Objectives

- Support full-duplex operation only
- Preserve the 802.3 / Ethernet frame format utilizing the 802.3 MAC
- Preserve minimum and maximum FrameSize of current 802.3 standard
- Support a BER of better than or equal to 10⁻¹² at the MAC/PLS service interface
- Define a 4-lane 100 Gb/s backplane PHY for operation over links consistent with copper traces on "improved FR-4" (as defined by IEEE P802.3ap or better materials to be defined by the Task Force) with lengths up to at least 1m.
- Define a 4-lane 100 Gb/s PHY for operation over links consistent with copper twin-axial cables with lengths up to at least 5m.