nonlinear mitigation & compensation techniques, carrier recovery techniques, etc.

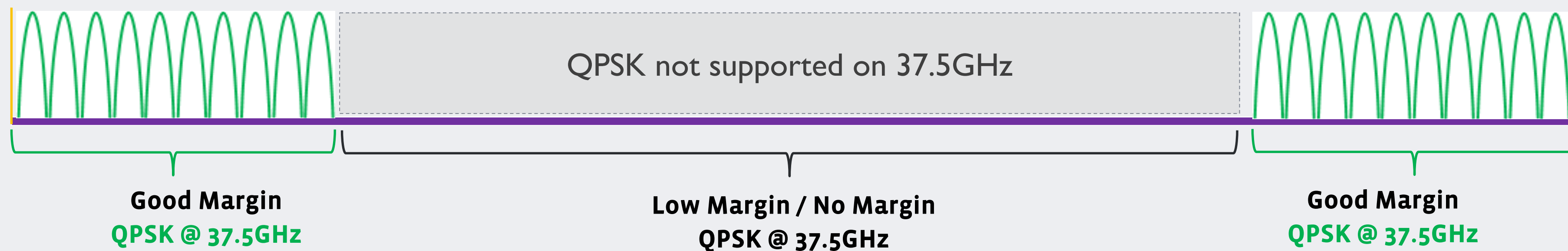


**Dispersion zero.  
Highly nonlinear!**

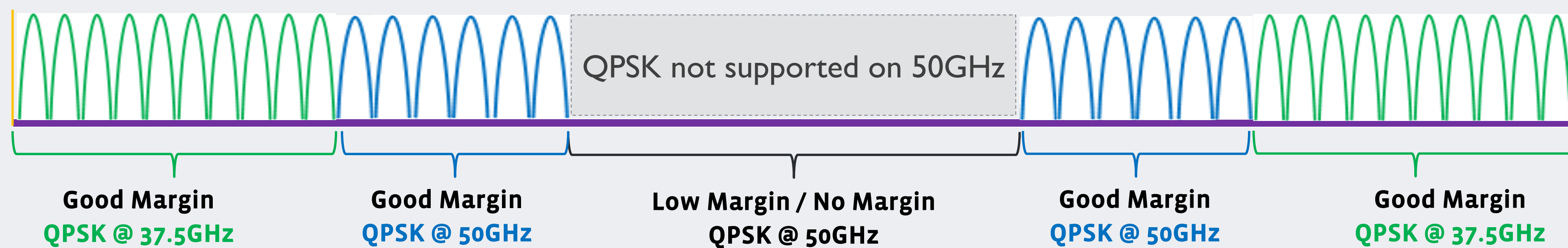
**Band edges,  
higher dispersion,  
lower nonlinearities  
(still challenging)**

# What About Greenfield on Legacy Cables?

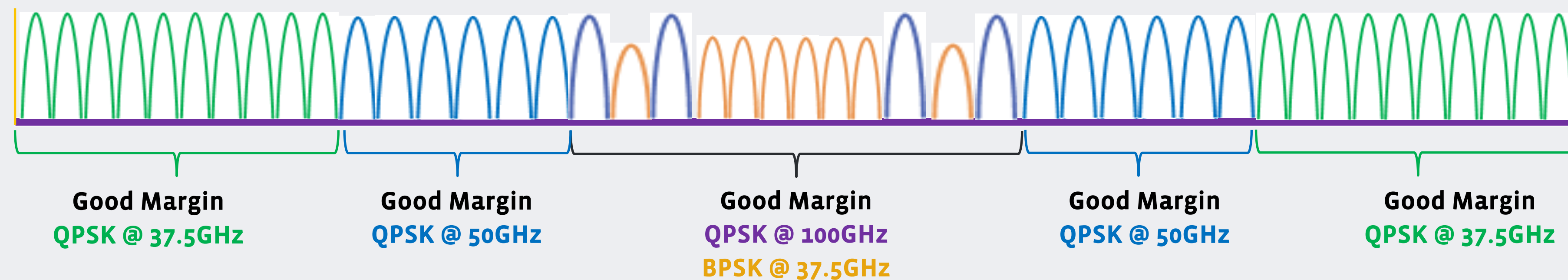
100G QPSK @ 37.5GHz



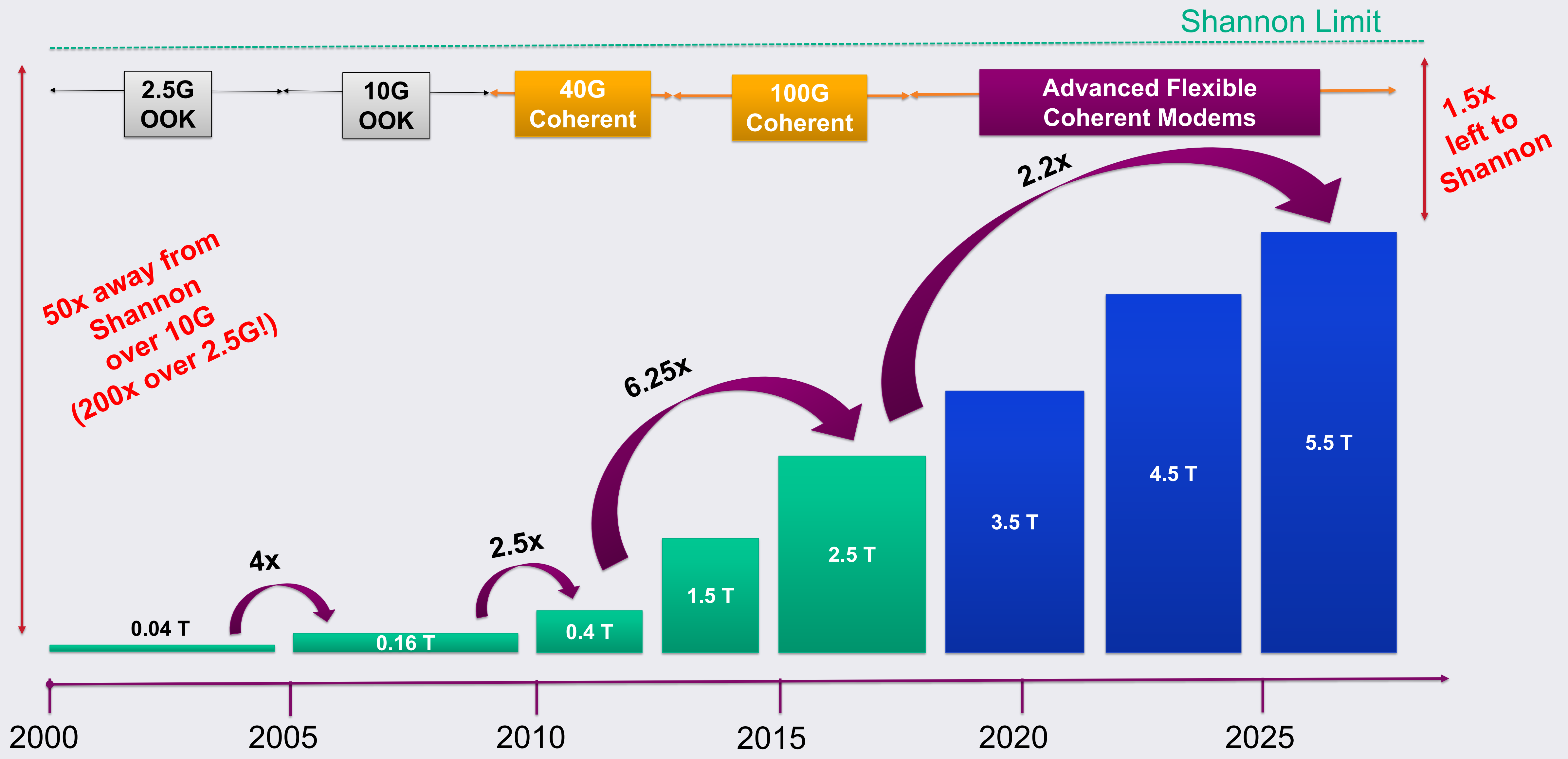
100G QPSK @ 37.5GHz & 50GHz



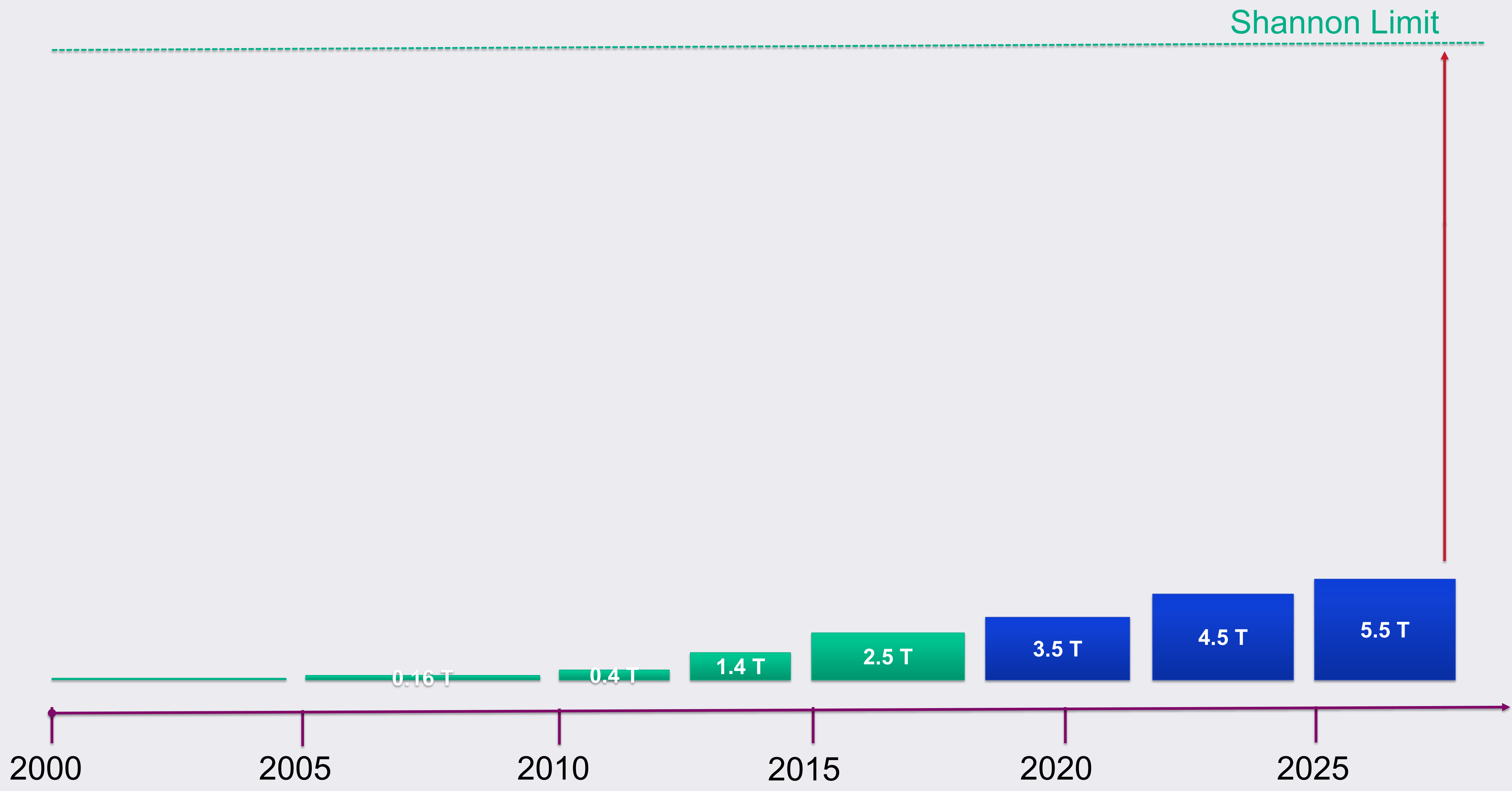
Spectral Averaging



# Shannon's Limit on Legacy Cables – Room to Grow with Coherent!

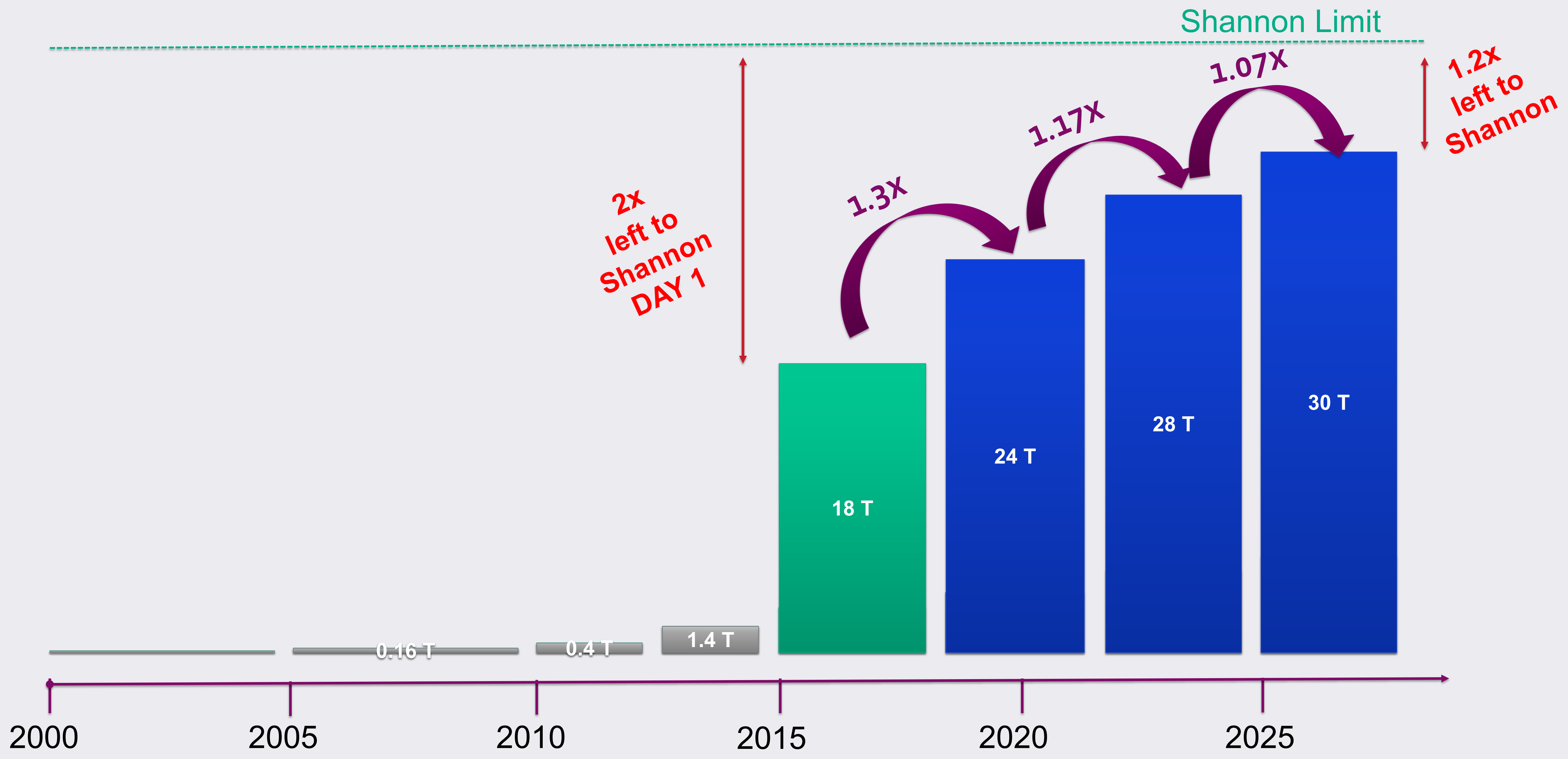


# Shannon's Limit on New Coherent Cables!





# Shannon's Limit on New Coherent Cables!



# Onto The “Open Cable Era”

Early “Upgrade” Subsea Cable Capacity Model



Modern Subsea “Open Cable” Model (Designed to be Open from Day 1!)

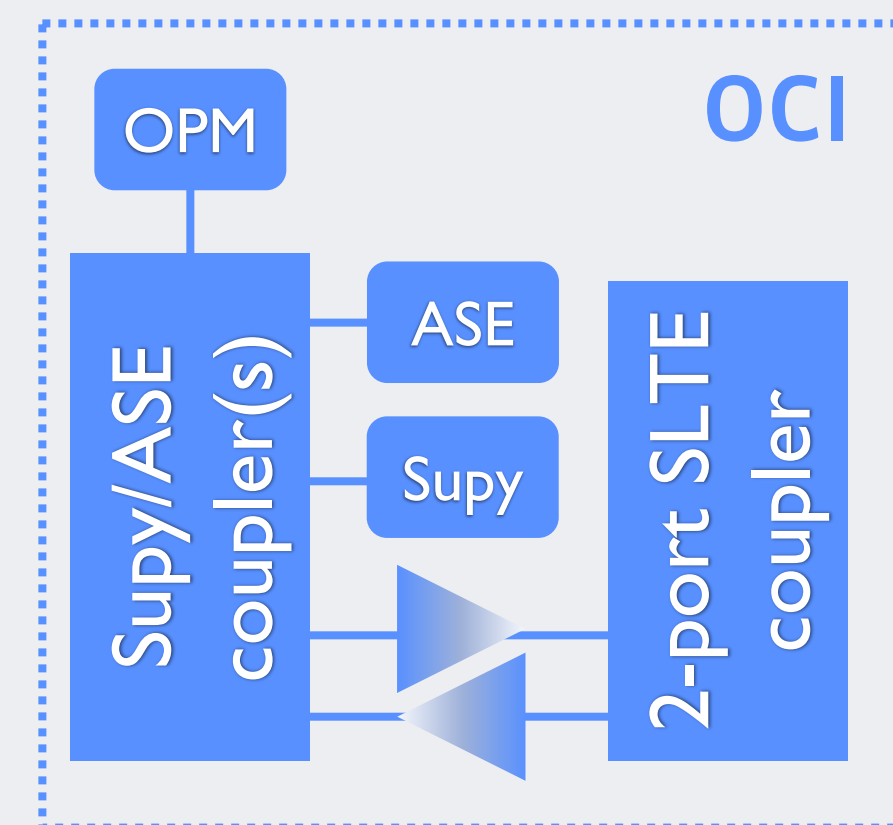


# Open Cables & Convergence with Terrestrial

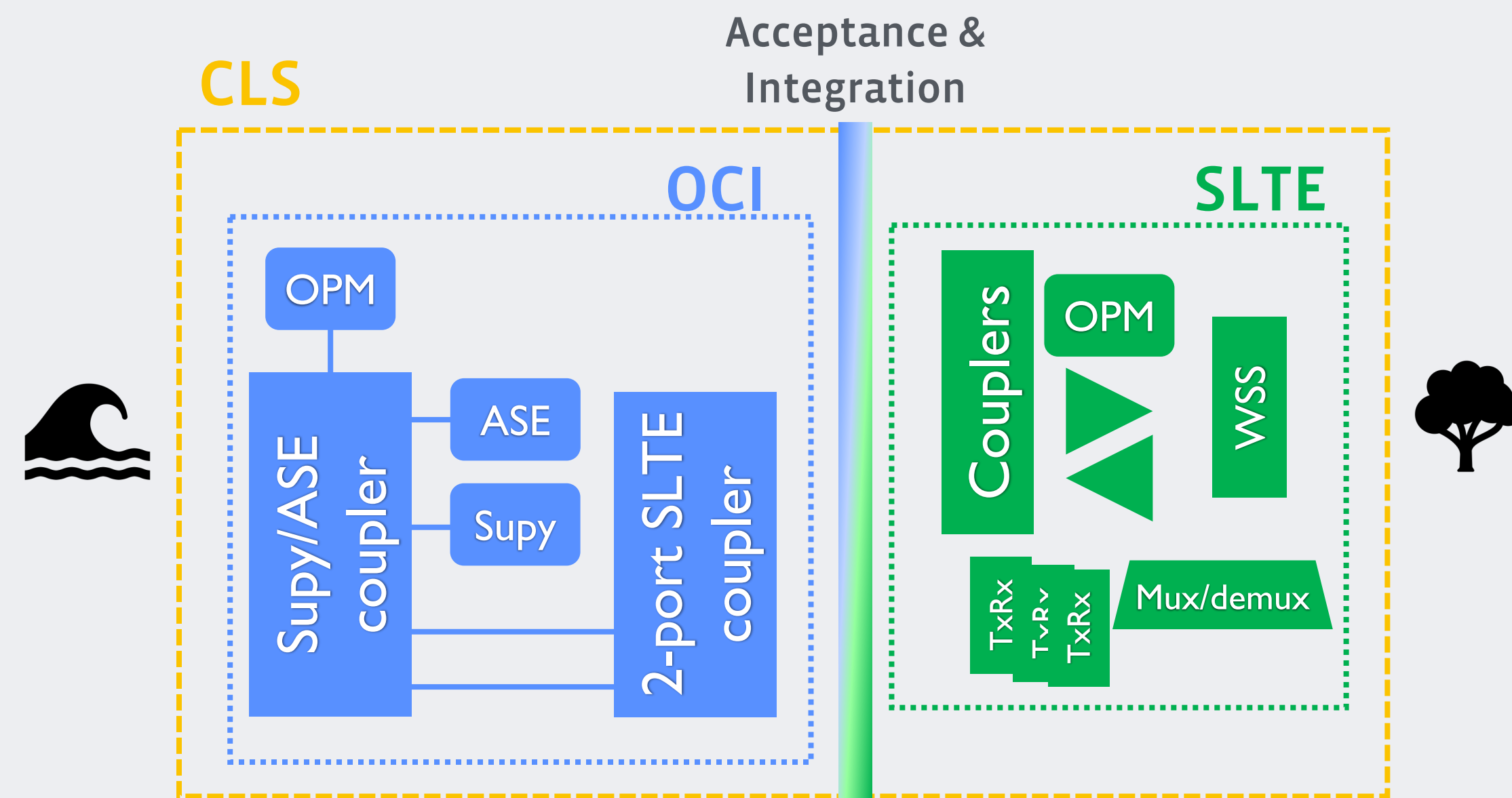
# Basic OCI Requirements

**An Open Cable Interface (OCI) is now defined as the boundary between wet plant and SLTE**

- Line Amplifier:
  - Line amp should be only active element inline with traffic path. Must have reasonable gain and power ranges to allow efficient interop with 3<sup>rd</sup> party SLTE while maintaining optical performance levels.
- Supervisory:
  - Supervisory functions (monitoring & wet plant control) must be able to operate independent of 3<sup>rd</sup> party SLTE choice
- ASE:
  - ASE generation is required for acceptance & turn-up, dark fiber monitoring, and must not be inline with traffic path
- Optical Power Monitoring:
  - OCI must have OPM capabilities for direct Tx / Rx monitoring of wet plant. OPM needs to represent final spectral shape in and out of wet plant
- Open Coupling Ports:
  - Need open passive 3dB coupling ports for 2 x SLTE as the last element in Rx direction
  - Required coupling ports for COTDR to/from wet plant



