

## Article Overview

Effective debugging of a DML-based optical receiver involves optimizing laser bias and modulation currents, applying receiver equalization, and using systematic test setups to identify waveform distortions and performance bottlenecks.

## Understanding DML Receiver Challenges

Directly modulated lasers (DMLs) are widely used in short-reach optical links due to their low cost and compact size, but they have limited modulation bandwidth, which can cause waveform distortion and reduce data throughput. Key factors affecting receiver performance include the bias current, peak-to-peak modulation current, and the receiver equalization settings. Improper settings can lead to inter-symbol interference (ISI) and degraded signal-to-noise ratio (SNR).

## Step-by-Step Debugging Approach

### o Verify Optical Power and Signal Integrity

- o Measure the received optical power (Prec) to ensure it is within the expected range for the DML.

- o Use an oscilloscope or bit-error-rate tester (BERT) to observe waveform quality and detect distortions.

### o Adjust Laser Bias and Modulation Current

- o Optimize the bias current to maintain linear laser operation and avoid clipping or excessive chirp.

- o Tune the peak-to-peak modulation current to maximize signal amplitude without introducing nonlinear distortion.

- o Consider end-to-end optimization, where transmitter and receiver parameters are jointly adjusted for best performance.

### o Apply Receiver Equalization

- o Use finite impulse response (FIR) or adaptive equalizers to compensate for bandwidth limitations and channel impairments.

- o Evaluate the effect of equalization on eye diagrams and bit-error rate.

### o Simulate and Model DML Dynamics

- o For advanced debugging, simulate the DML using laser rate equations to predict output sequences and identify potential distortions.

- o Build a differentiable model to test different bias and modulation settings in a controlled environment.

### o Use Debugging Tools for System Diagnostics

- o If the optical receiver is part of a networked system, software-level debugging can help. For example, Windows Debugger Markup Language (DML) can enhance output from diagnostic commands, providing

# Debugging the optical receiver DML

clickable links and structured information for easier analysis .

o Commands like `debug hal` show optic-info can reveal transceiver details, though outputs may require careful interpretation to match the actual hardware .

## Practical Tips

- o Always start with baseline measurements of optical power, eye diagrams, and BER before making adjustments.
  - o Incrementally adjust bias and modulation currents while monitoring signal quality.
  - o Document all changes and results to identify optimal settings and avoid introducing new distortions.
  - o Consider joint optimization of transmitter pulse shaping and receiver equalization for maximum throughput .
- By systematically combining hardware-level adjustments with software diagnostics, you can effectively debug and optimize a DML-based optical receiver for reliable high-speed communication.

We propose a novel end-to-end optimization approach for DML systems, incorporating the learning of bias and peak

The Simics Modeling Extension supports debugging Python and DML/C/C++ simultaneously. This can be very helpful to modelers

Fiber optic lasers: Learn the different types of laser which are the core component of transceivers, affecting

The present work aims to jointly optimize transmitter GCS and LPS and receiver EQ with the driving configuration of

This topic describes how you can customize your debug output using DML. For general information on enabling and

Learn about the differences between EML and DML laser designs for 25G/100G applications. Discover the

In this chapter, we will introduce the basic concept of a high-speed receiver, the integrated circuit (IC) technique of the front-end.

Both EML (Electro-Absorption-Modulated Laser) and DML (Directly Modulated Laser) lasers play important roles in

This user manual covers the installation, operation, and troubleshooting of the 1310nm AM direct modulated optical transmitter

# Debugging the optical receiver DML

We fabricated the first compact 100-gigabit Ethernet (100GbE) transmitter optical sub-assembly (TOSA) using a directly modulated

Laser technology: EML vs DML 100G QSFP28 form factor transceivers are today heavily deployed and although the

In summary, DML and EML, as two important modulation technologies for optical modules, play an important role in

Software package includes also DML Player and DML Monitor freeware tools which may be installed on any LAN connected PC.

Compared with DML laser, EML laser consumes more power and is a more complicated optoelectronic system. Lasers of both types

The DirectML debug layer is an optional development-time component that helps you in debugging your DirectML code.

The use of directly modulated lasers (DMLs) is attractive in low-power, cost-constrained short-reach optical links.

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