

as PMD causing polarization related crosstalk. This explanation also can be applied to the fact that PDM with TDM system suffered more signal loss and distortion, especially imbalance between two channels.

6353-159, Poster Session

All-optical flip-flop using an injection locked Fabry-Perot laser diode

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Recently, all-optical gain control of semiconductor lasers or semiconductor optical amplifiers have been studied for implementing all-optical flip-flop, such as methods based on the architectures of coupled ring laser, coupled Mach-Zehnder interferometers or coupled nonlinear polarization switches. However, these schemes are too complicated and bulky to realize optical memories with multi-state all-optical flip-flop. In this paper, we demonstrate the operation of a novel all-optical flip-flop. The flip-flop consists of a slave Fabry-Perot laser diode (FP-LD) and a specially designed master FP-LD. The main advantage of the proposed all-optical flip-flop is simple and cost effective structure since only two coupled FP-LDs are used. One of the two FP-LDs is an ordinary commercial FP-LD and the other is specially designed in order to have a built-in external cavity and operates in single longitudinal mode with high side mode suppression ratio. The on-off state of the proposed optical flip-flop is determined by whether the former FP-LD (called slave FP-LD) is injection locked or not in accordance with separate set and reset pulses. Separate set and reset pulses are external control signals and the sustaining beam from the master FP-LD is always injected into the slave FP-LD. A dual mode injection locking method is used to reduce the locking threshold for making "on" state using external "set" pulse. The key principle of our proposed scheme is the bistability of the injection locked FP-LD. To set up injection locking operation, the power of an injected beam should be greater than a locking threshold and the threshold power changes according to the wavelength difference between the injection beam and a selected mode in a slave FP-LD. The bistability relates to the locking threshold and it shows typical hysteresis curve. Once the input power of the injection beam exceeds the locking threshold, the slave FP-LD is injection locked to the injection beam and the locking state is maintained even if the input power is lowered than the initial threshold.

Two tunable lasers were used for set and reset pulses. Both pulse signals were generated by 1 Gbit/s pattern modulation using Mach-Zehnder modulators. Both pattern lengths were 16 bits composed of one "1" level and fifteen "0" levels. This means that the pulse duration is 1 ns and the pulse repeats every 16 ns. The optical power of set and reset pulses were -11.08 dBm and -9.23 dBm, respectively. Rising and falling time of the toggling output were measured and the both values were about 50 ps.

The operation speed is limited by the response time of an injection locked FP-LD and the fiber delay length of control signal. If the entire components are integrated and the control signal path length is minimized, the operation speed can be extended to a few Gbit/s since the rising time and falling time of the output signal are only 50 ps and there is already 10 Gbit/s injection locking operation is proved in other application. This simple and cost-effective architecture of all-optical flip-flop will be useful for future all-optical signal processing system such as optical buffering, optical memory and self-routing network.

6353-160, Poster Session

Simulation approach to the improvement of dispersion tolerance for electrical-binary-signal-based duobinary transmitters

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This paper proposes a way to greatly improve the dispersion tolerance of an electrical-binary-signal-based duobinary transmitter by optimizing the relative time delay and the driving voltage. Duobinary transmitters based on electrical binary signals have been demonstrated to overcome some problems of an electrical ternary-signal-based transmitter with electrical low-pass filters (LPFs). The three-level signals can experience significant distortions due to the imperfect response of LPFs and modulator drivers operating in the saturation region and have word-length pattern dependency.

One of the duobinary transmitters based on electrical binary signals is a transmitter using a dual-arm Mach-Zehnder (MZ) modulator driven with two complementary signals relatively delayed by one bit [hereinafter referred to as one-bit delay (OBD) duobinary]. In spite of low intersymbol interference (ISI) of the transmitter, the OBD duobinary signals don't have as large dispersion tolerance as conventional duobinary signals based on electrical LPFs due to frequency chirps at the rising and falling edges of the signals. OBD duobinary signals is not possible for the transmission over larger than 75 km of SSMF due to the large frequency chirps of the signals.

To improve the dispersion tolerance of the OBD duobinary transmitter, the overall modeling was performed by optimizing the relative time delay between two complementary signals and driving voltage to the modulator. For the simulation, 10-Gbit/s NRZ data with the PRBS length of 231-1 were fed into the MZ modulator. The fiber launch power was set to be less than 3 dBm to avoid the effects of fiber nonlinearities. For the receiver, we employed an optically preamplified receiver with an optical bandwidth of 0.3 nm. System performance was assessed by using receiver sensitivities measured at a bit-error ratio of 10⁻⁹.

First, we consider the phase variation by the delayed time duration. The polar diagram of the duobinary signals with 0.6-bit time delay has four circles: two outer circles for transitions between marks and spaces, and the other two inner circles for space-to-space transitions. The inner circles of the polar diagram imply ripples between spaces. It has been recently shown that the ripples between spaces help improve the dispersion tolerance of duobinary signals. It is thought that bit alternating phase of the ripples compensates for adverse ISI generated by dispersion-induced pulse broadening. However, the duobinary signal with 0.6-bit time delay still has a large amount of frequency chirps at the rising and falling edges. Subsequently reducing the driving voltage to 25% shrinks the locus of the polar diagram in vertical direction, indicating reduced frequency chirps at the rising and falling edges of the signals.

The optimization results show that we can transmit the duobinary signal with 0.6-bit time delay over 175 km of SSMF without dispersion compensation. Further improvement of the dispersion-limit transmission distance is performed by reducing the driving voltage to 25%. A good receiver sensitivity of -28.8 dBm after 200-km transmission is achieved by a duobinary transmitter with 0.6-bit time delay and 25% driving voltage.

6353-161, Poster Session

A novel optical label switching method based on optical CDMA label encoding

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The optical label switching has been proposed to simplify the packet forwarding process. It prefixes a label to a packet, such that packet