# Use Case 1: CLS to CLS, full termination

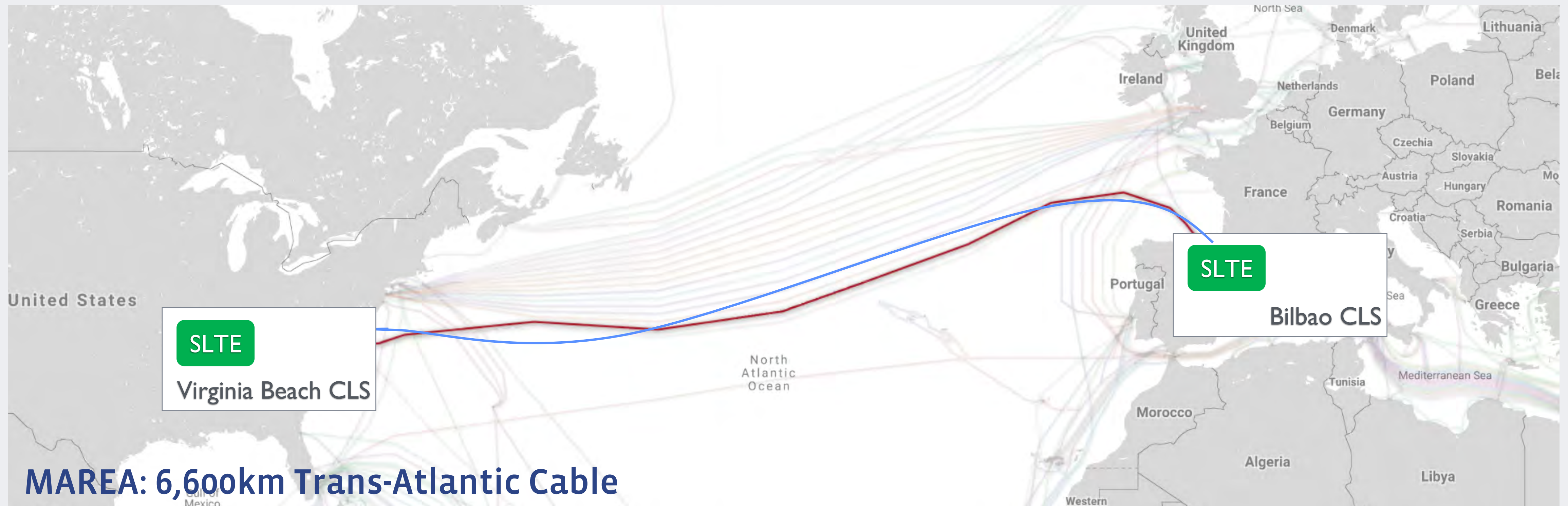


- Wet Vendor OCI:
  - ASE, Supervisory & OPM functions
  - Line amp replaced by SLTE amps
- Dry Vendor SLTE:
  - Gain controlled line amp(s), WSS, OPM, mux/demux, coupler(s)

Case	Use Case Description	Equipment at CLS	Equipment at PoP	Integration Point	Acceptance
I	<b>CLS to CLS, full termination</b>	Wet Vendor OCI Dry Vendor SLTE	N/A	Wet Vendor OCI in CLS	Acceptance is at CLS

# CLS vs PoP and Why we Extend

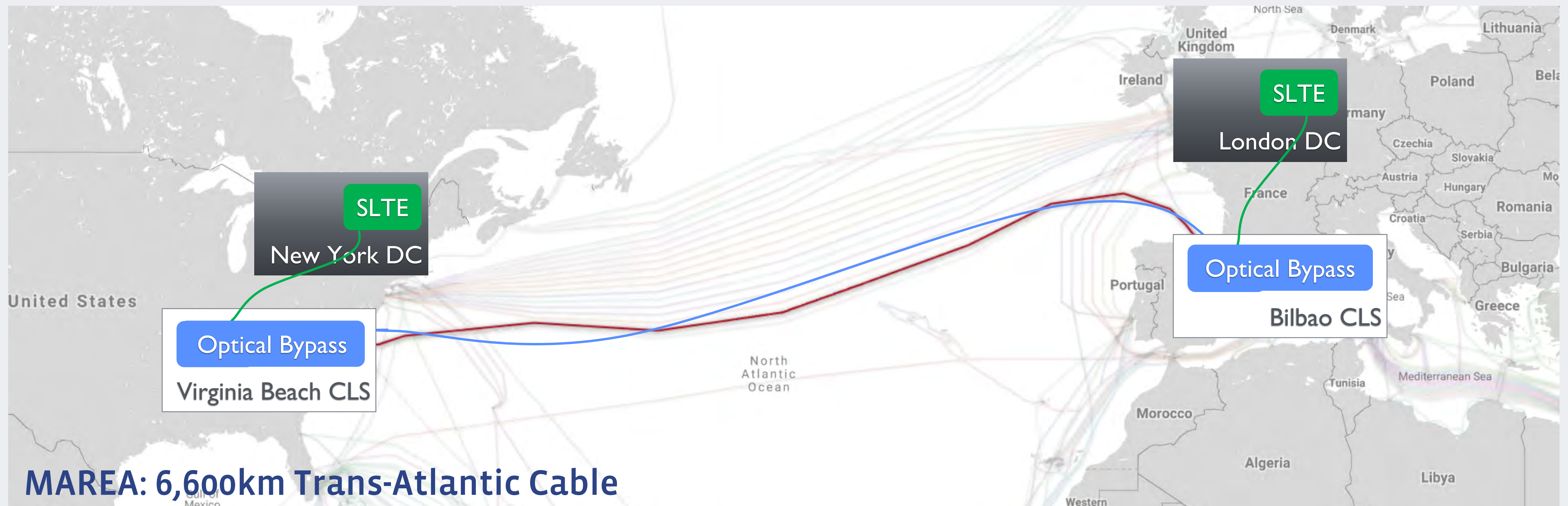
Subsea cables land on the coast! (Near the sea...)



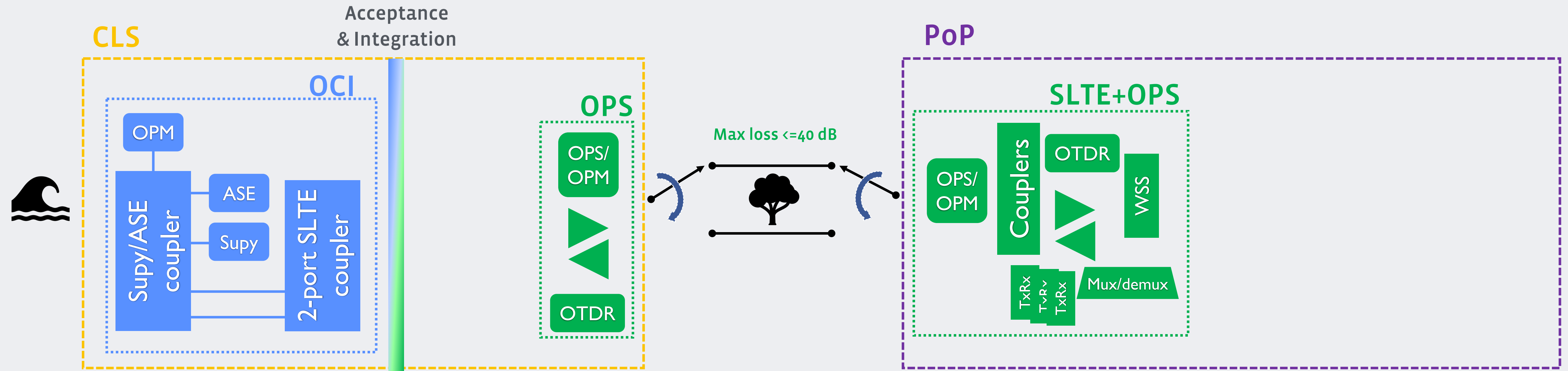
# CLS vs PoP and Why we Extend

Subsea cables land on the coast! (Near the sea...)

- **BUT** that's not (usually) where the people are...and big data centers and fast internet want to be close to the densest populations of people!



# Use Case 2: CLS to PoP, single span, prot. SW



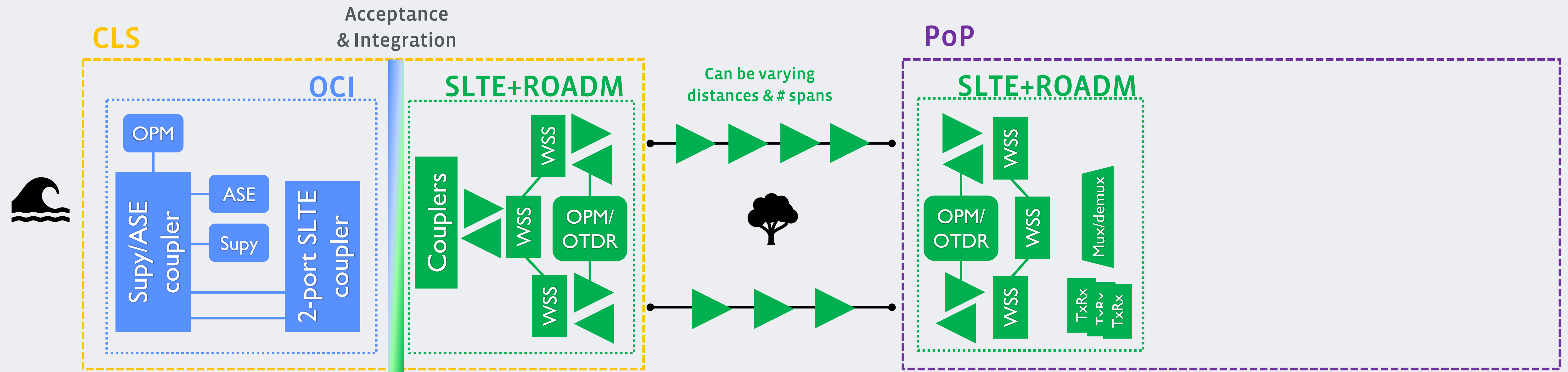
- Wet Vendor OCI:
  - ASE, Supervisory & OPM functions
  - Line amp replaced by SLTE amps
- Dry Vendor OPS:
  - OPS / coupler & line amp(s), OPM, OTDR

- Dry Vendor OPS + SLTE:
  - Converged solution
  - OPS / coupler & line amp(s), OPM, OTDR
  - Gain ctrl line amp(s), WSS, mux/demux, coupler(s)

Case	Use Case Description	Equipment at CLS	Equipment at PoP	Integration Point	Acceptance
2	<b>CLS to PoP, single span, protection switch</b>	Wet Vendor OCI Dry Vendor OPS	Dry Vendor OPS + SLTE	Wet Vendor OCI in CLS	Acceptance is at CLS



# Use Case 3: CLS to PoP, multi-span, restoration

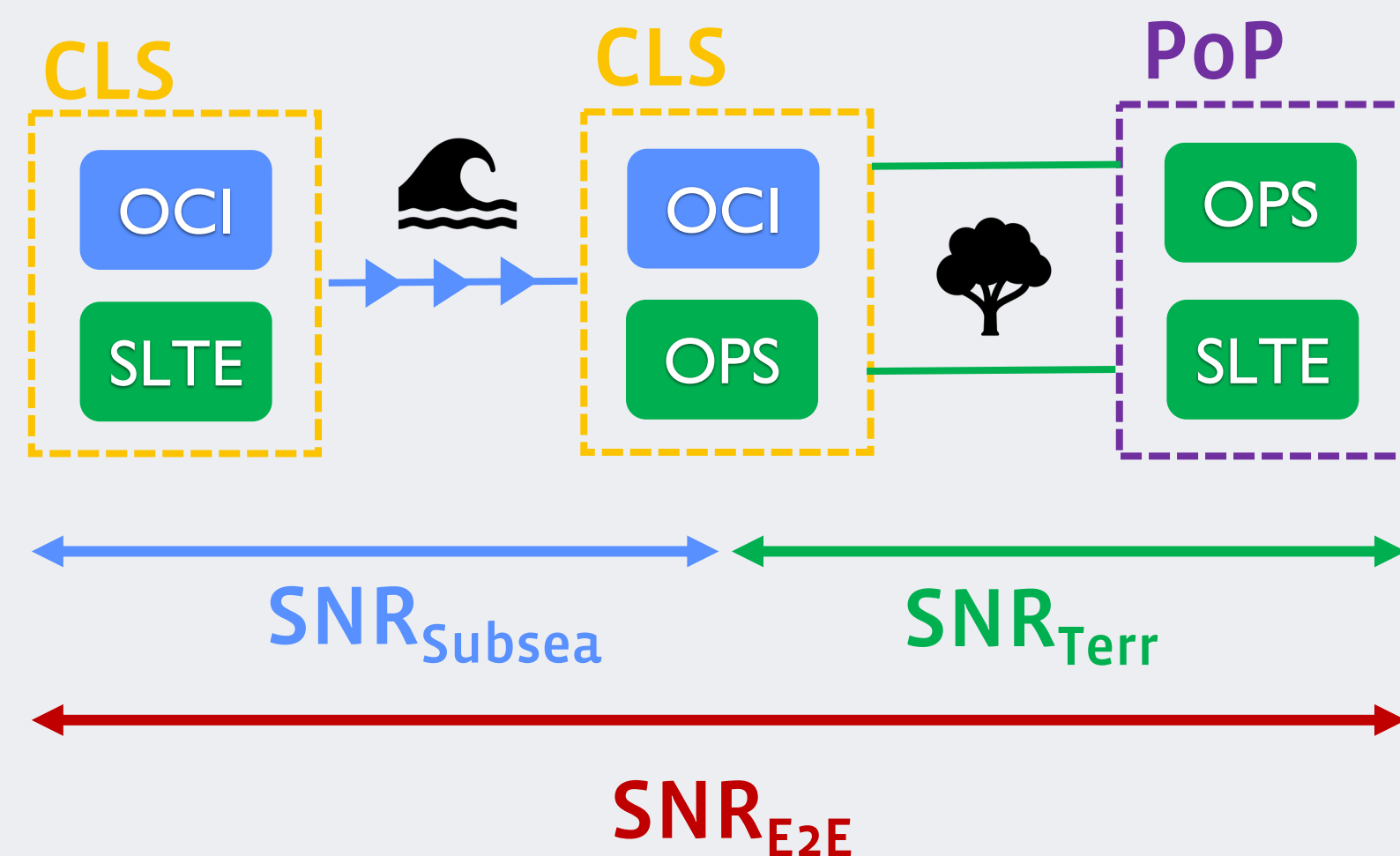


- Wet Vendor OCI:
  - ASE, Supervisory & OPM functions
  - Line amp replaced by SLTE amps
- Dry Vendor SLTE+ROADM:
  - Couplers, Gain ctrl line amp(s), multi-degree WSS', OPM/OTDR
- Dry Vendor SLTE + ROADM:
  - Gain ctrl line amp(s), multi-degree WSS', OPM/OTDR
  - Mux/demux

Case	Use Case Description	Equipment at CLS	Equipment at PoP	Integration Point	Acceptance
3	<b>CLS to PoP, multi-span, protection switch</b>	Wet Vendor OCI Dry Vendor SLTE + ROADM	Dry Vendor SLTE + ROADM	Wet Vendor OCI in CLS	Acceptance is at CLS

# End-to-End Design Considerations

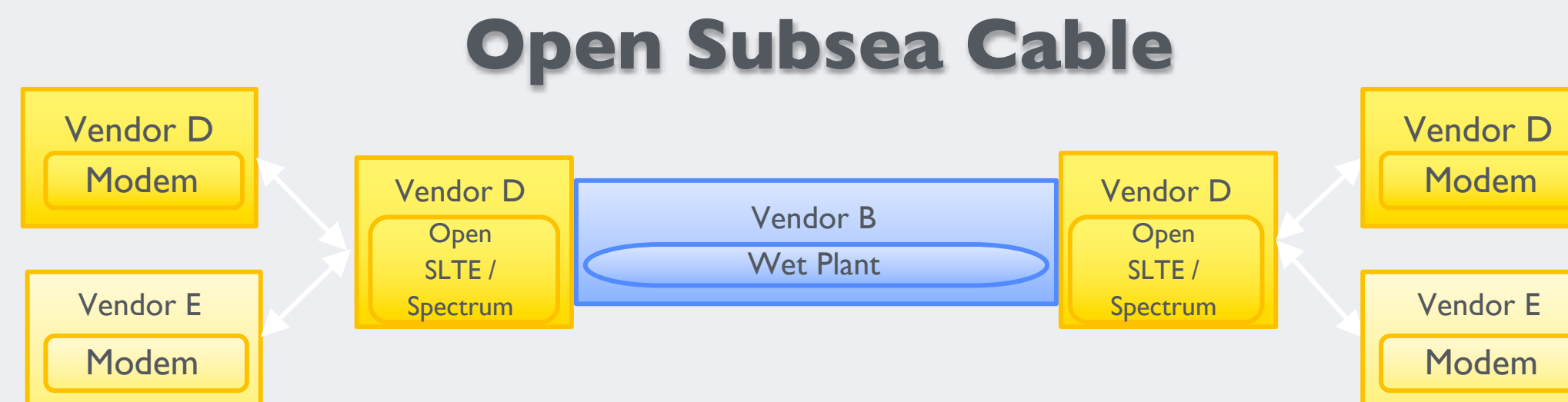
- We must be very careful when concatenating Subsea & Terrestrial links not to hurt the Subsea OSNR (it was expensive!)
- Recall that OSNRs are additive (1/SNR summation)
  - The higher the SNR of your subsea link, the larger the penalty it will take from a low SNR (high loss) terrestrial link.



$$\frac{1}{SNR_{E2E}} = \frac{1}{SNR_{Subsea}} + \frac{1}{SNR_{Terr}}$$

# The *Benefits* of Open Cables

- Open Cables enable independent vendor selection for wet and dry technology, allowing **best of breed** utilization on two very critical pieces of a subsea cable
- Since SLTE technology cycles are typically faster than a Submarine cable build, and there are multiple DSP vendors with multiple chip generations, all with staggered availability over time, Open Cables also allow for **maximization of cable capacity at the time of cable RFS** (maximizing value)
- Open Cables allow the use of preferred SLTE vendors, which can be essential operationally when considering a **global subsea & terrestrial mesh network**



# The *Challenges* of Open Cables

- Comparing different wetplant designs by the traditional turnkey method, with each vendor proposing their own unique SLTE capacity can be highly misleading (and therefore costly!)
  - But how to compare different Open Cable wetplant designs and assess their performance?
- Industry standard wetplant **performance metrics** are needed that are SLTE-independent
  - OSNR and GSNR have been proposed. Higher OSNR generally equals higher capacity...as does higher GSNR
  - But neither tells the full story in isolation!!
- Ongoing monitoring of wetplant performance over the system lifetime must have continuity and meaning regardless of SLTE technology used
  - Upgrades that rip & replace press the reset button on Q-based performance tracking

# Overcoming the *Challenges* and Reaping the *Benefits*

Open is being done today! On many cables...How?

- OSNR and GSNR, when **carefully** considered together, can:
  - Give a clear picture of the optical performance of a D+ subsea system
  - Offer a fair means of comparison between different wetplant designs
  - Enable 3<sup>rd</sup> party SLTE capacity estimation
  - Enable ongoing performance monitoring that is SLTE independent
- But, we **must** have consistency and industry agreed definitions and methodologies for measuring them (HINT: this was the goal of the SubOptic Working Group!)

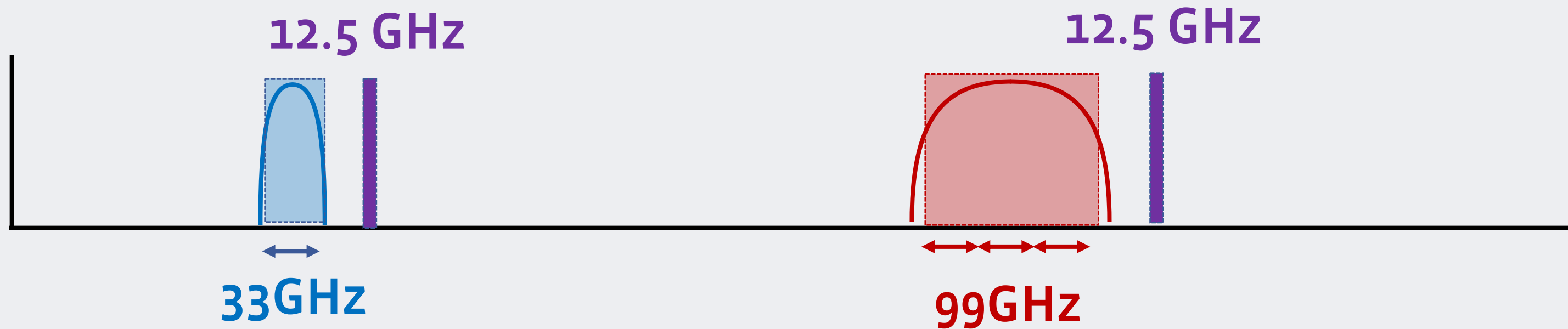
# OSNR & GSNR

# OSNR vs SNR

*Definitions:*

$$OSNR = P_{sig, \Delta f} / N_{12.5GHz}$$

$$SNR = P_{sig, \Delta f} / N_{\Delta f}$$



$$OSNR_{33Gbd} = P_{sig, 33GHz} / N_{12.5GHz}$$

$$OSNR_{99Gbd} = P_{sig, 99GHz} / N_{12.5GHz}$$

$$OSNR_{33Gbd} \neq OSNR_{99Gbd}$$

$$SNR_{33Gbd} = P_{sig, 33GHz} / N_{33GHz}$$

$$SNR_{99Gbd} = P_{sig, 99GHz} / N_{99GHz}$$

$$SNR_{33Gbd} = SNR_{99Gbd}$$


OSNR without context is not meaningful! We must know the conditions for it to be relevant.

As baud rates in the industry change, using SNR becomes critical to make meaningful comparisons.

# Defining GSNR

- The validity of GSNR is predicated on the assumption that in D+ cables, linear (ASE) and nonlinear (NLI) noise look the same (both are Gaussian)

$$\frac{1}{GSNR} = \frac{1}{SNR_{ASE}} + \frac{1}{SNR_{NLI}}$$

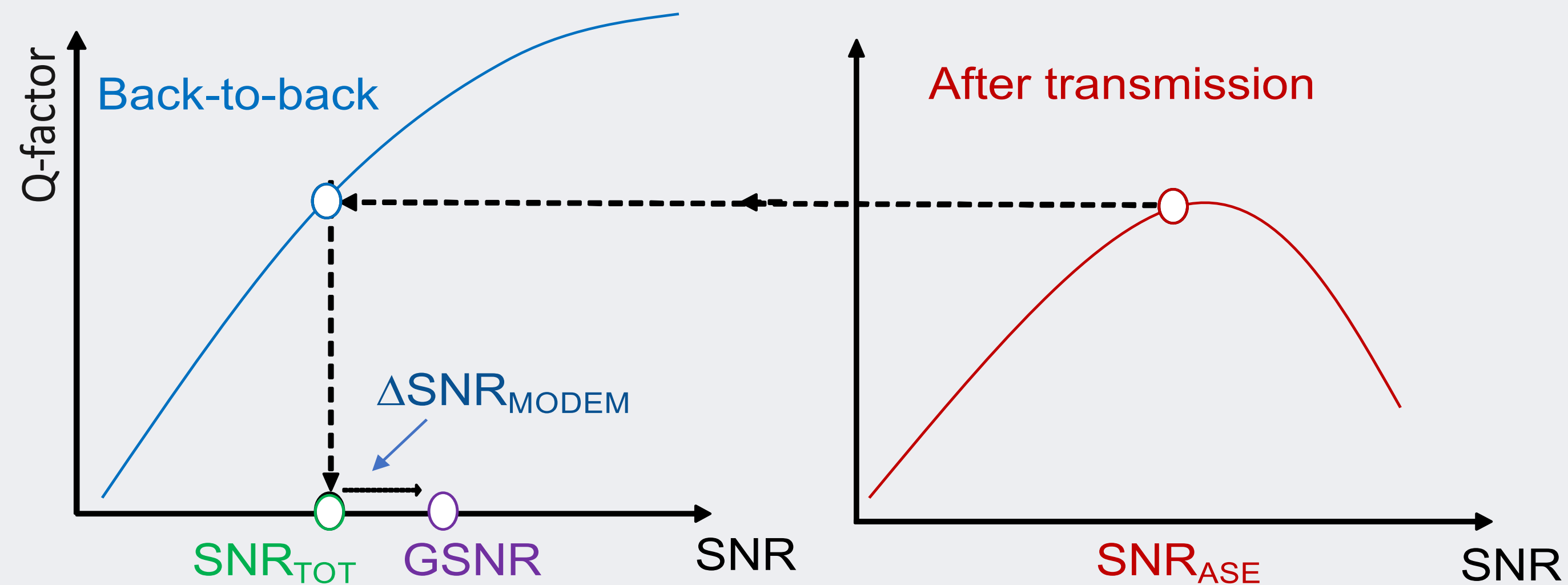
 **SNR<sub>ASE</sub> - GSNR (in dB)**

- SNR<sub>ASE</sub> is a direct measurement via an OSA of the linear noise only (OSNR)
- GSNR typically must be derived via a Q measurement from a (typically) QPSK transponder, which incorporates both linear and nonlinear noise
  - BUT also includes some modem impairments...more on this next...
- The delta between SNR<sub>ASE</sub> and GSNR is the best indicator of degree of nonlinearity of the open cable



# How to Measure GSNR

GSNR is derived via a Q measurement from a (typically QPSK) modem, which incorporates both linear and nonlinear noise, as well as noise introduced by the modem during propagation



$$\frac{1}{SNR_{TOT}} = \frac{1}{SNR_{ASE}} + \frac{1}{SNR_{NLI}} + \frac{1}{SNR_{MODEM}}$$

# Modem Implementation

- Total System SNR

- $$\frac{1}{SNR_{TOT}} = \frac{1}{GSNR} + \frac{1}{SNR_{MODEM}}$$

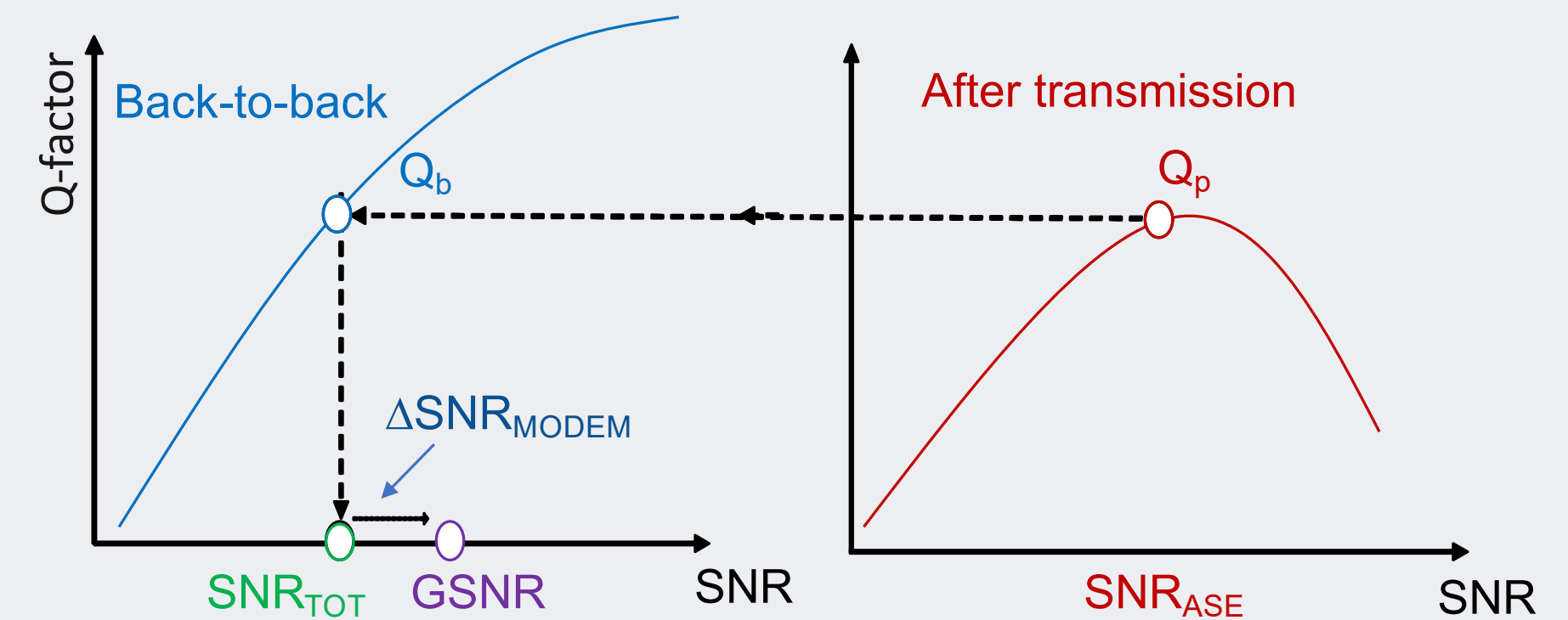
- Modem Implementation

- $$\frac{1}{SNR_{MODEM}} = \frac{1}{SNR_m} + \sum_{i=0}^4 \frac{1}{SNR_i}$$

- $SNR_i$  : PDL, CDC, Laser linewidth, and Wavelength tolerance

- Typically between 23-35 dB (SNR) each

- \*Monte-Carlo of  $\sum_{i=0}^4 1/SNR_i$

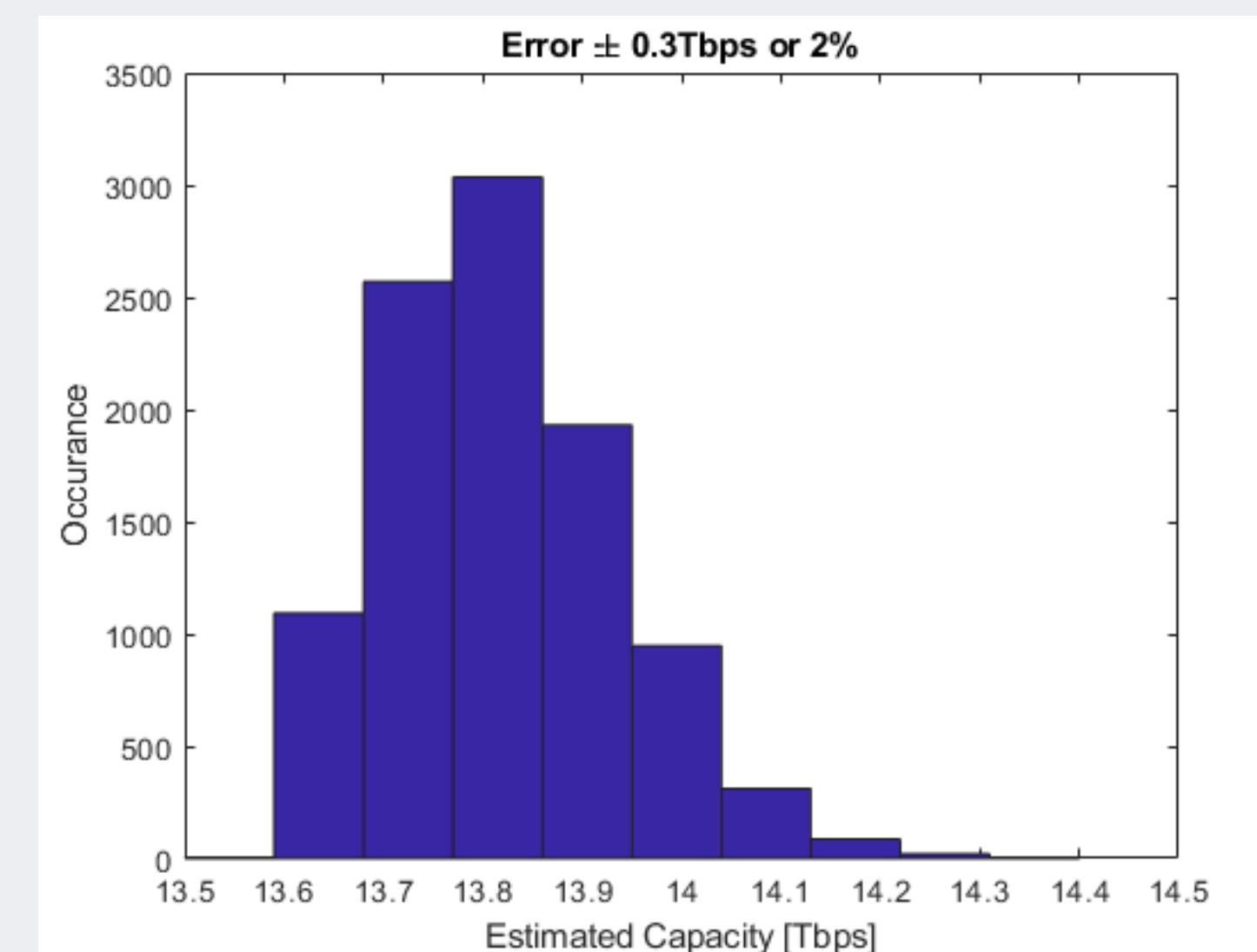
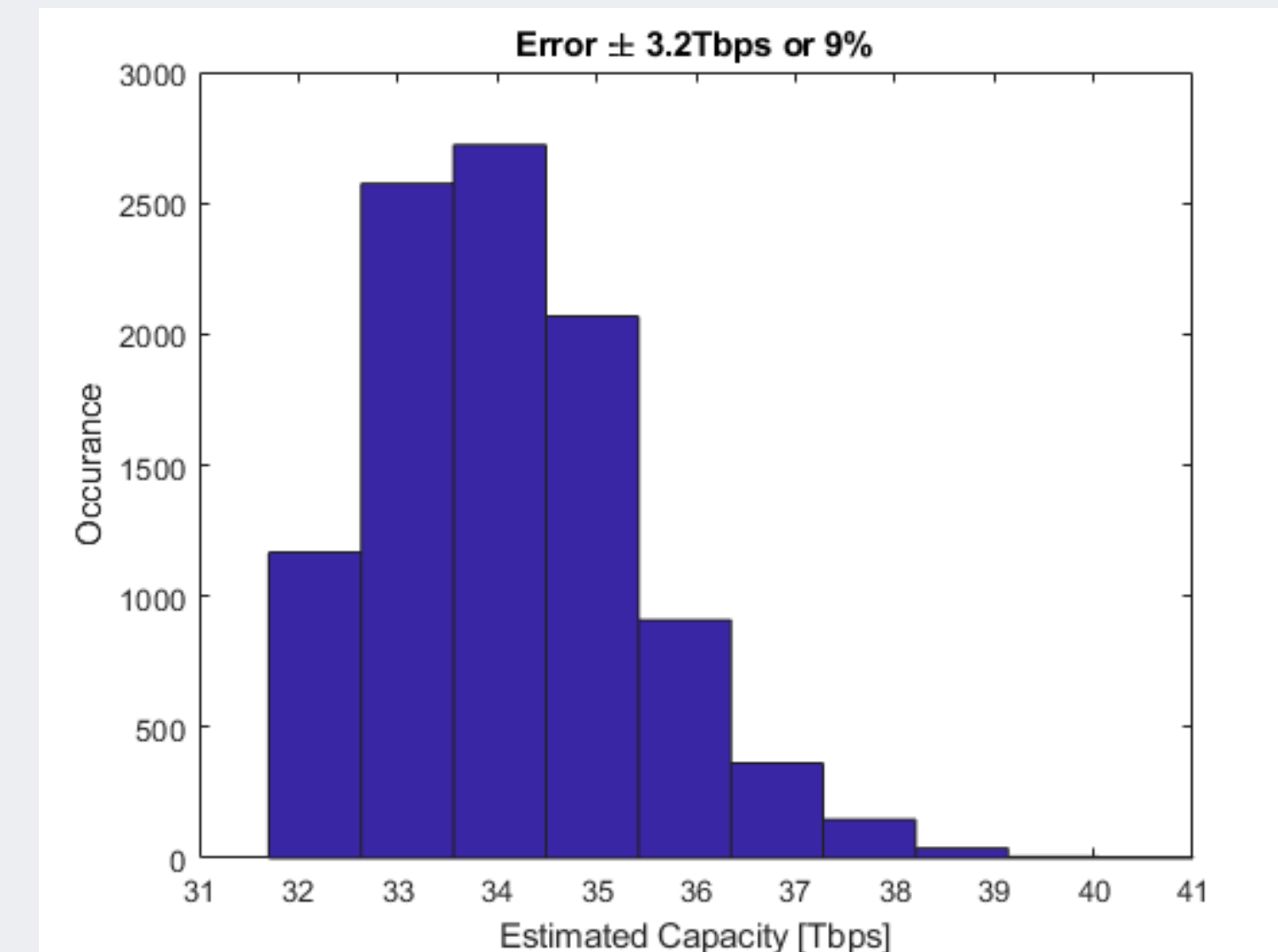


\*See Monte Carlo simulation of impact of variable modem implementation penalties on GSNR in SubOptic Open Cables Working Group paper

# Impact of Errors

- High OSNR and High TOP
  - $\text{SNR}_{\text{ASE}} = 18 \text{ dB}$  and  $\text{SNR}_{\text{NLI}} = 20 \text{ dB}$
  - Capacity estimation error between similar modems  $\sim 9\%$
- Low OSNR, SDM Design
  - $\text{SNR}_{\text{ASE}} = 8 \text{ dB}$  and  $\text{SNR}_{\text{NLI}} = 15 \text{ dB}$
  - Capacity estimation error between similar modems  $\sim 2\%$
  - System dominated by linear noise so “typical” modem implementations impact are negligible

\*See Monte Carlo simulation of impact of variable modem implementation penalties on GSNR in SubOptic Open Cables Working Group paper



# Commissioning & Acceptance

# Key Parameter Table

- A key parameter table is used during the design phase of a subsea cable to specify the most important contributors to the system performance, along with the commissioning parameters
- Information about the line design, the type of fiber used, and specifications of the repeaters are essential
- Usually commissioning parameters are specified as “average” with a set of boundary conditions, as it’s very difficult to know the exact frequency dependencies that will exist until the cable is built!

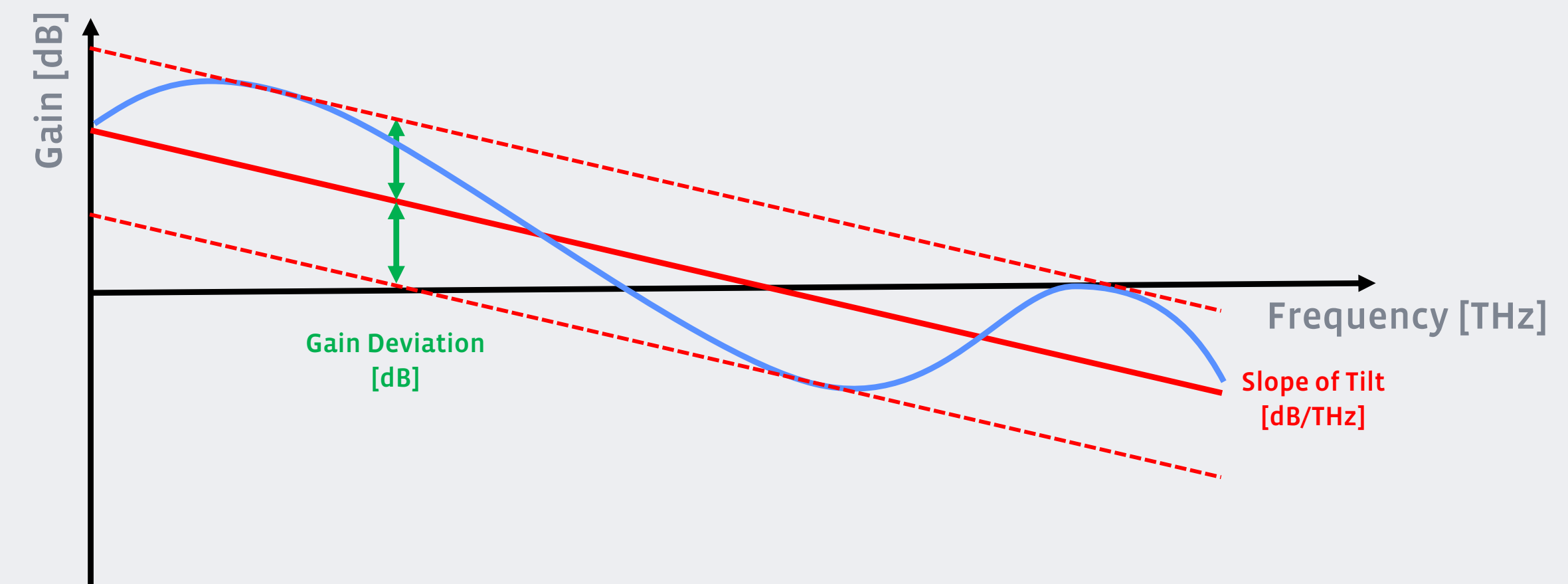
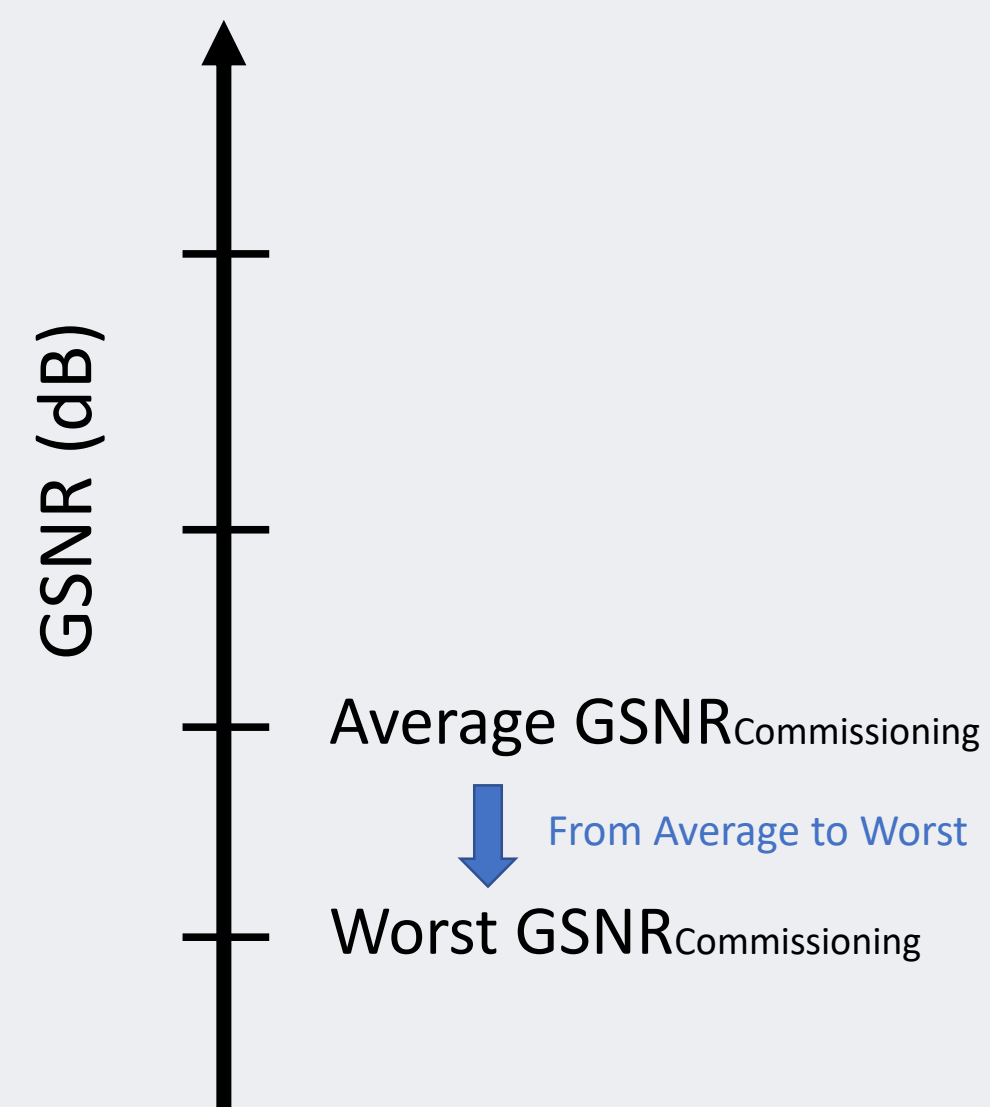
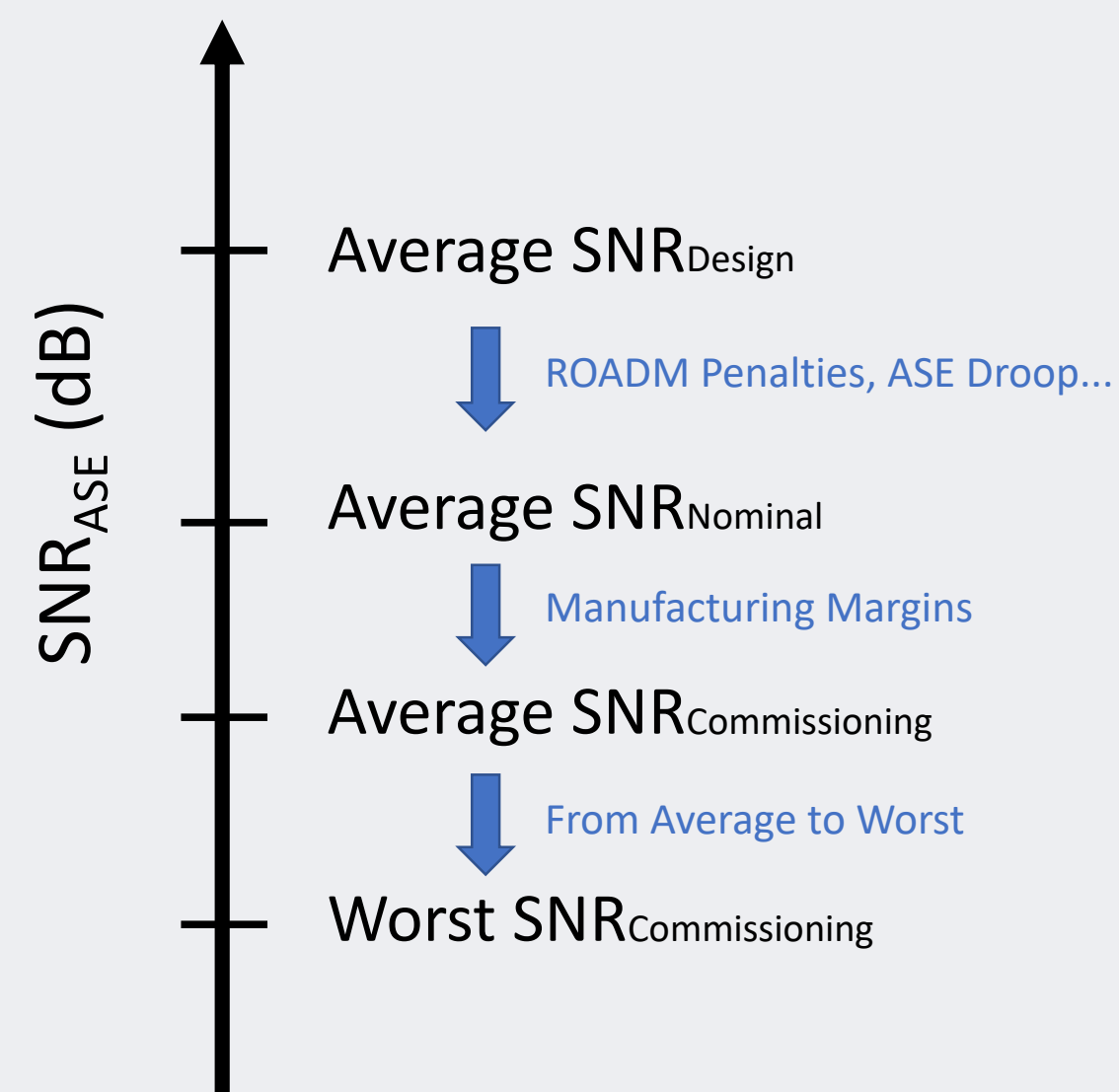
\*KPT as proposed in SubOptic Open Cables Working Group paper

DLS	Site A to Site B	
	Z	
Fiber Pair Number	BOL	EOL
<b>Commissioning Parameters</b>		
SNR <sub>ASE</sub> [dB] (Average & WC, under X conditions)		
GSNR [dB] (Average & WC, under X conditions)		
Slope of Tilt [dB/THz] (under Flat Tx conditions)		
Max Gain Deviation [dB] (under Flat Tx conditions)		
<b>System Specification</b>		
System Length [km]		
Nominal Span Length [km]		
Span Loss [dB]		
Accumulated Dispersion [ps/nm]		
Mean PMD [ps/√km]		
Mean PDL [dB]		
Number of Repeaters		
<b>Repeater Specification</b>		
Repeater TOP [dBm]		
Repeater Noise Figure [dB]		
Repeater Gain [dB]		
Data Passband [GHz]		
<b>Fiber Specification</b>		
Fiber Effective Area [μm <sup>2</sup> ]		
Fiber Dispersion @ 1550nm [ps/nm/km]		
Fiber Loss (Cabled) [dB/km]		
Fiber Dispersion Slope @ 1550nm [ps/nm <sup>2</sup> /km]		
Fiber Nonlinear Index [m <sup>2</sup> /W]		
<b>Repair &amp; Aging Assumptions (BOL to EOL)</b>		
Total SNR <sub>ASE</sub> penalty for Repairs & Aging [dB]		

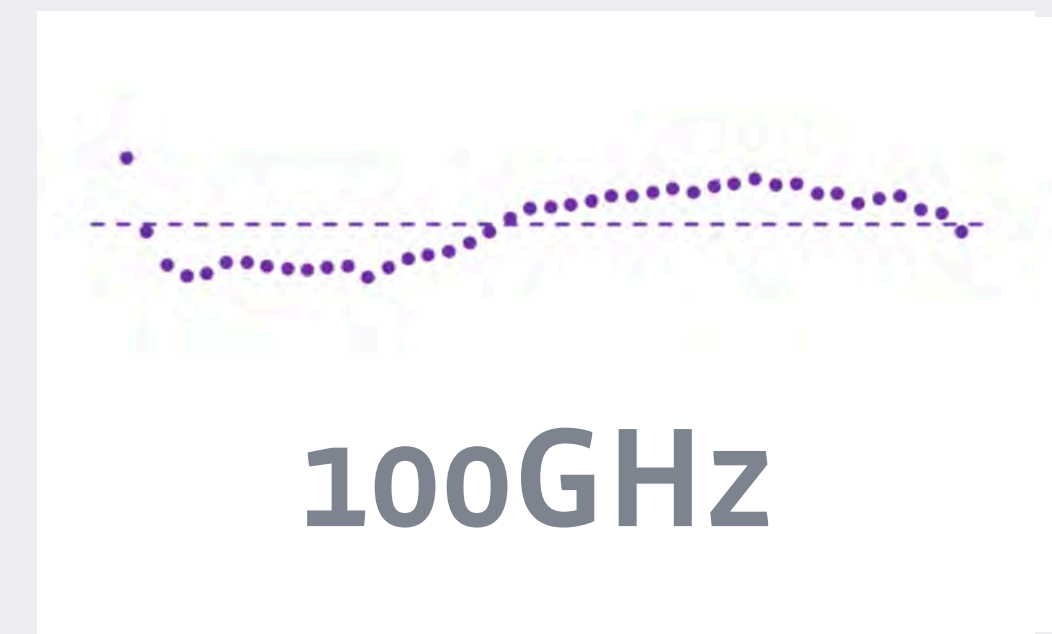
# Commissioning Parameters

A typical set of Commissioning Parameters may include:

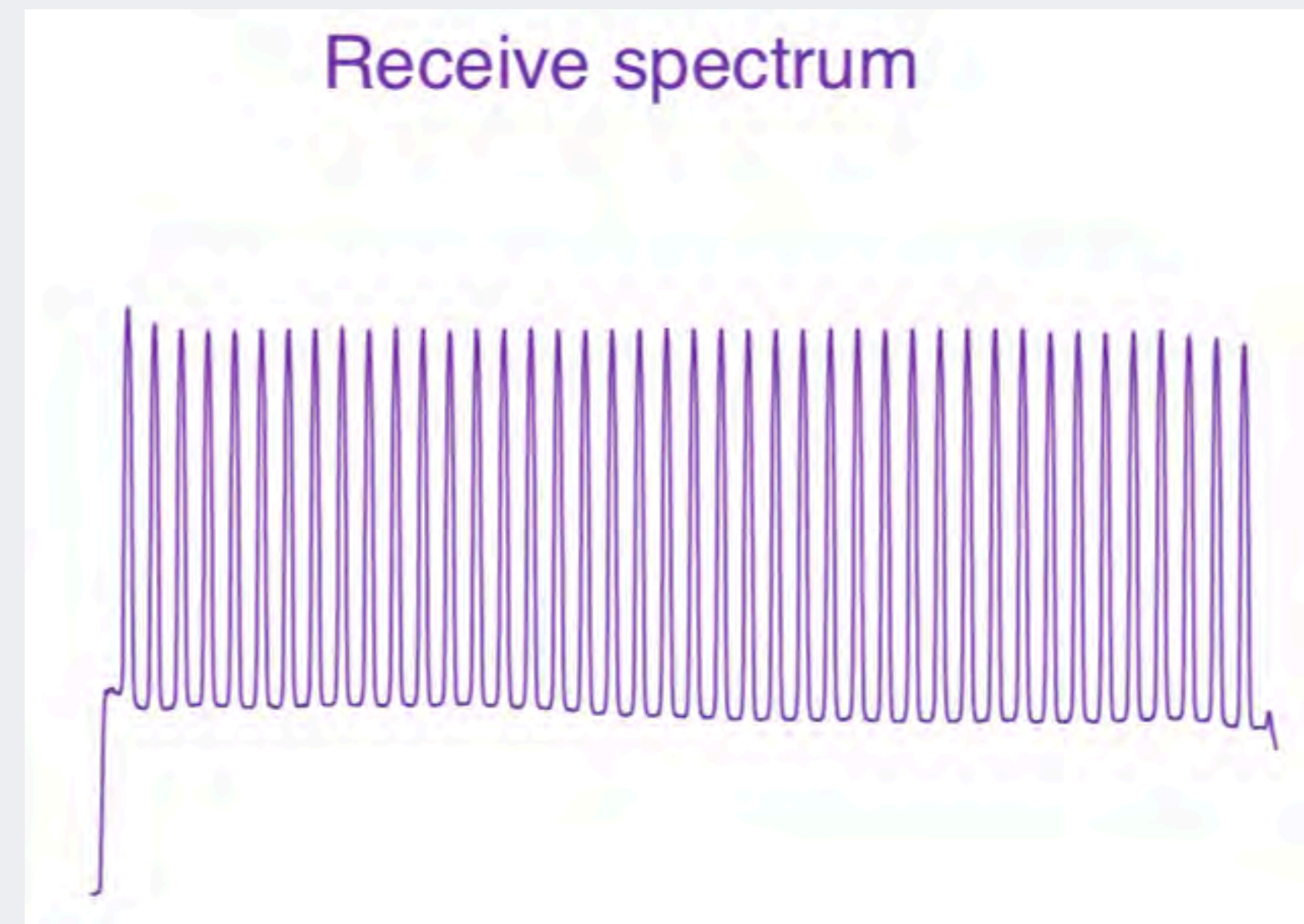
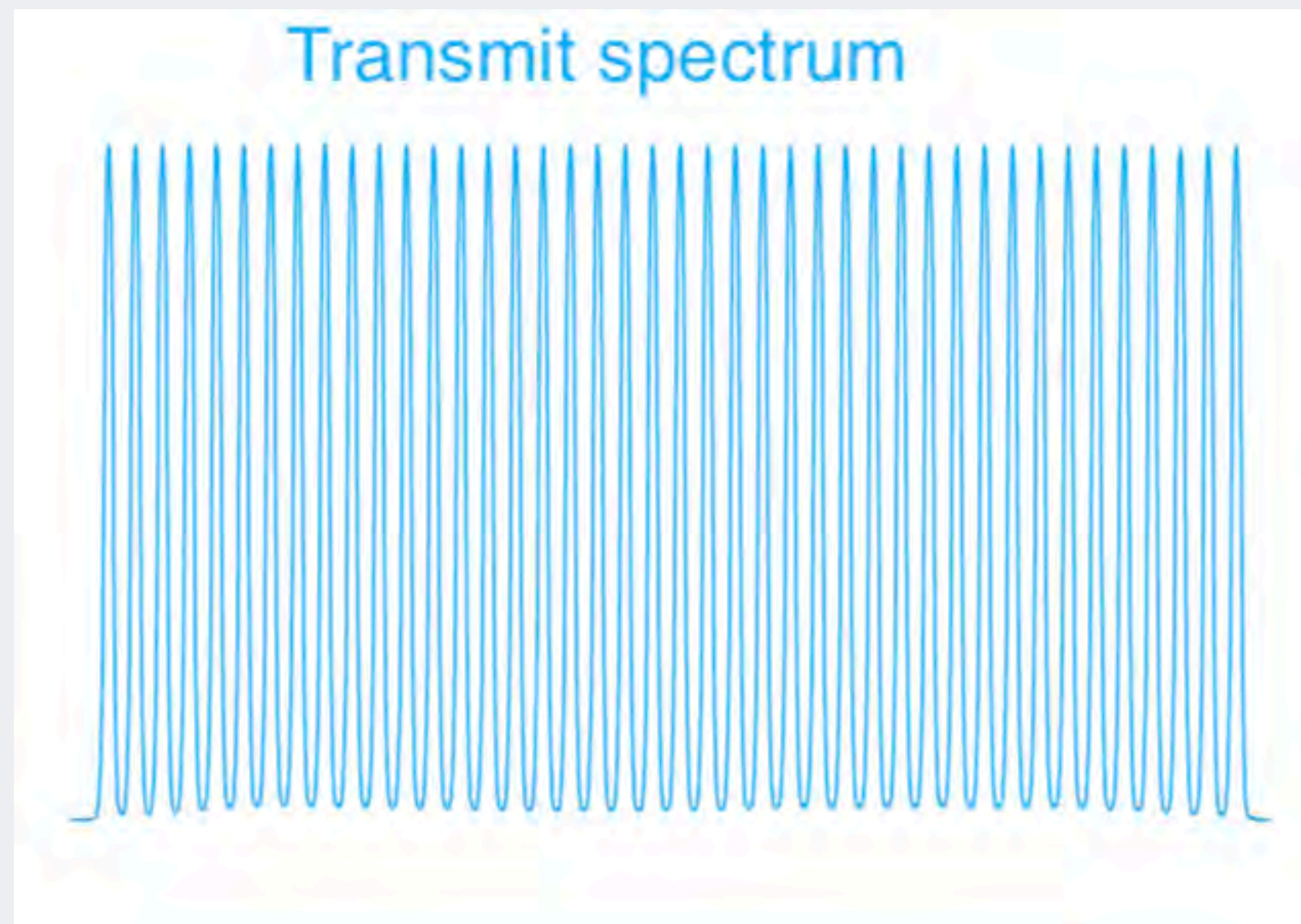
1. Commissioning OSNR (average & worst case under X conditions)
2. Commissioning GSNR (average & worst case, under X conditions)
3. Slope of Tilt [dB/THz] & Gain Deviation [dB]



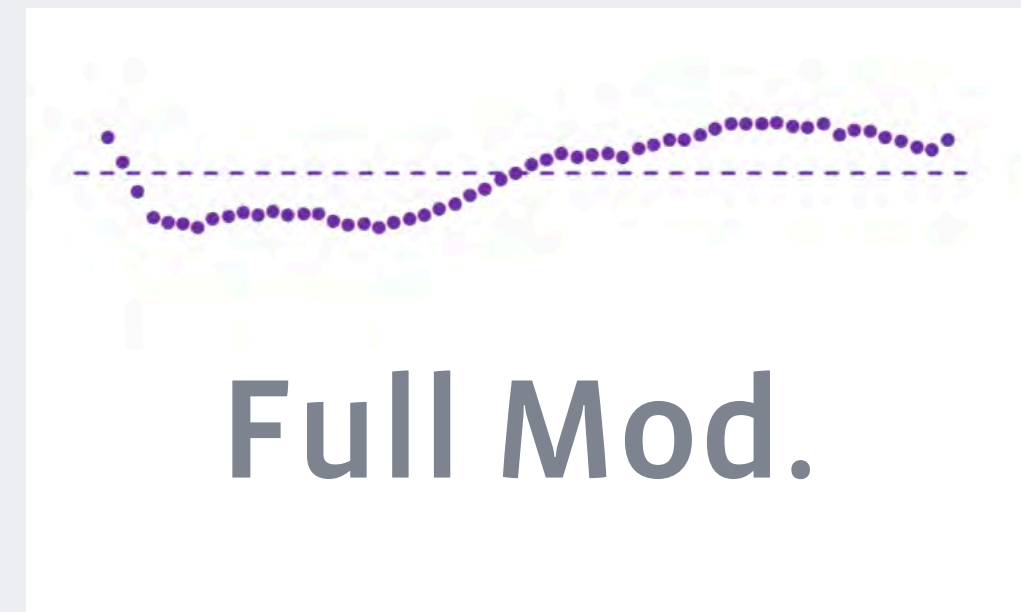
# Measuring OSNR – ASE Comb Method



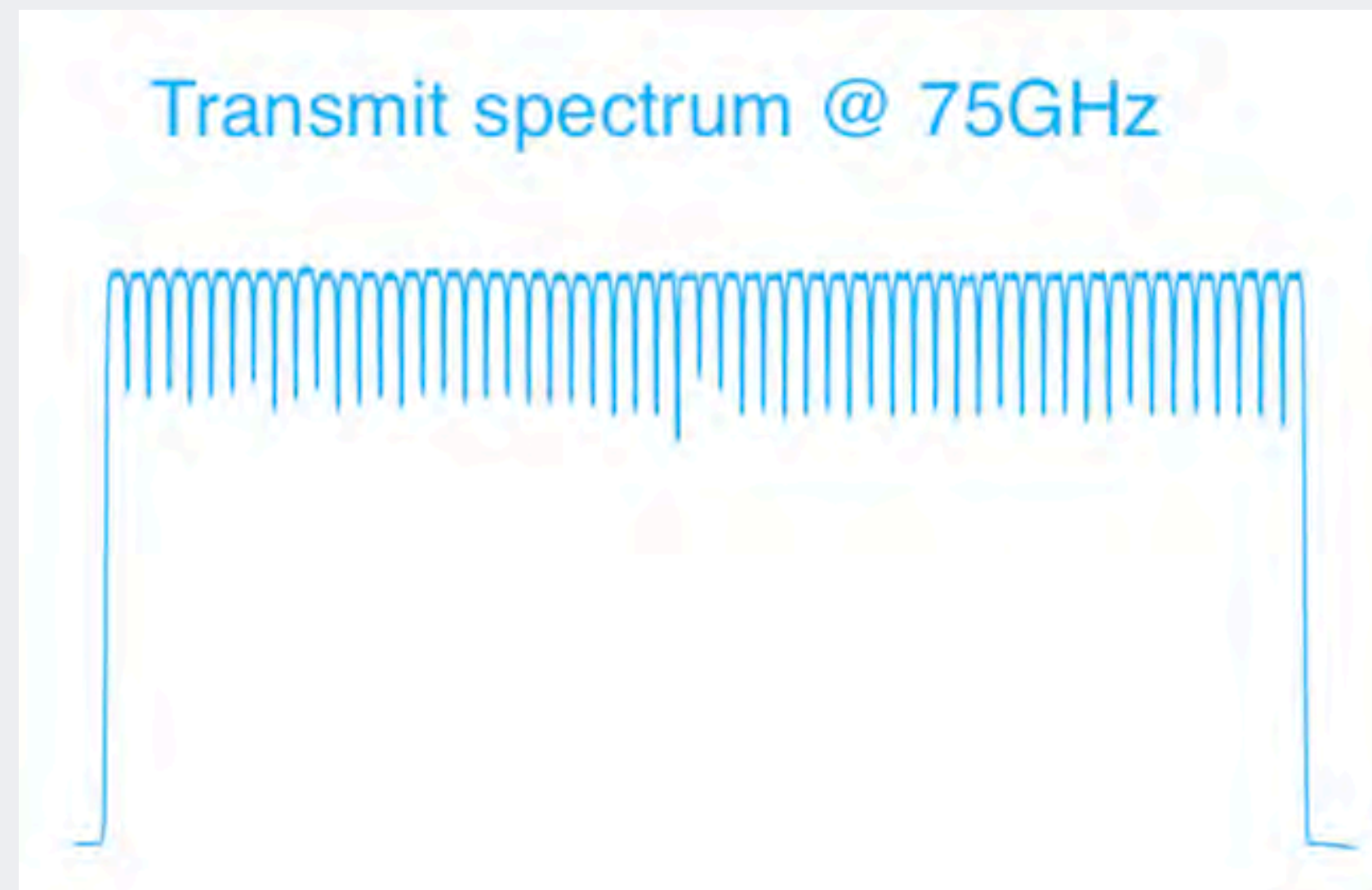
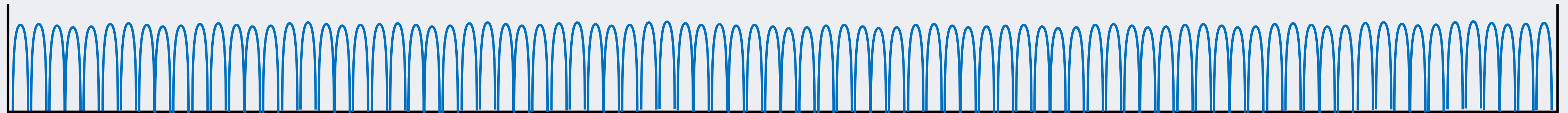
ASE Comb, 100GHz



# Measuring OSNR – Channel Plucking



Full spectrum of (mostly bulk) modulated channels



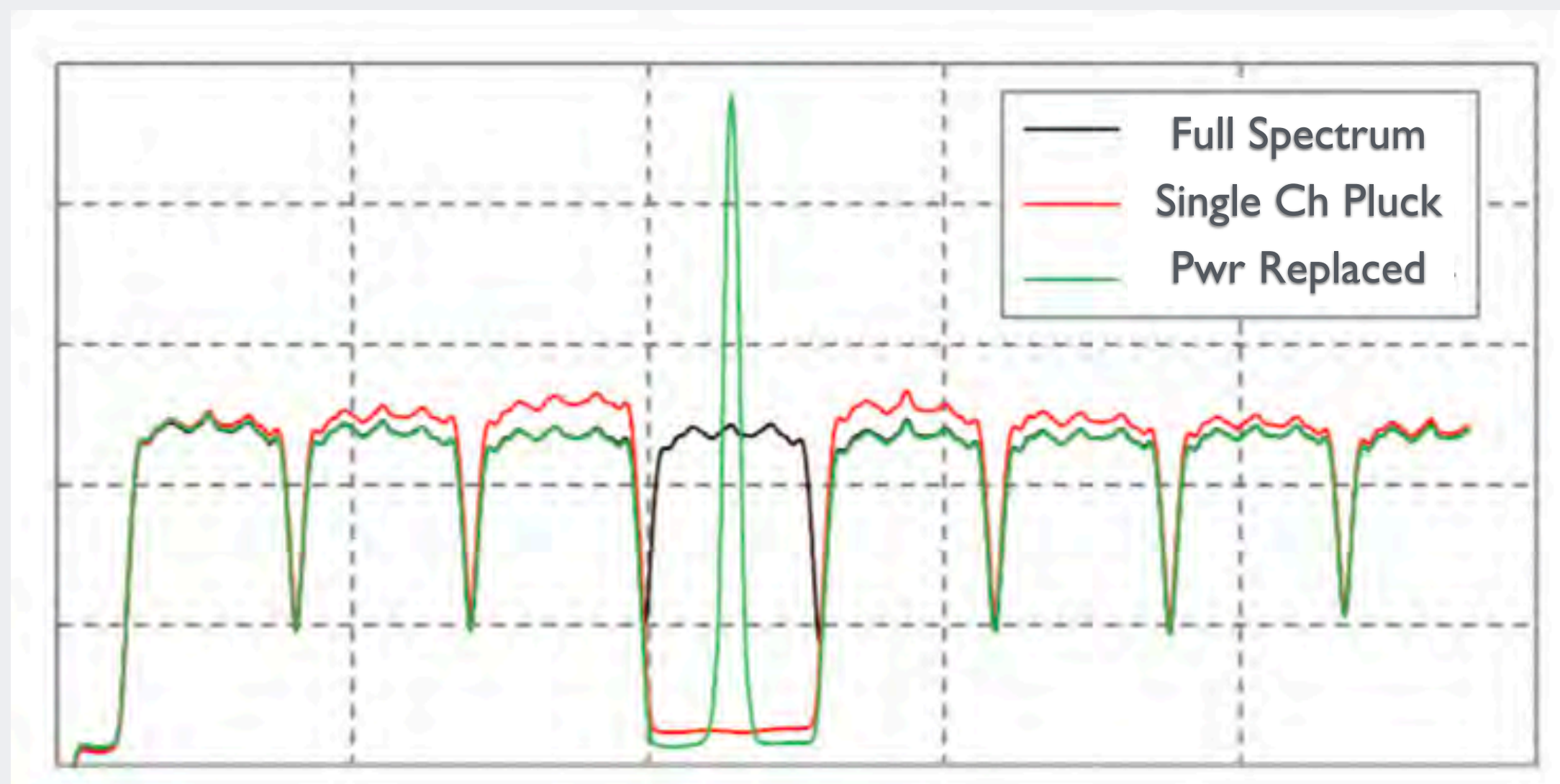
\*Slope of tilt & gain deviation profile are also calculated from these Tx / Rx power profiles



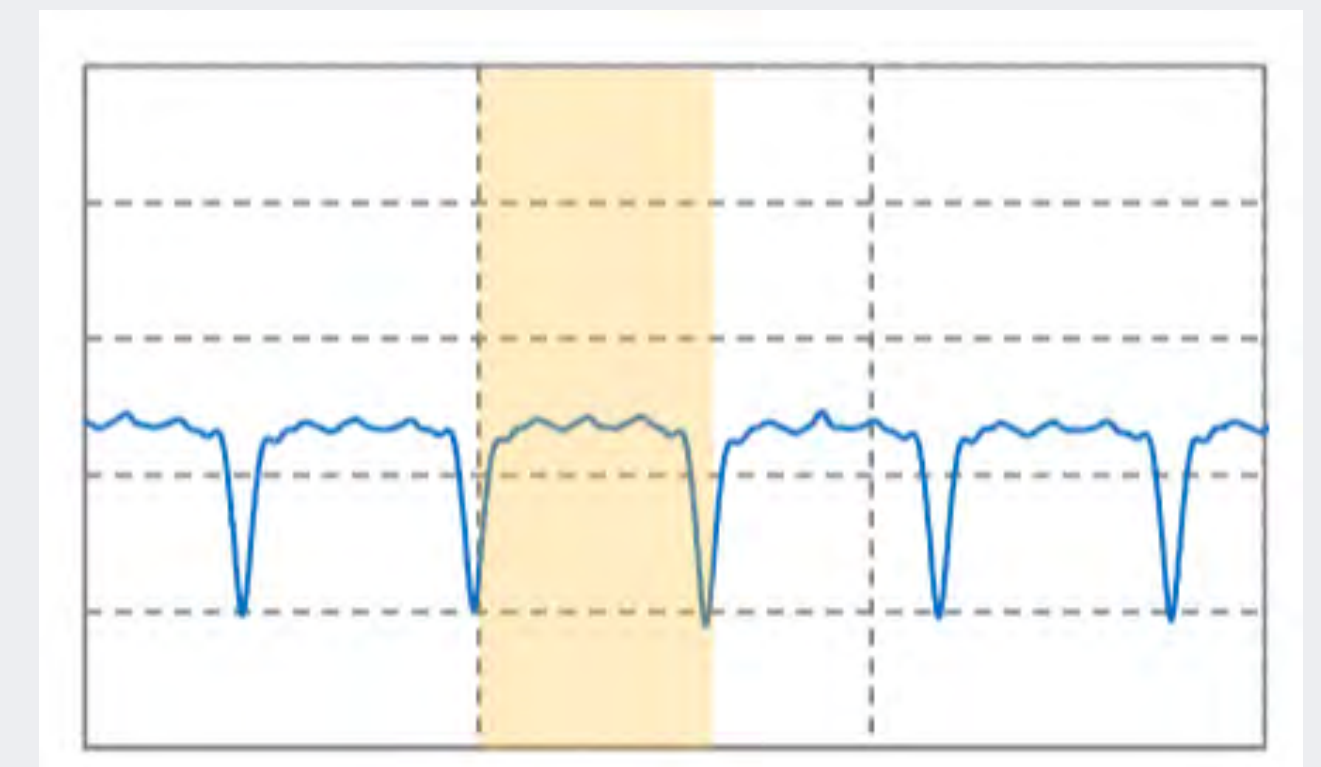
# Measuring OSNR – Channel Plucking

However, channel plucking can cause small localized gain distortions from SHB, and must be considered for an accurate measurement

## Impact of Channel Plucking:



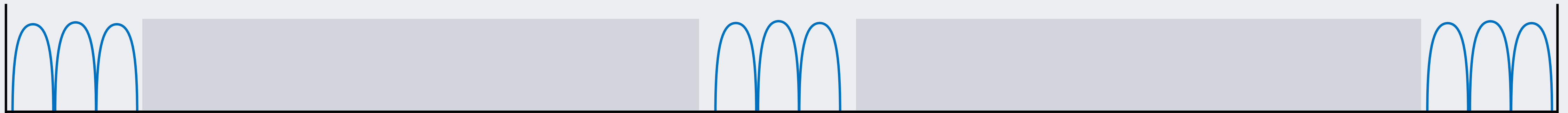
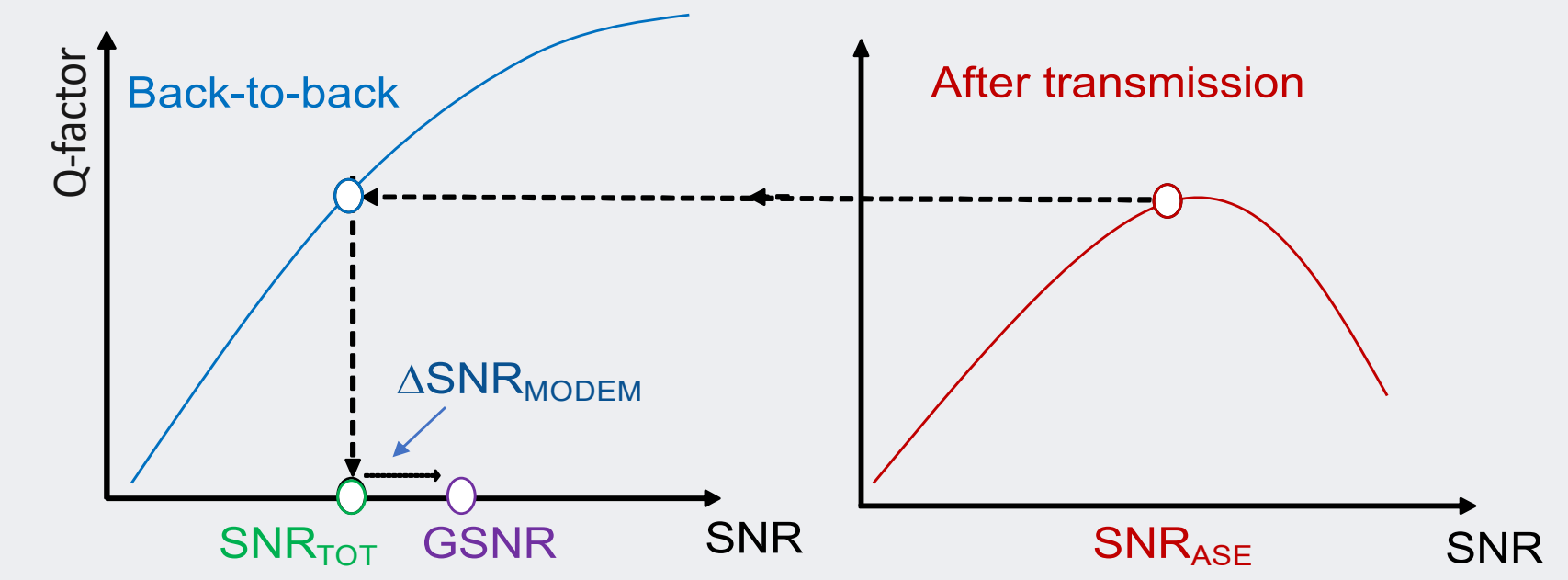
## Signal Pwr Measurement



## Noise Pwr Measurement



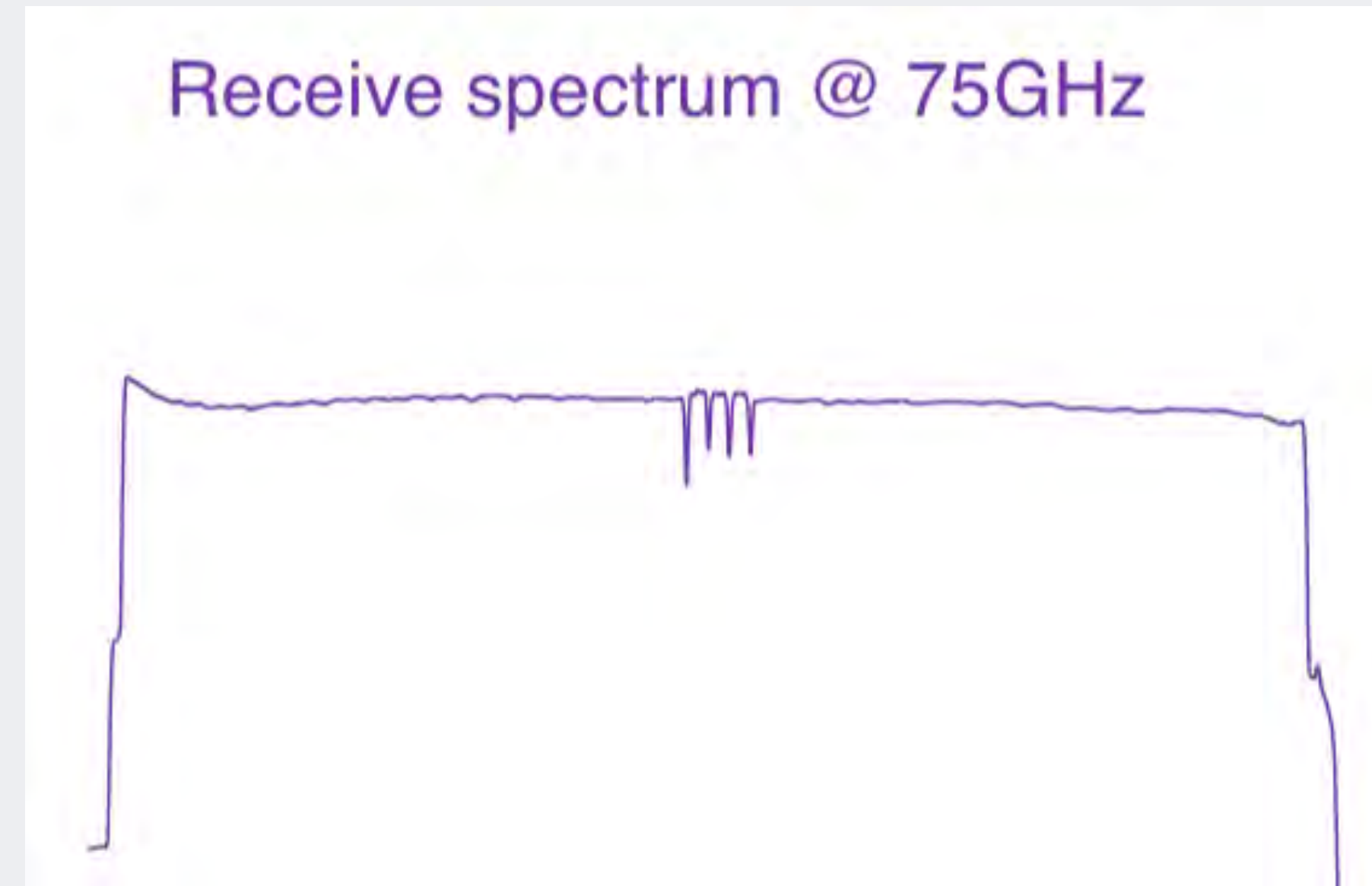
# Measuring GOSNR



Transmit spectrum @ 75GHz

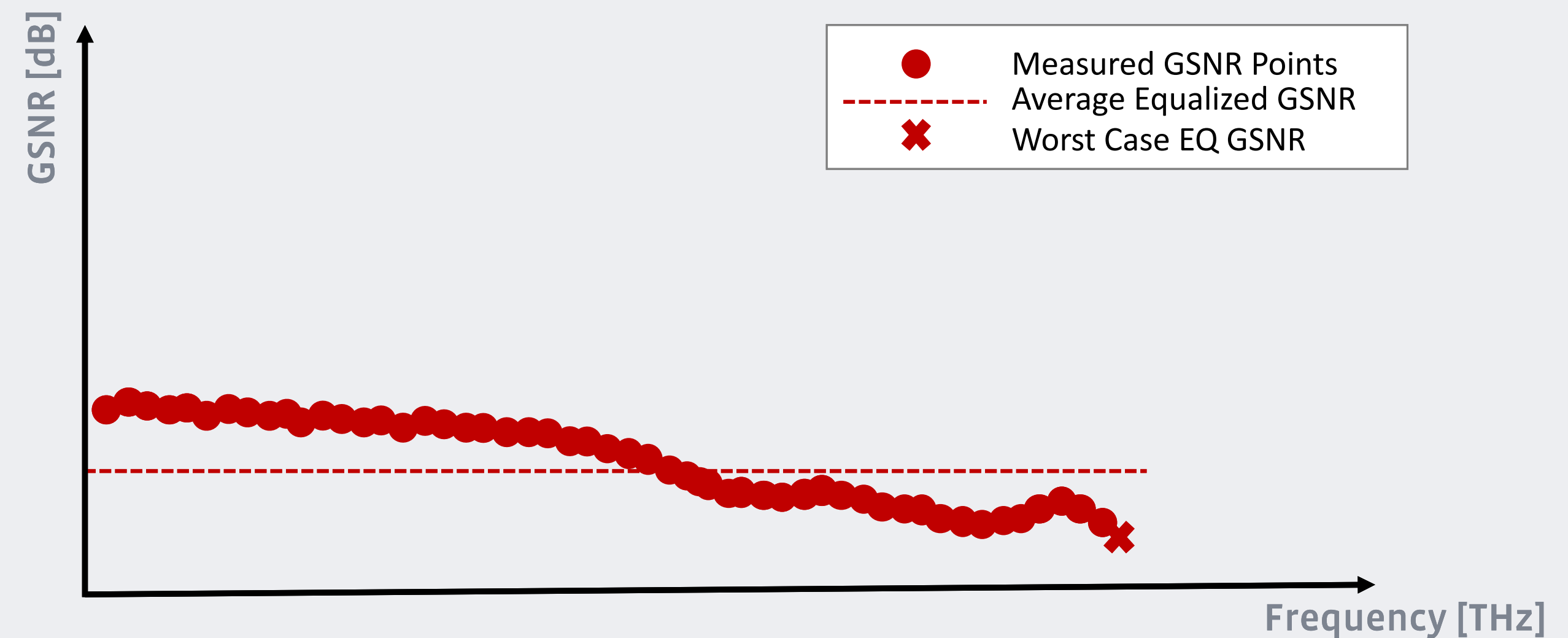
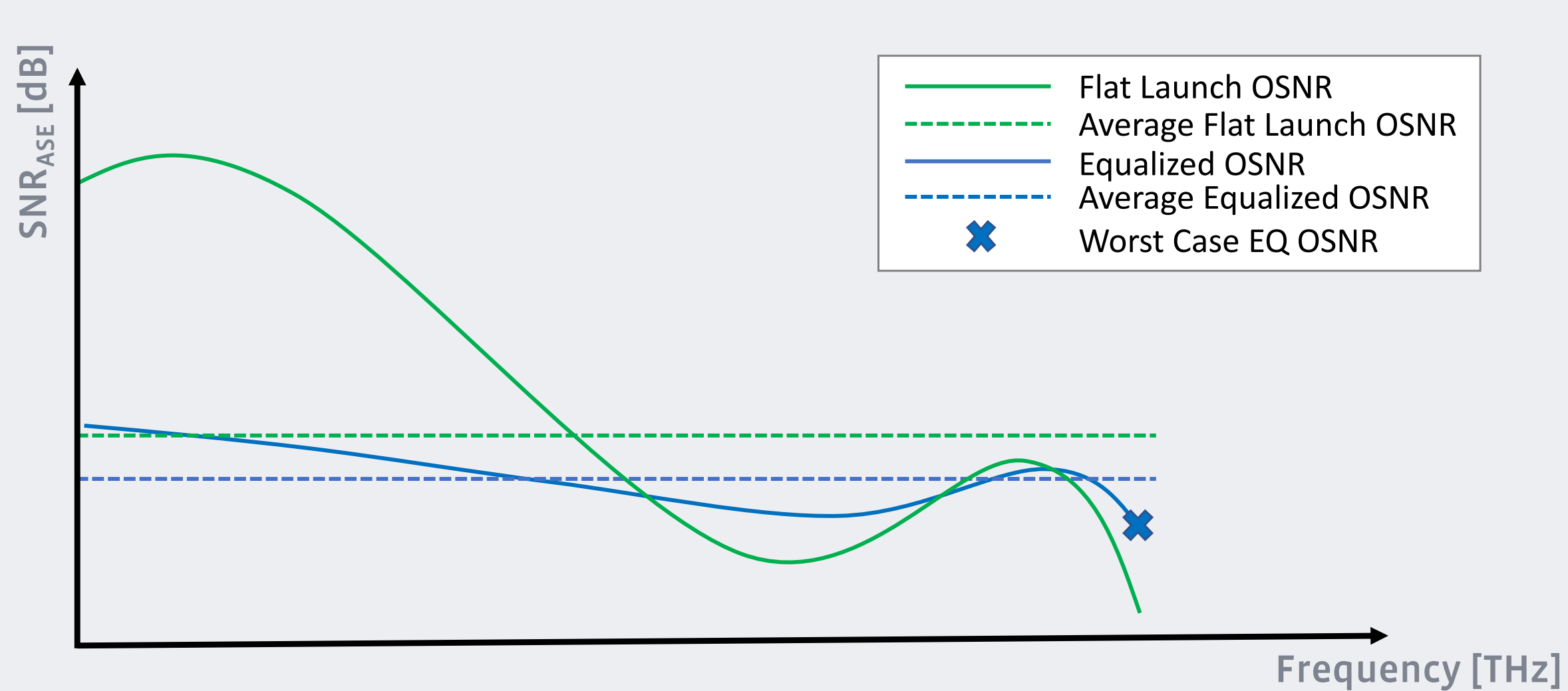


Receive spectrum @ 75GHz



# Commissioning Data Collected

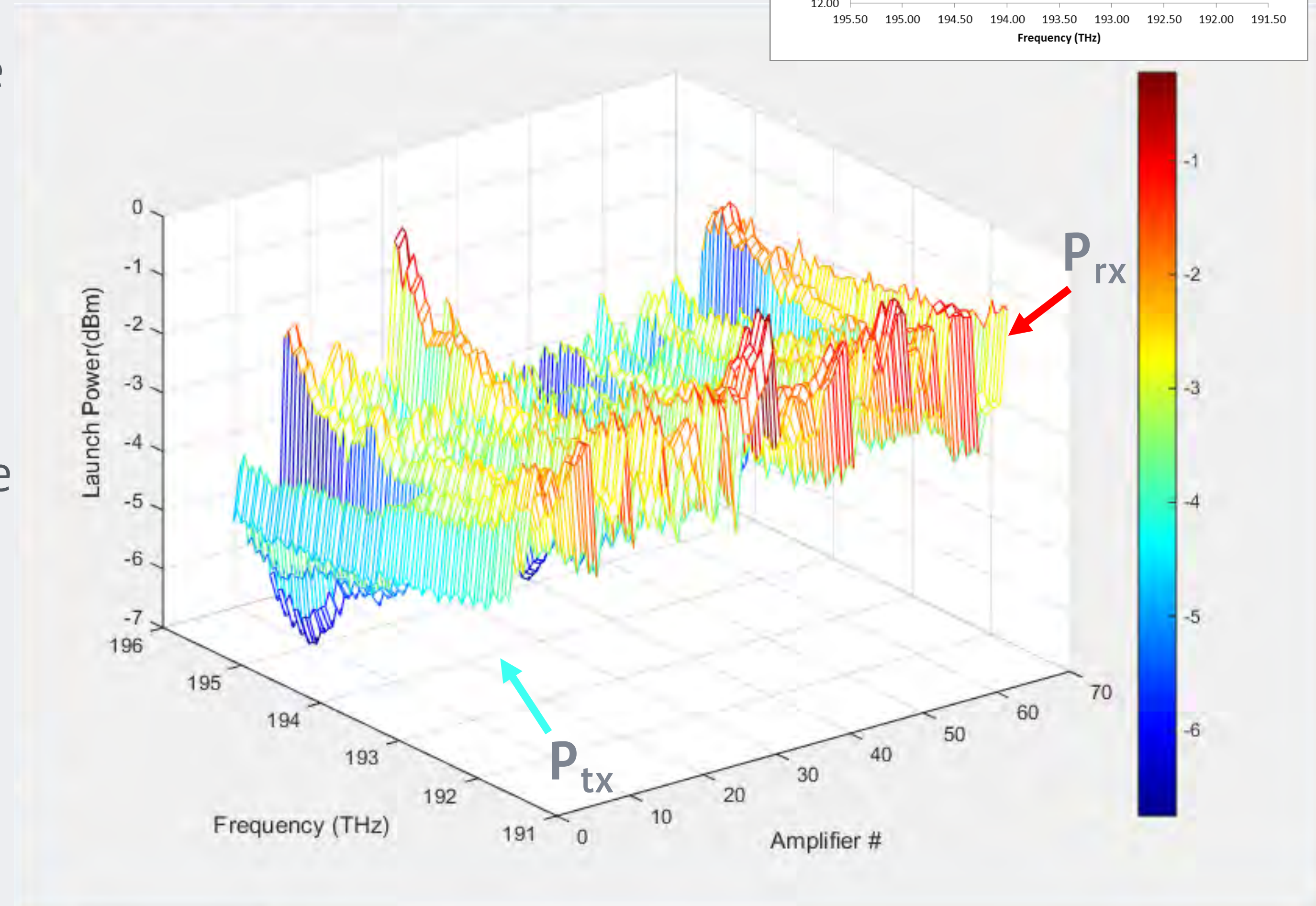
- At System Commissioning, the true system performance, and all of its inherent frequency and pre-emphasis based dependencies can be characterized in detail.
- The collected data are highly valuable for detailed modeling of capacity for 3<sup>rd</sup> party SLTE
- The averages of this data can be used to compare against the Commissioning Parameters previously defined.



**GSNR Testing can be time consuming, but as procedures become automated more data points can be collected!**

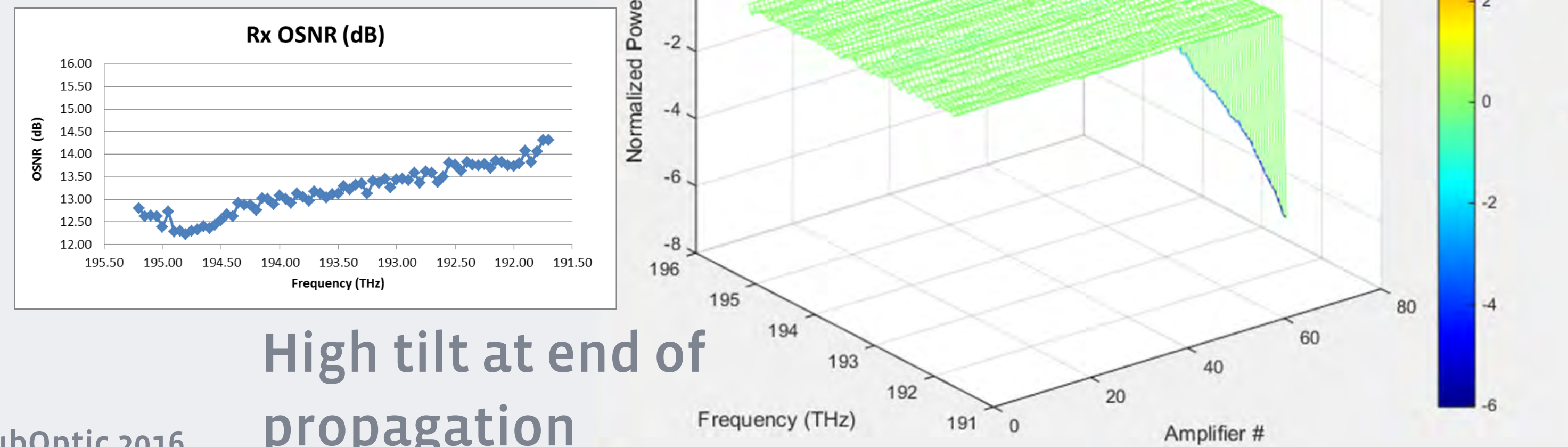
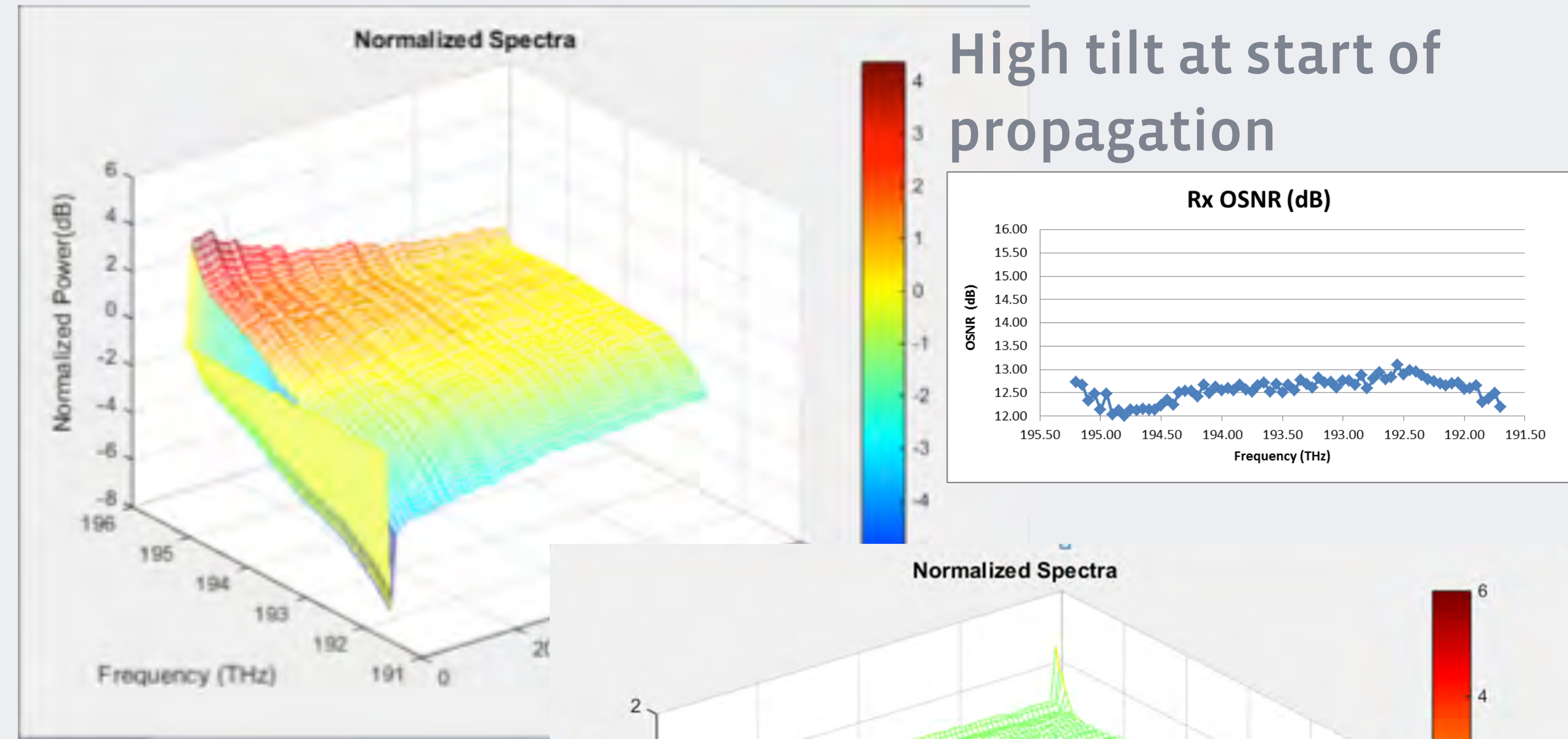
# What's really going on in there?

- What we can see at the Tx and Rx of the Subsea “black box” is only an indication of what's really going on through the 100's of subsea spans
- OSNR and GOSNR profiles at the Rx give good **indications** of the hidden linear and nonlinear characteristics of the cable, and thus the capacity we can achieve



# What can we measure that's useful?

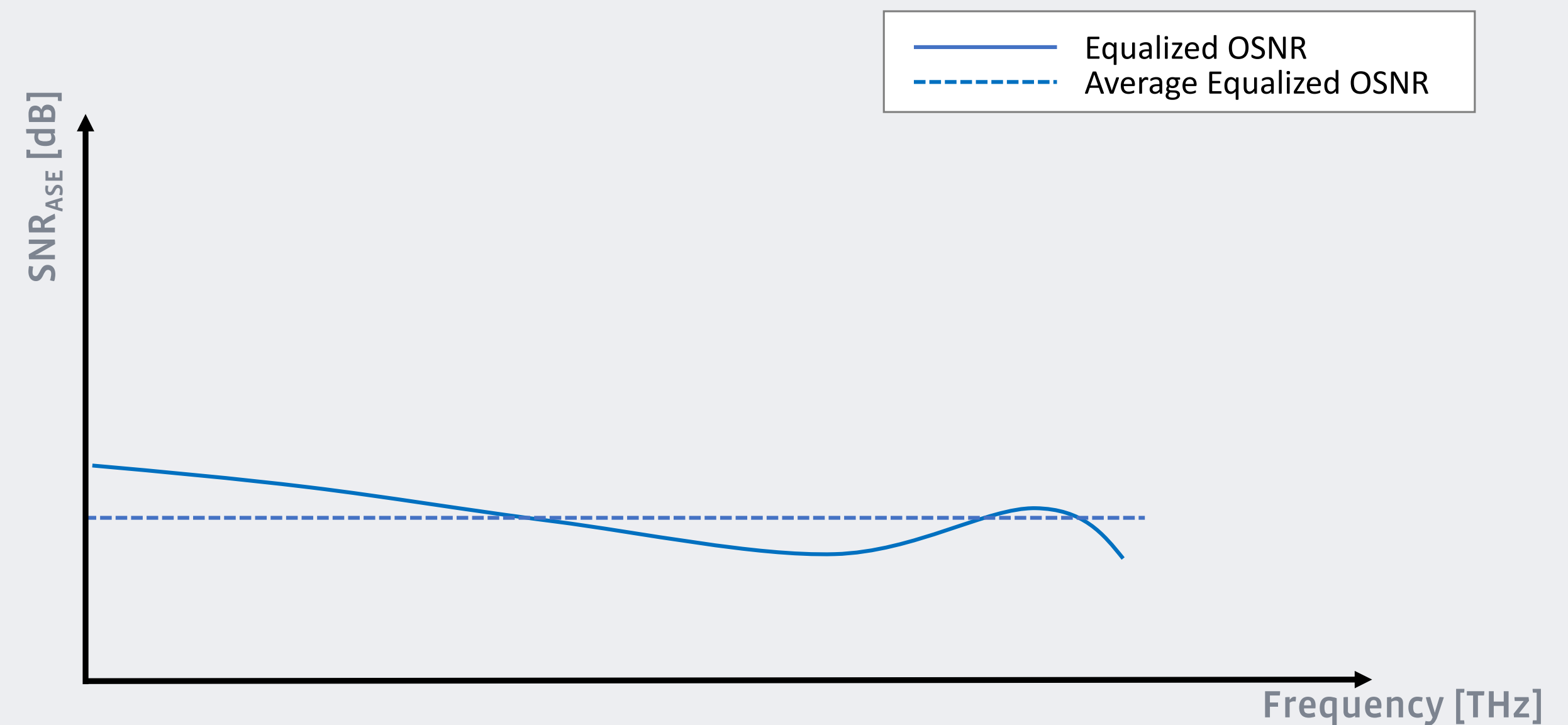
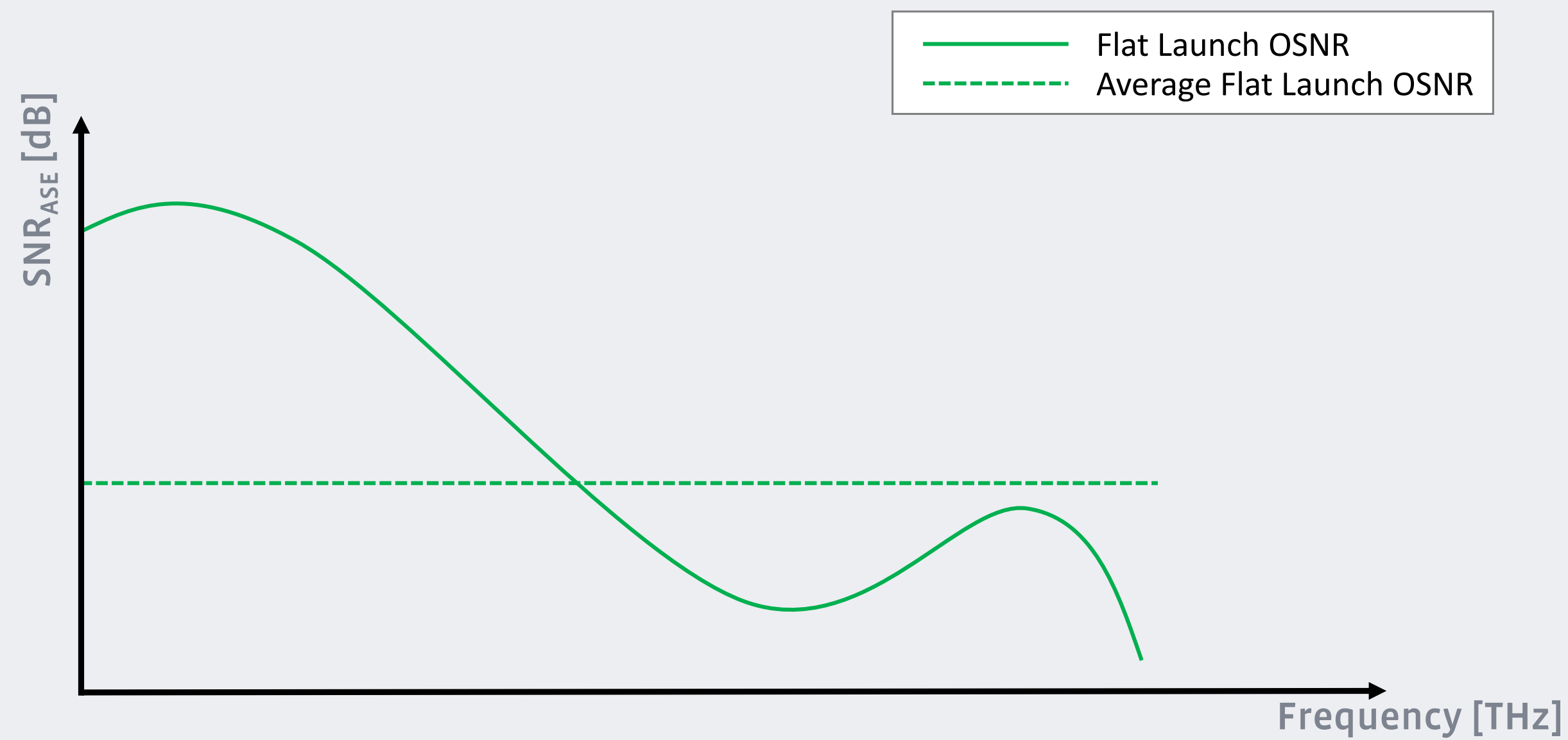
- SNR profile of linear (OSNR) and nonlinear (GOSNR) noise better reflect the quality of the cable
- Tilt and gain excursions through propagation impact the linear SNR and the nonlinear SNR
- OSNR and GOSNR tilt and excursions, via a flat launch profile, give very good indications of the true conditions



# Maximizing Subsea Capacity

**Performance will always be variable** across the spectrum of a given FP in a manner that **cannot be precisely known until system commissioning**, and will undoubtedly **change over time** due to repairs and aging

- Intersection with supported SLTE data rates changes with every SLTE generation, and every vendor (i.e. not all value from small SNR advantages can be extracted at all times)

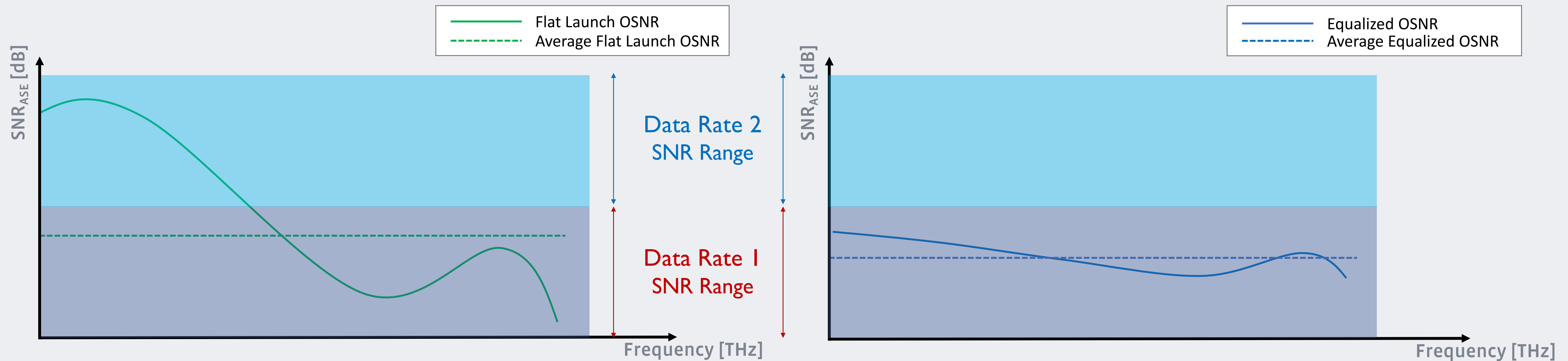


**So what's the best equalization strategy? Flat launch or Equalized? And what kind of Equalization?**

# Maximizing Subsea Capacity

**Performance will always be variable** across the spectrum of a given FP in a manner that **cannot be precisely known until system commissioning**, and will undoubtedly **change over time** due to repairs and aging

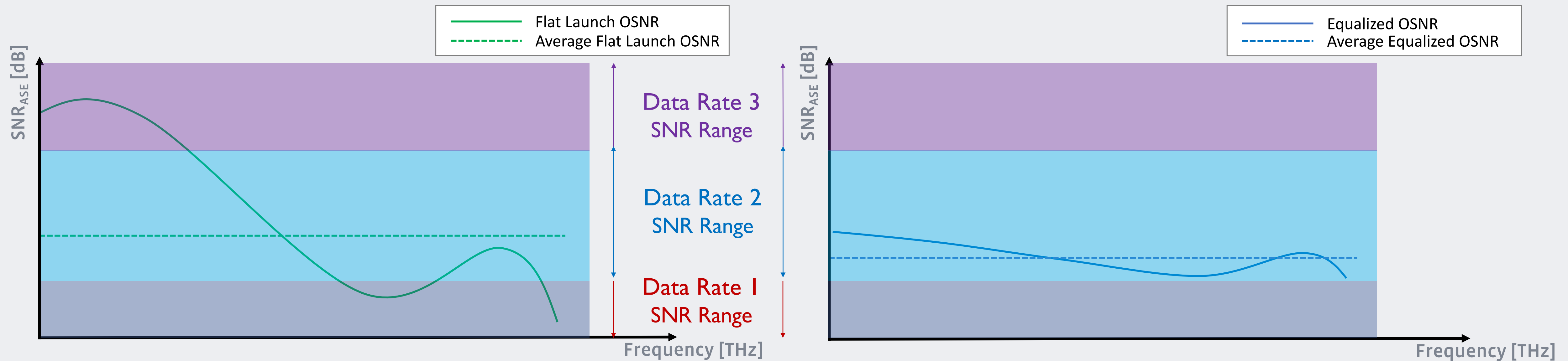
- Intersection with supported SLTE data rates changes with every SLTE generation, and every vendor (i.e. not all value from small SNR advantages can be extracted at all times)



# Maximizing Subsea Capacity

**Performance will always be variable** across the spectrum of a given FP in a manner that **cannot be precisely known until system commissioning**, and will undoubtedly **change over time** due to repairs and aging

- Intersection with supported SLTE data rates changes with every SLTE generation, and every vendor (i.e. not all value from small SNR advantages can be extracted at all times)





# C&A on a Real Subsea Network

Our typical set of Commissioning Parameters:

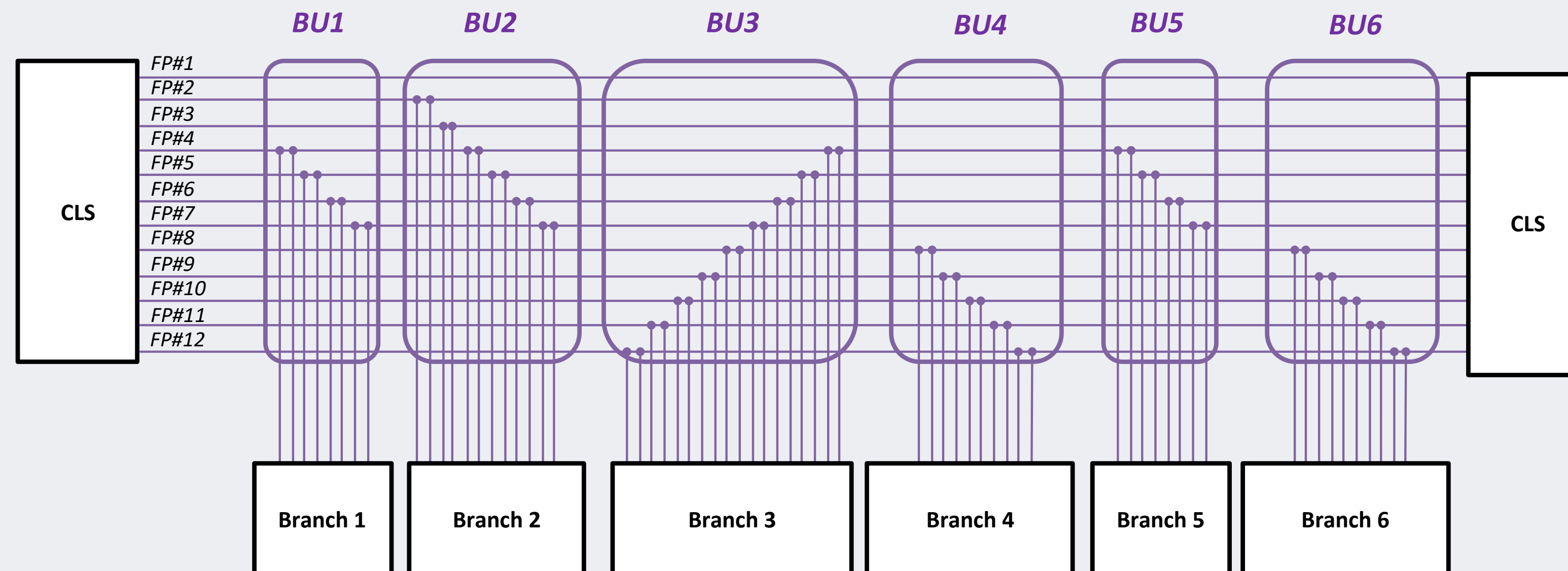
1. Commissioning OSNR (average & worst case under Flat & EQ conditions)
  - Across 12 FPs, may take a day or two (with automation)
2. Commissioning GSNR (average & worst case, under Flat & EQ conditions)
  - Across 12 FPs, may take 1 week (with very good automation)
3. Slope of Tilt [dB/THz] & Gain Deviation [dB]
  - Comes for free with Test 1. 😊



# C&A on a Really Complex Subsea Network

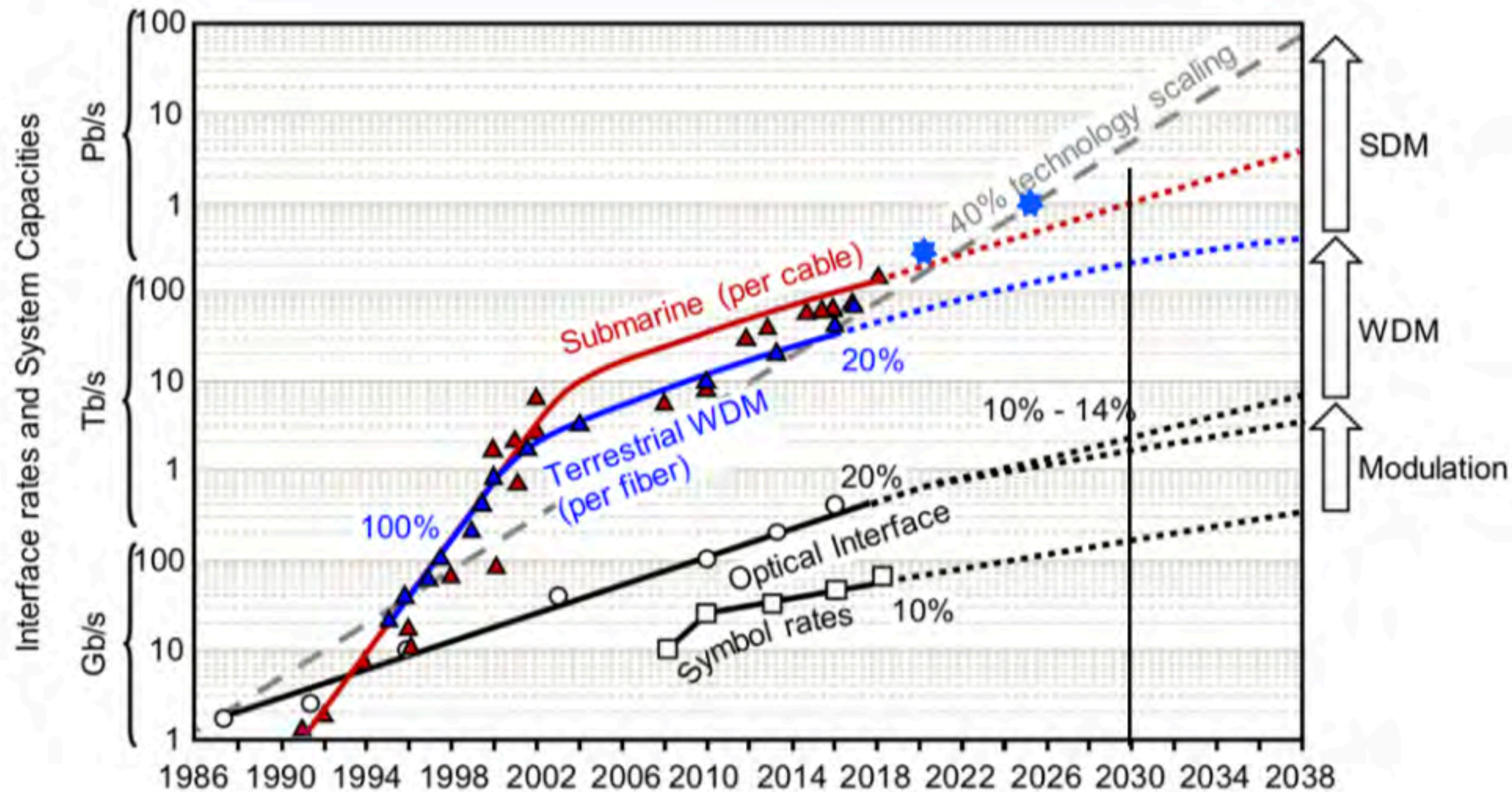
Our typical set of Commissioning Parameters (needs to be reduced to keep C&A reasonable):

1. Commissioning OSNR (average & worst case under Flat & EQ conditions)
  - Always test this everywhere. Equalized testing only on trunk FPs.
2. Commissioning GSNR (average & worst case, under Flat & EQ conditions)
  - Tested on trunk path only, all 12 FPs.
3. Slope of Tilt [dB/THz] & Gain Deviation [dB]
  - Still free with Test 1. 😊



# Future Evolution

# Where Do We Go From Here?

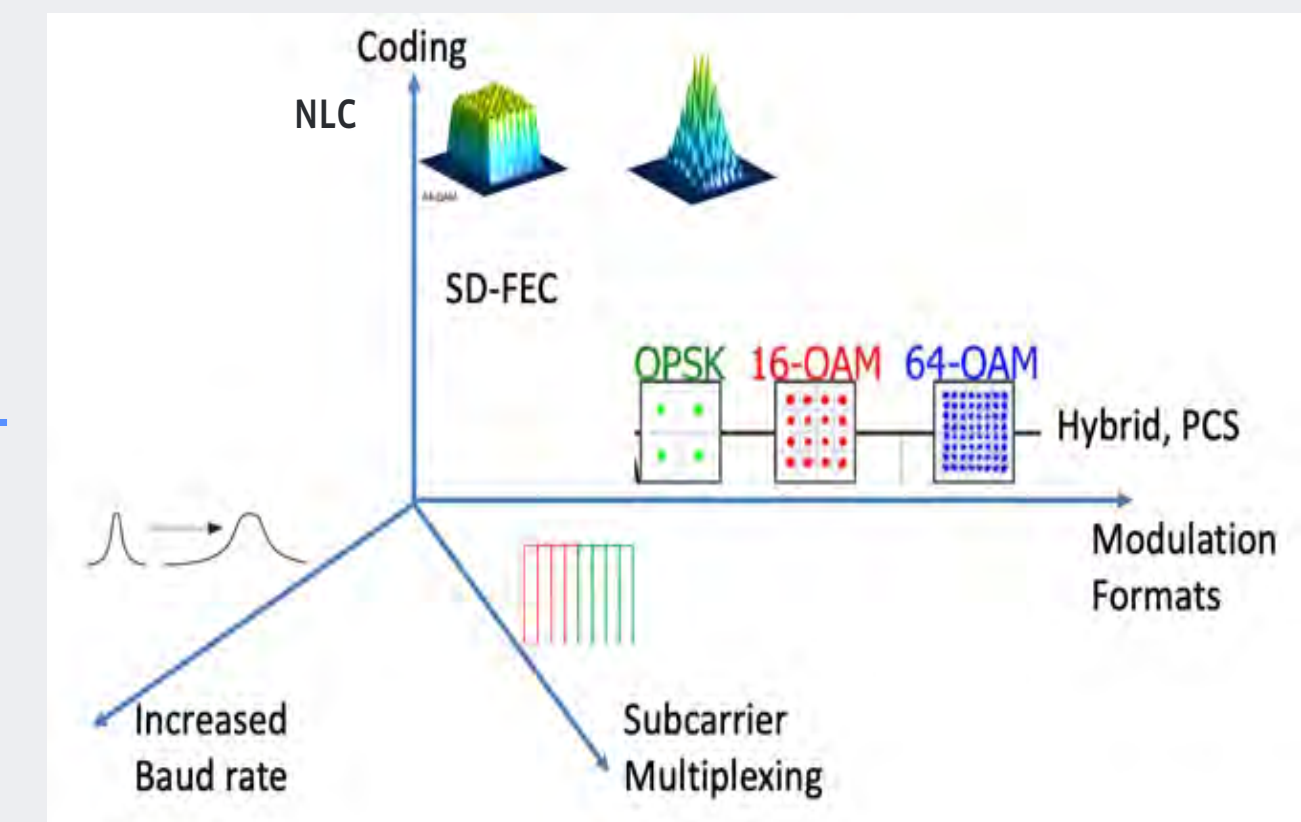


**Figure 1:** Evolution of commercial optical transmission systems over the past 30 years and extrapolations for the coming 20 years (after [1]).

After P. Winzer et al

Shannon Capacity:  

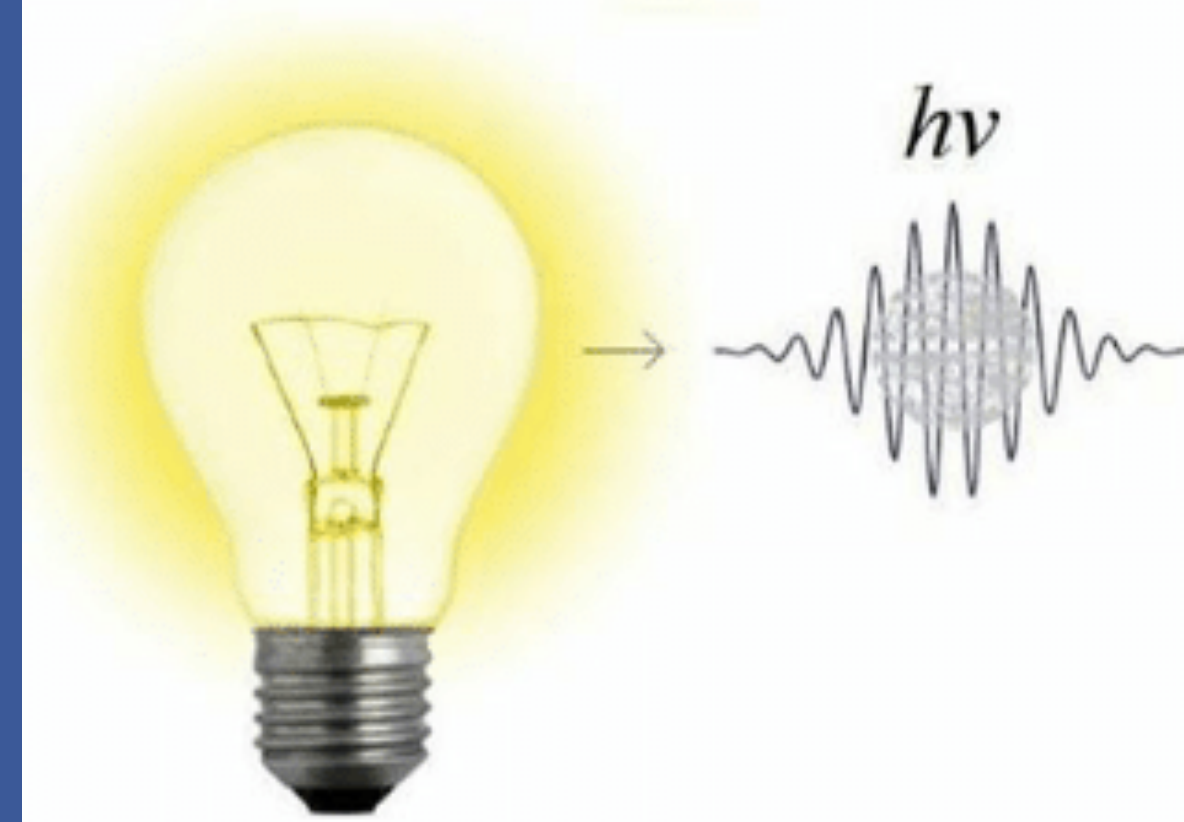
$$C = 2 * B * \log_2(1 + SNR)$$



# Where Do WE Go From Here?



# PHOTON

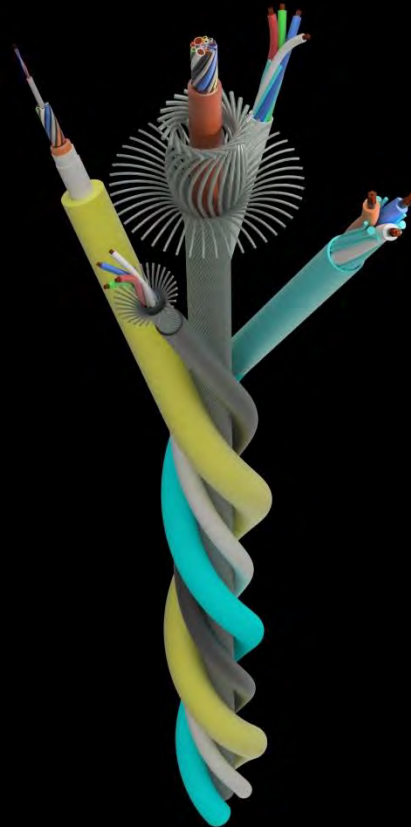


# PHOTOFF



#badsciencejokes

# SUBSEA HYBRID ENERGY CABLES

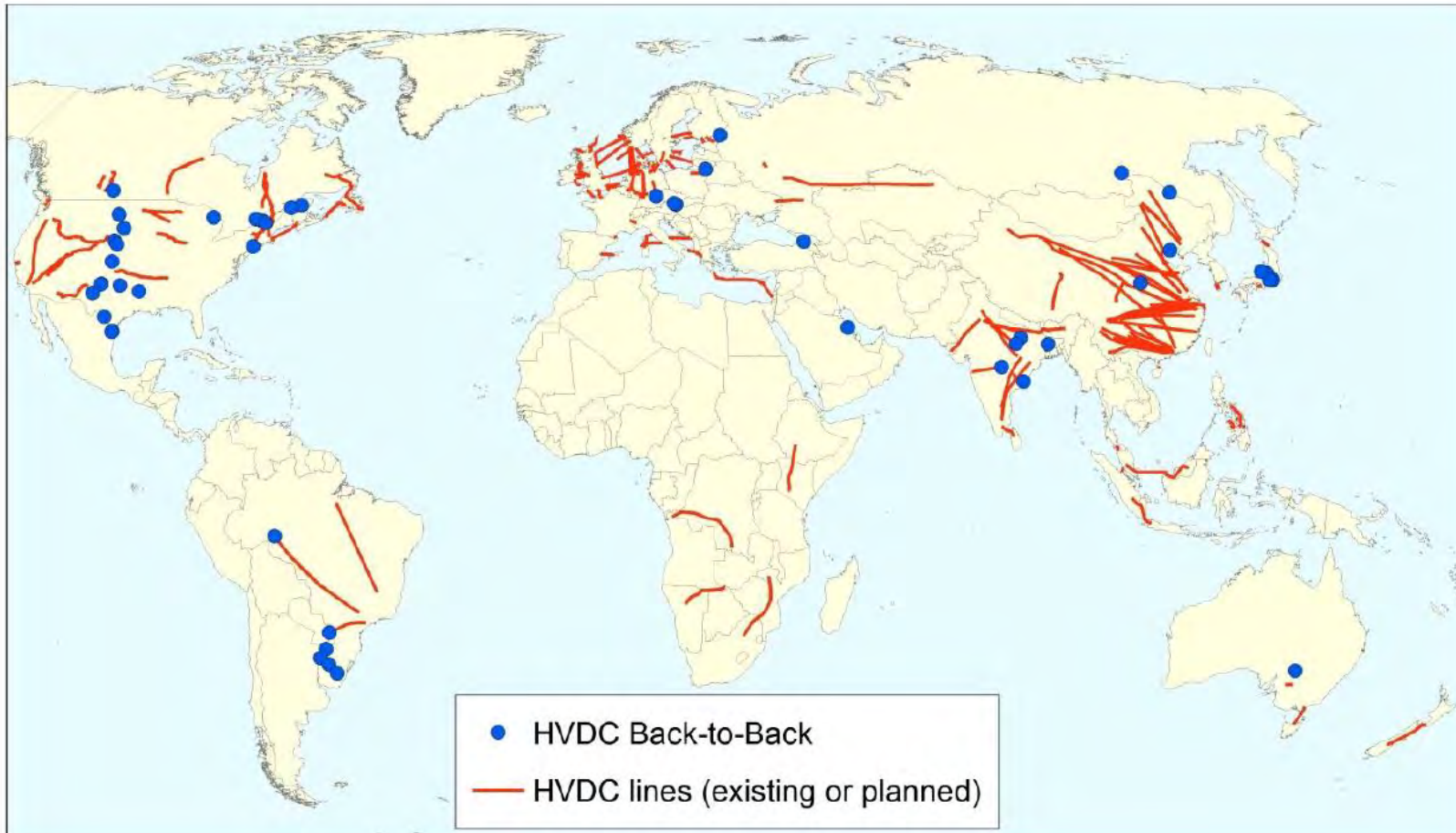


## Content

- In perspective
- Application & design
- The role of fibre optics

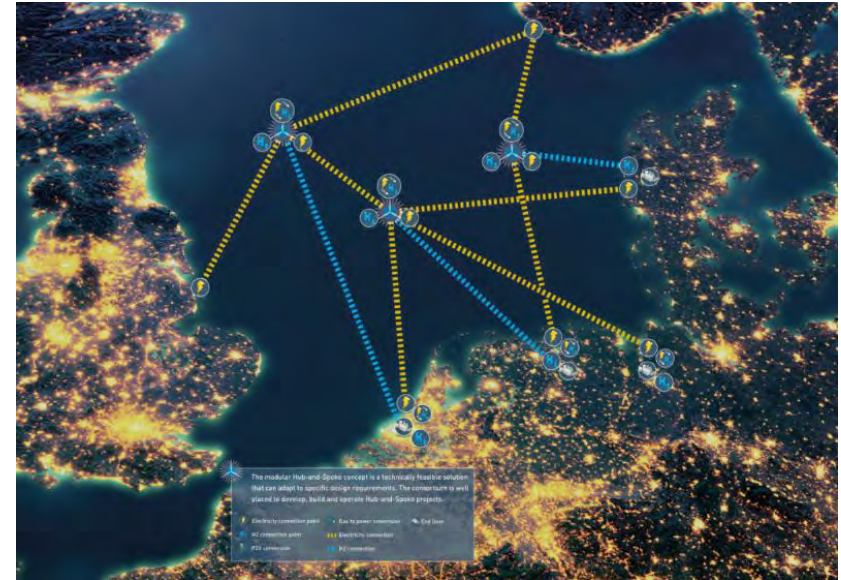


## Towards a global power super grid?



Source: Ardelean, M., Minnebo, P., A China-EU electricity transmission link. (2017)

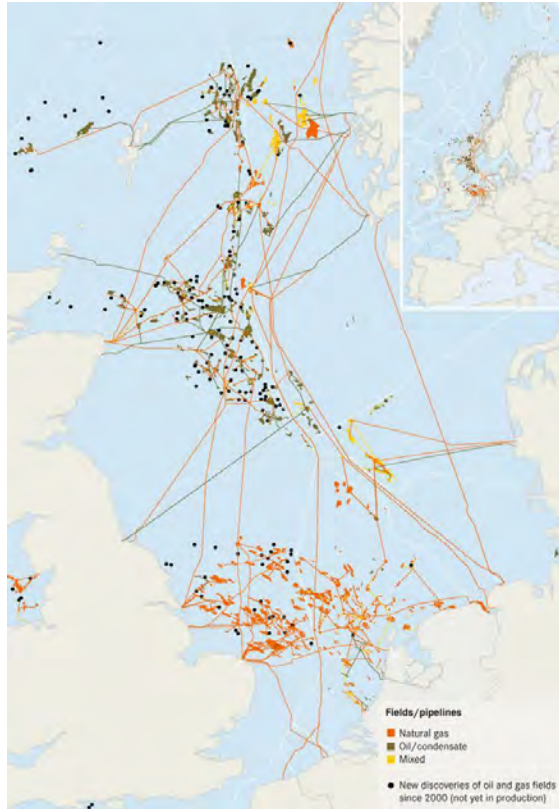
## «Baby» super grids to harvest intermittent renewable energy sources



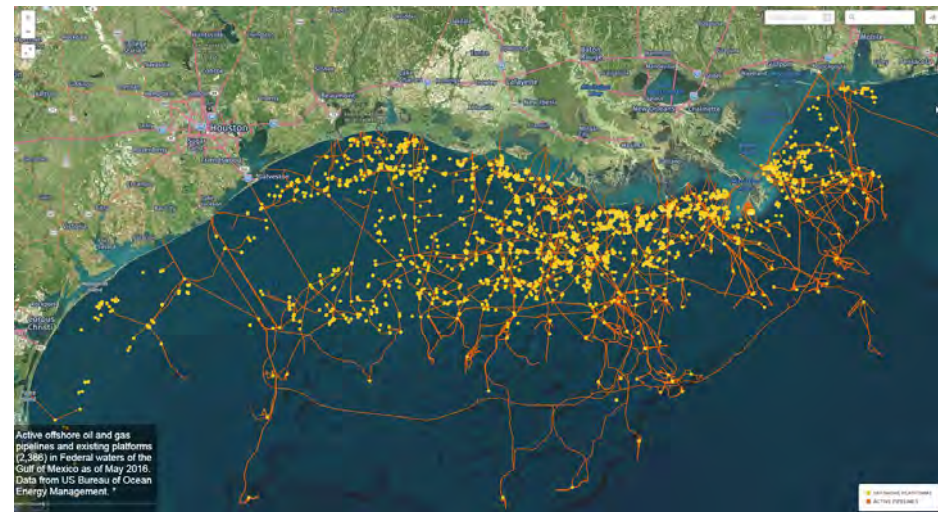
Source: <https://northseawindpowerhub.eu>

# Offshore oil & gas in decline?

## The North Sea



## The Gulf of Mexico



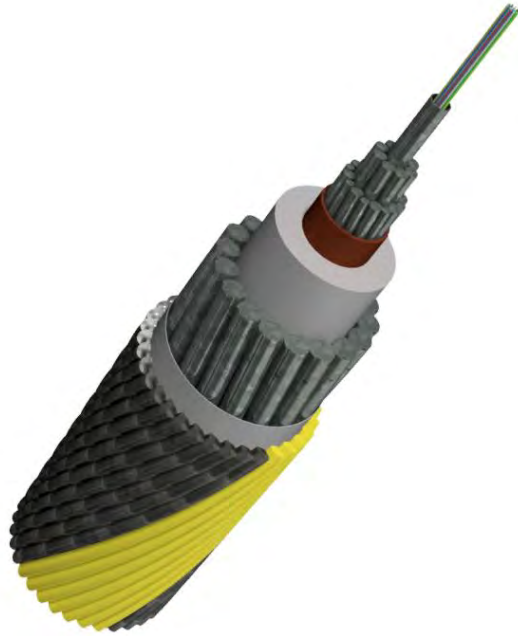
# The busy life of an oil & gas field



Source: AkerSolutions

## applications & designs

## The ingenious design of subsea fibre optic cables

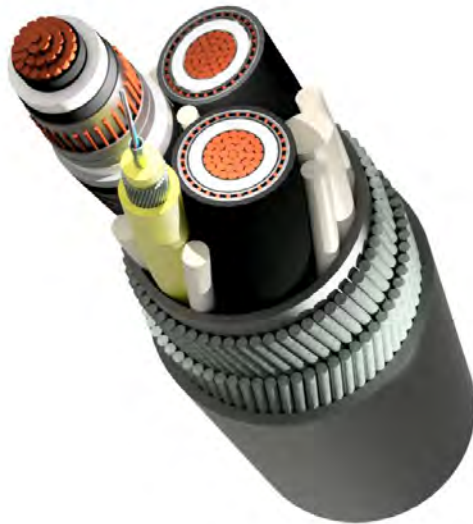


ROC-2

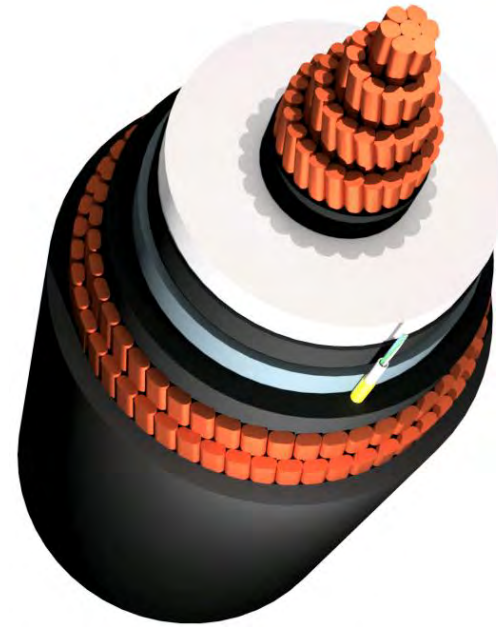


URC-1

# Power cables w/ integrated fibre optics



HVAC



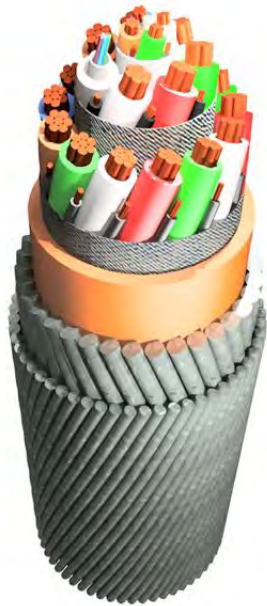
HVDC

## The tallest building in Norway – for extrusion of power core insulation (!)

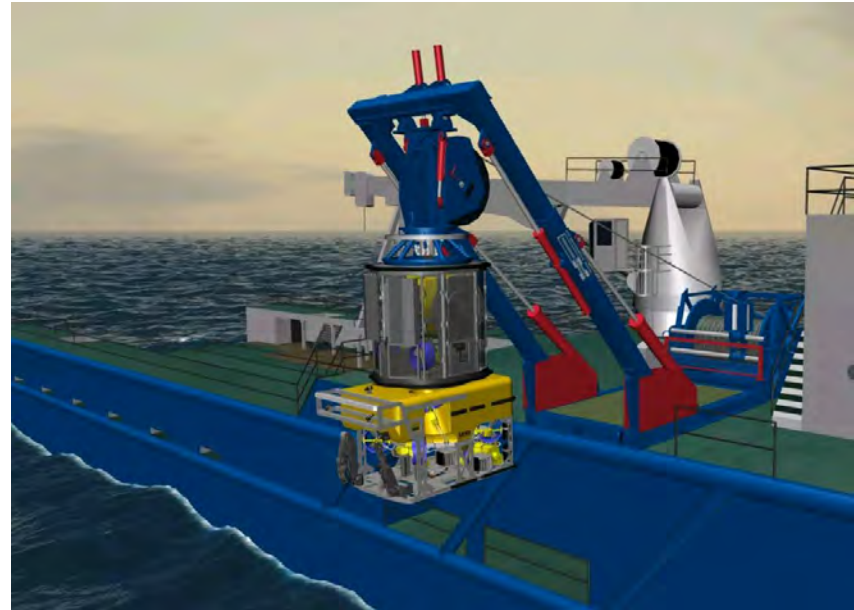




## Specialized subsea cables w/ integrated fibre optics



ROV lifting umbilical

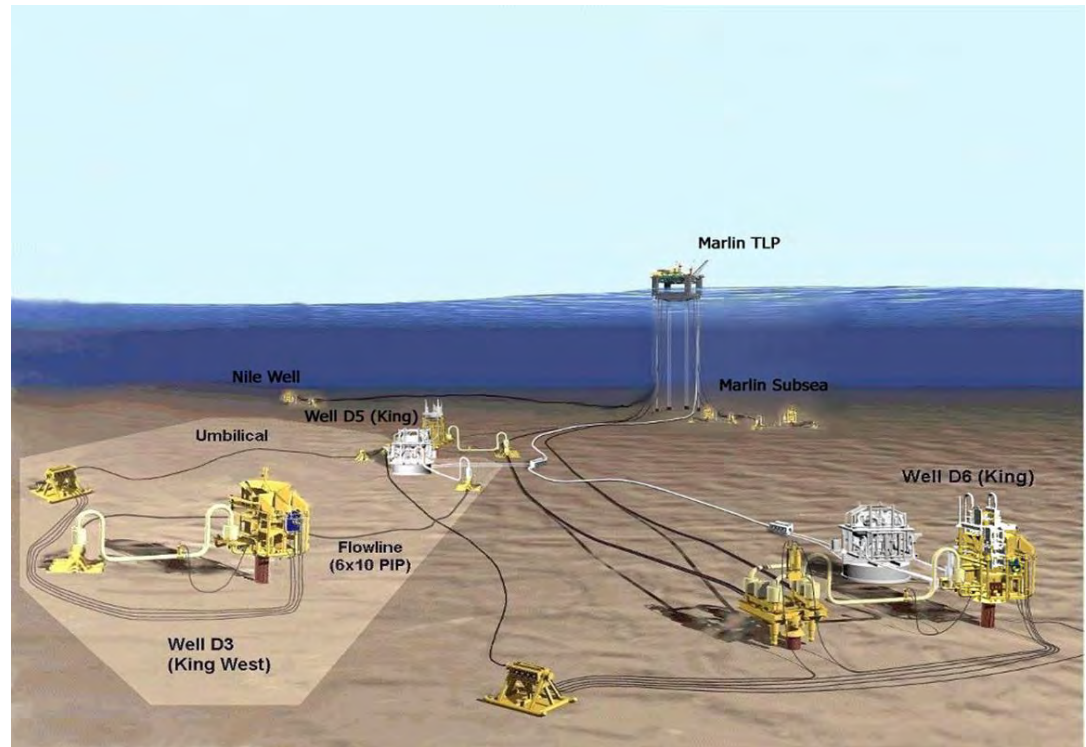


ROV launch and recovery system

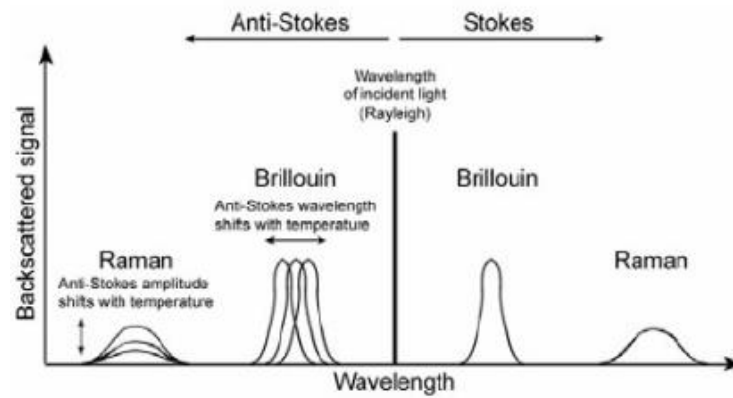
# Specialized subsea cables w/ integrated fibre optics



Control umbilical

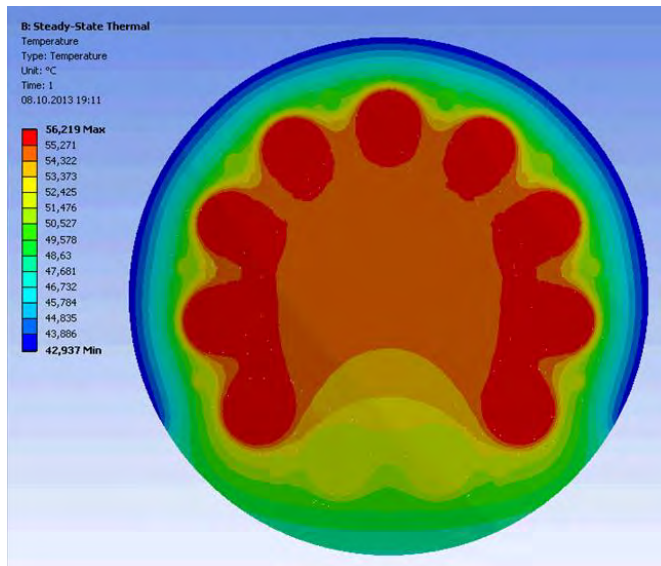


## the role of fibre optics



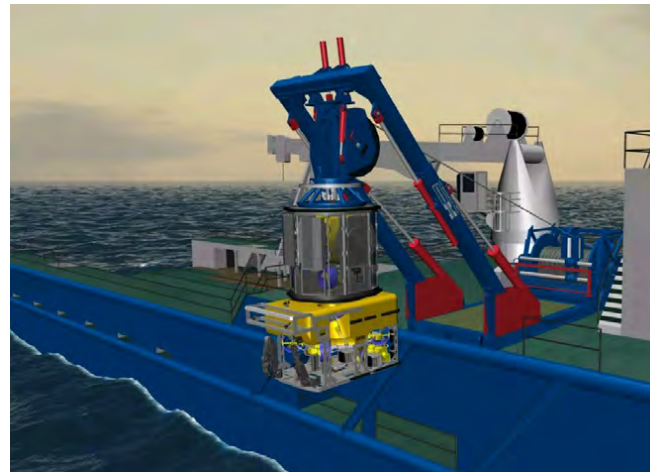
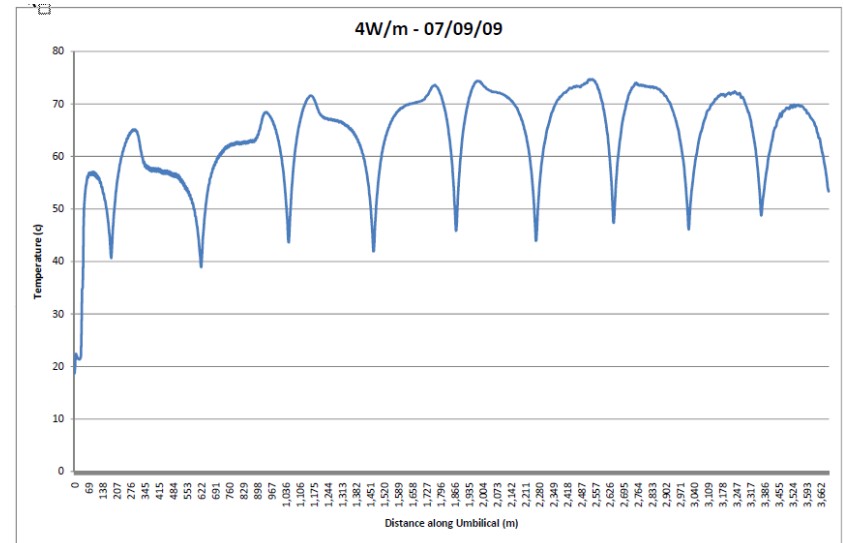
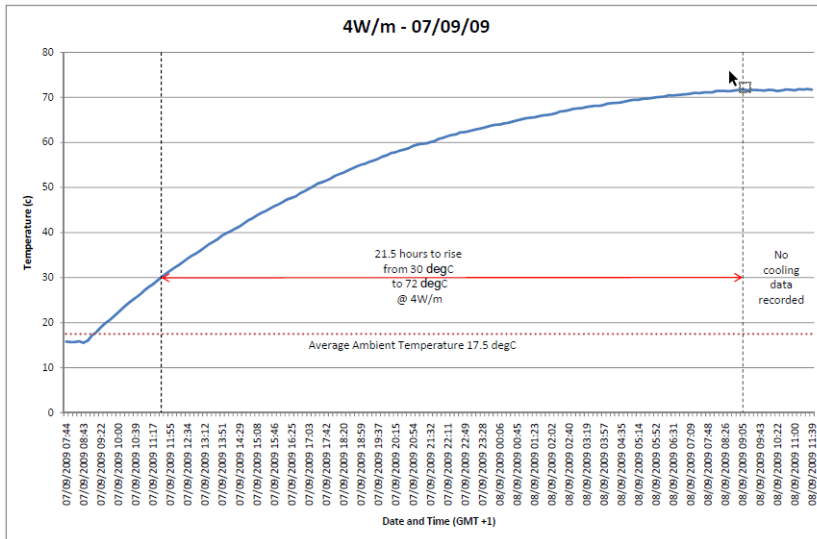
## «The heat source»

Resistance to electrical current induce heat

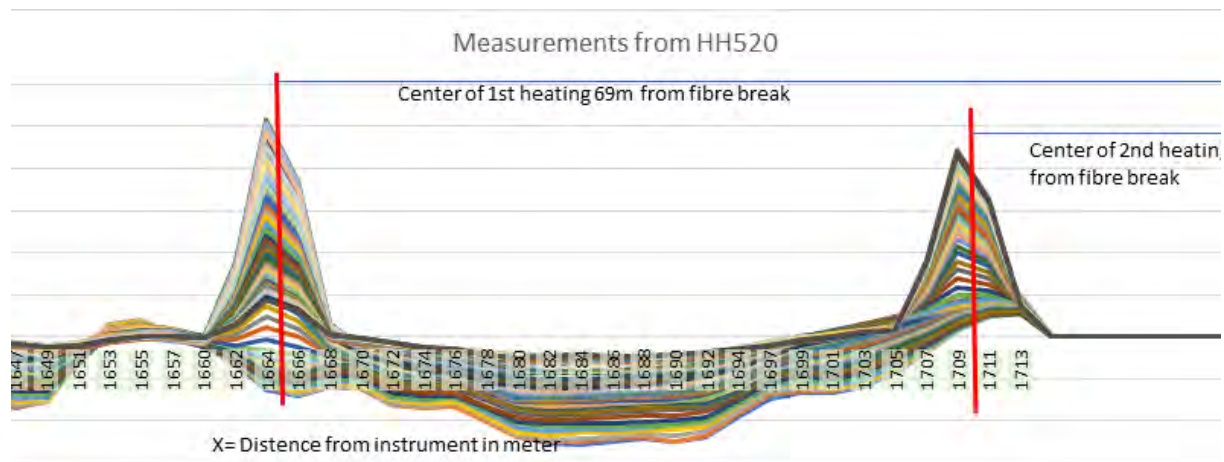


Temperature rise dependent on material thermal conductivity and surface heat dissipation.

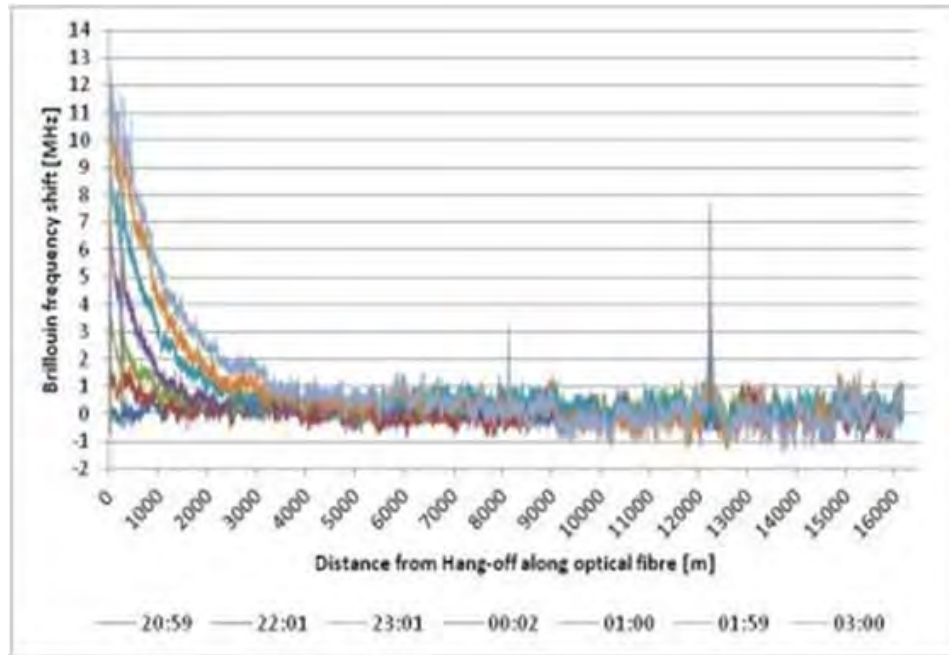
# Temperature sensing – System learning & optimisation



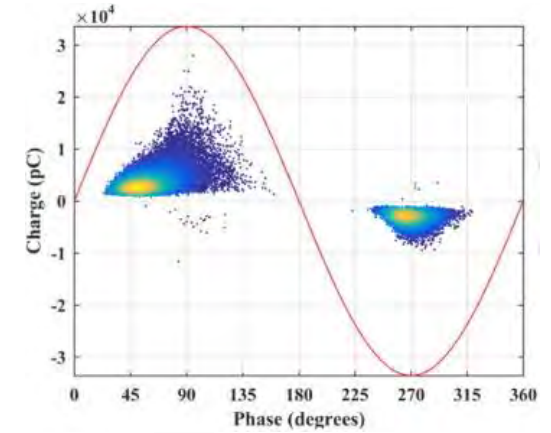
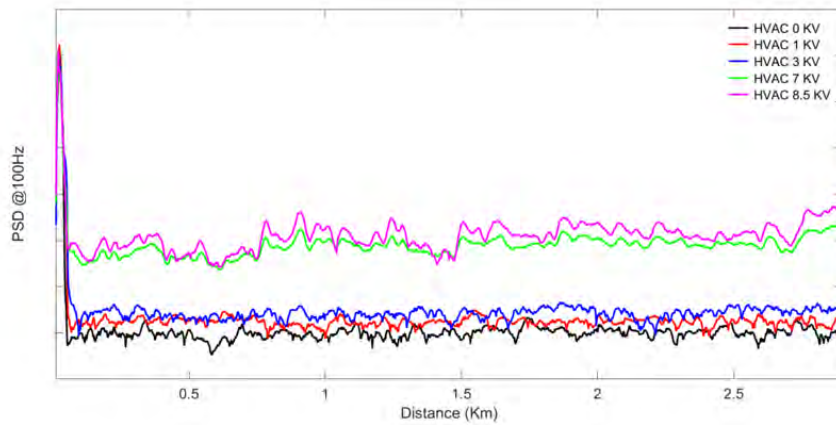
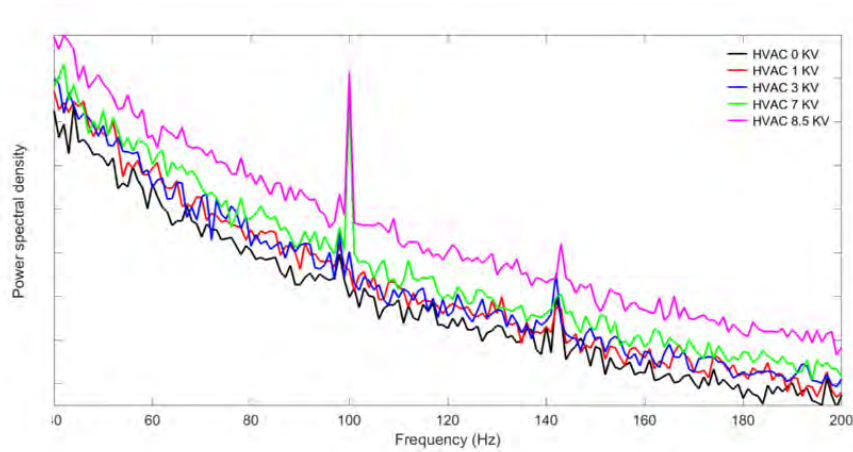
## Temperature sensing - Accurate localisation of faults by external heat source



## Temperature sensing – tube leakage detection

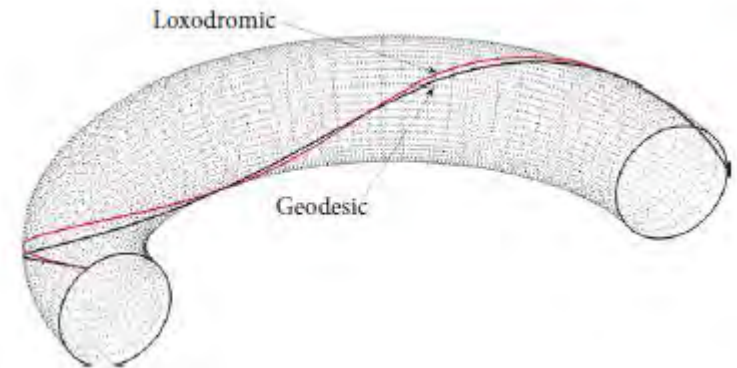
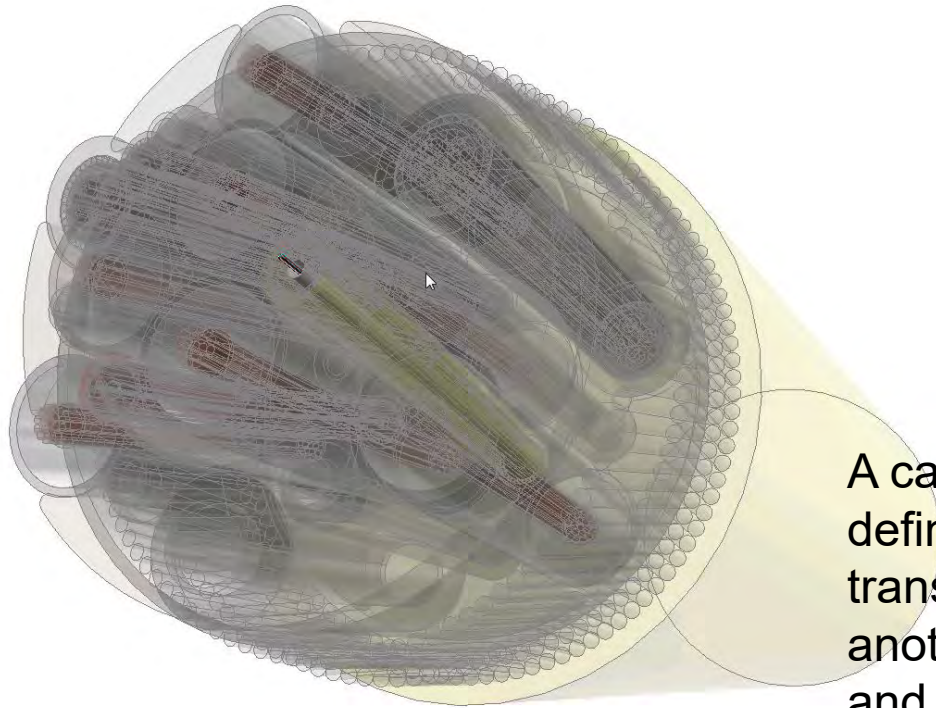


## Acoustic sensing - partial discharge detection



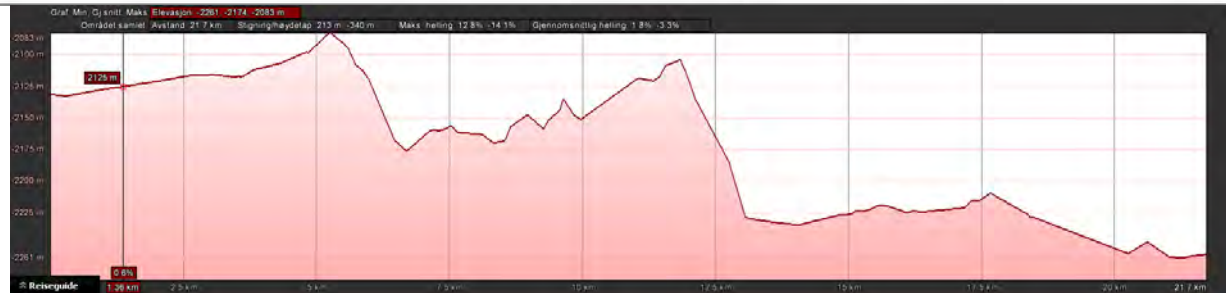
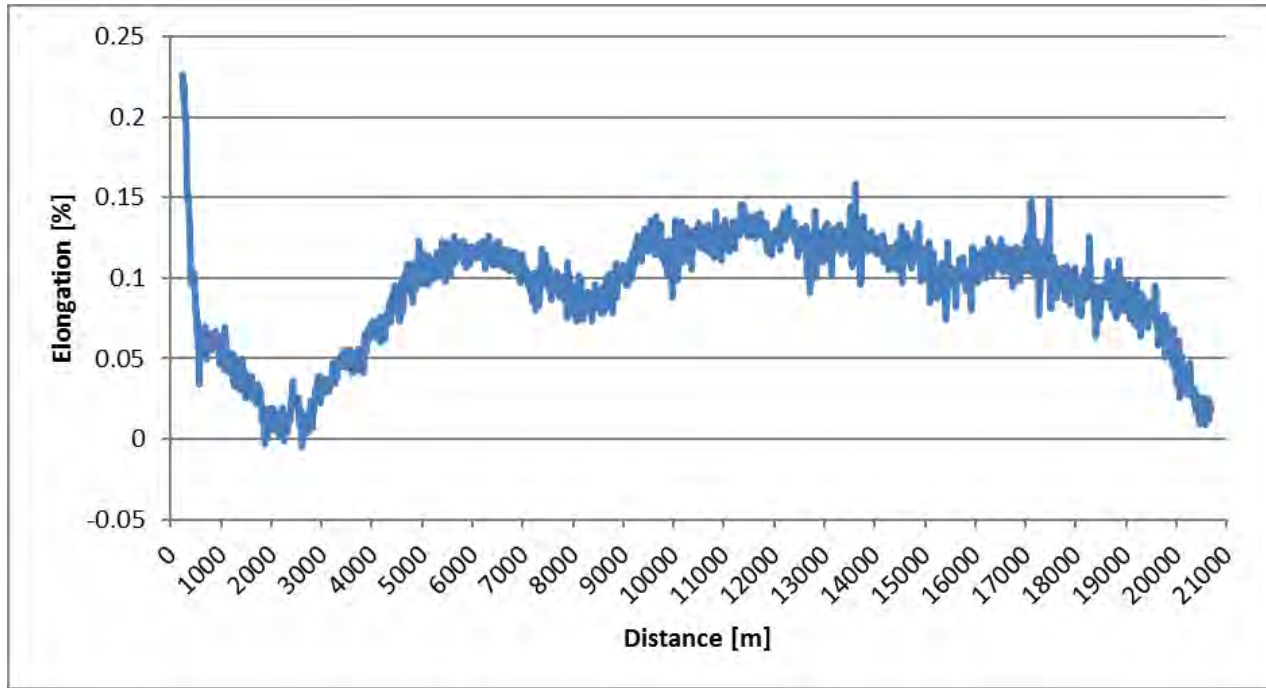


## «The mechanical machine»



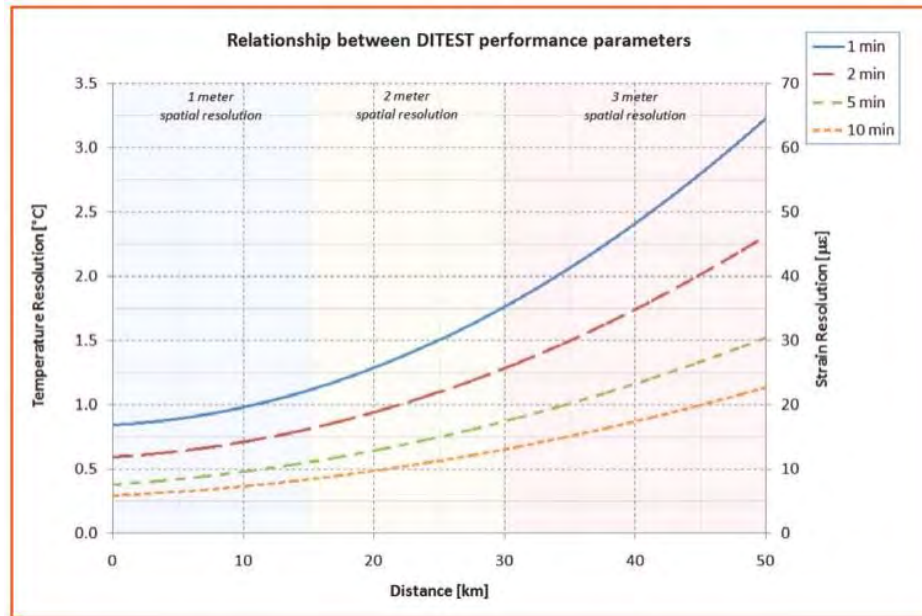
A cable is a **machine**, by dictionary definition: "An assembly of parts...that transmit forces, motion, and energy one to another in some predetermined manner and to some desired end."

# Strain measurement of control umbilical



Approximate elevation profile of seabed

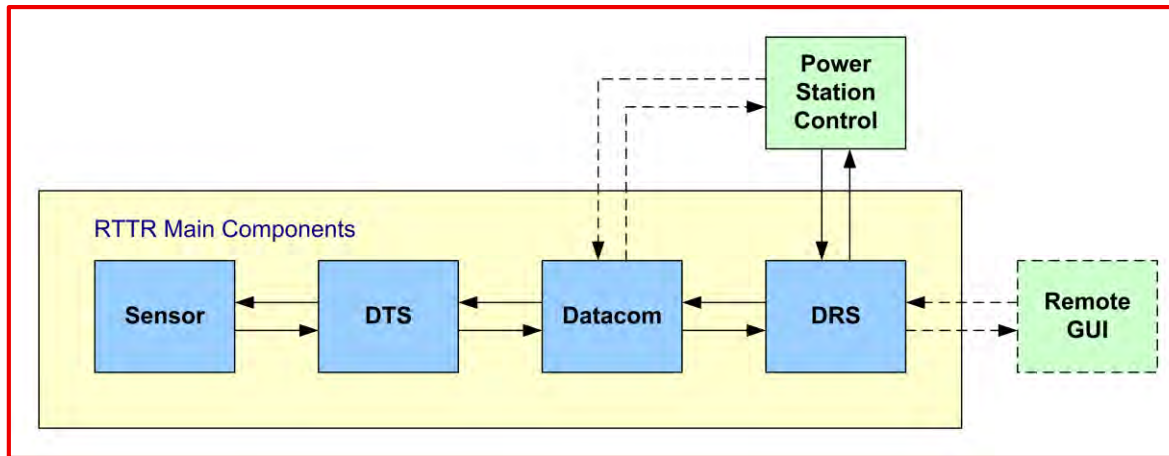
## Limitations & trade off's



Source: Omnisens

# Towards self driven power links and grids in the future?

## Real Time Temperature Rating





*“All of old. Nothing else ever.  
Ever tried. Ever failed.  
No matter. Try again.  
Fail again. Fail better.”*



# International Cable Protection Committee



ICPC has the vision of being the **premier international submarine cable authority** through providing leadership, knowledge and guidance on issues related to submarine cable security and reliability.

- ✓ ICPC has more than 175 MEMBERS in over 60 COUNTRIES
- ✓ ICPC represents 97% of the world's subsea telecom cables
- ✓ ICPC represents most cable ships that lay and repair submarine cables and a great number of leading international HVDC power cable operators/owners and manufacturers

# International Cable Protection Committee



## ICPC core functions :

- ✓ Publications
- ✓ Recommendations
- ✓ Newsletters
- ✓ Annual Plenary
- ✓ Cable Films
- ✓ Notifications of cable laying and recovery
- ✓ Out reach to other seabed users
- ✓ Research

## ICPC working groups:

- ✓ Affiliations
- ✓ Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ)
- ✓ Business Plan
- ✓ Cable Security
- ✓ Media & Public Relations
- ✓ Recommendations



# International Cable Protection Committee



## Cable protection initiatives

- ✓ International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO)—Charting
- ✓ Environmental Research
- ✓ Submarine Cable Repair Report Ocean Planning
- ✓ IMO-Strengthen COLREGS to provide for improved safety for ships during cable operations

## Cable repair initiatives and permits

- ✓ Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP)
- ✓ Indonesia Cabotage
- ✓ International Maritime Organization: Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IMO–COLREGs)

# ICPC publications



Compilation of an extensive, dedicated source of international cable legislation, legal articles and cases, and a topic index of reported cases and rulings involving submarine cables. The only such collection worldwide.

Compilation of a very large source of environmental information and data related to the installation maintenance and protection of submarine cables.

Unique data available nowhere else. The global comparison of cable repair times produced annually showing average repairs per year, average time to begin repair, and repair cause breakdown.

A peer reviewed book, jointly compiled by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the ICPC titled :

*Submarine Cables and the Oceans: Connecting the World.*

The book has contributions from ICPC members, cable industry associates, ICPC's Marine Environmental Advisor (MEA) and International Cable Law Advisor (ICLA). From the ICPC website alone, the publication has been Downloaded over 72,000 times.