

Economic Feasibility

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Subject : 40Gb/s Ethernet Single-mode Fibre PMD Study Group

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Outline

- Carrier Background
- Example
- 40G Deployment
- Key Carrier Cost Contributors for optical networks
- Carrier Operating Expense (OpEx)
- Installation & Maintenance
- Placeholder
- Economic Feasibility

Carrier Background

- Carrier networks represent a unique operational environment.
 - Geographically diverse network with sparsely distributed equipment locations.
 - Serve numerous customers and carry multiple services over the same network
- For Example: **AT&T Network** (Source: Young_01_1106 (updated 11/09))

AT&T Global network

- 38 Internet data centres on 4 continents
- >980k fiber route miles
- >4100 MPLS access nodes (143 countries)
- >1450 Ethernet access nodes (21 countries)

AT&T Domestic network

- 26 Core data centers in US
- US area is ~3.5M sq miles covered by 40 Gb/s
- core backbone with >22k fiber route miles
- >1800 additional non-core backbone links

Example – AT&T Network

(Source: Young_01_1106 (updated 11/09))



40 G Deployment

- Carrier deployment of 40G technology started in 2004.
- Initial deployed technologies were OC-768 or STM-256 standards (40G NRZ).
- Deployment of OTU3 technology started to support OTN service.
- Dual protocol OTU3/OC-768 modules were deployed in order to minimize costs. Both based on 40G NRZ optical technology.
- Currently there is a significant installed base of these interfaces.
- Future 40G clients will additionally be based on a 40GE standard to support Ethernet services.
- As currently defined in 802.3ba, 40GBASE-LR4 is optically incompatible with installed base preventing development of a single multi-protocol 40G module (ex. CFP) that supports 40GE and the installed base of OC-768 or STM-256, and OTU3 services.
 - This has significant cost implications for carrier networks

Contributors to cost of optical networks for carriers – client optics

Two major cost contributors for carriers with respect to client optics .

- Capital Expense (CapEx) is the acquisition cost of optics.
 - Similar for both carriers and data center operators.
 - Focus of 802.3ba debate in 2008 about 40GE standards alternatives.
- Operating Expense (OpEx) is the operational cost of optics.
 - It is significantly higher for carriers than data center operators.
 - Multiple services need to be supported in equipment centers distributed across large geographic areas that have lower equipment densities compared to data centers.
- Conclusion – 40 G deployment & cost
 - backward compatibility is required to support 40G networks
 - there is a higher cost of optics for carriers.
 - a 40 G Single Mode Fiber PMD would enable Carriers transition Ethernet services .

Carrier Operating Expense (OpEx) considerations due to client optical interfaces

- Higher carrier OpEx contributors due to client optics (vs. data center operator OpEx):
 - Shipping, Installation, Bring-up, Configuration, Sparing, Training, Life-cycle length.
 - Multi-protocol support.
- Carrier OpEx is proportional to the number of module types that have to be supported.
- A single module type minimizes OpEx by allowing configuration of same module for different services.
- Today, the OpEx of providing 10G client services (Ethernet, SONET or SDH, and OTN) is minimized through use of a single multi-protocol 10G SMF module (ex. XFP) that complies with 10GE, OC-192 or STM-64, and OTU2 standards

Carrier Perspective - Installation & Maintenance

Carrier OpEx is proportional to the number of module types supported

Installation - Single module decreases installation process & time

- **Shipping** - ship module in transponder before order details known, software provision later
- **Bring-up** - single module type for 40G with NRZ modulation, no confusion between 1 and 4 wavelengths
 - No confusion between modules and incompatible formats
- **Configuration** - single module type, can be shipped slotted in transponder and later remotely configured via software only
- **Training** - fewer pieces in the network, vastly reduced training for installation and maintenance staff.

Maintenance - Single module in network leads to less maintenance

- **Shipping** - order modules in bulk and ship pre-slotted in equipment, software configure later
- **Sparing** - single part to spare – note spares required in most locations
- **Training** - single part to train on
- **Multi Protocol Support** - single part supports all needs, customers can be disconnected and new customer can be reconnected without changing hardware or databases
- **Life Cycle Support** - single versus multiple modules to keep track off and keep the components alive

Economic Feasibility

- a) Known cost factors, reliable data.**
- b) Reasonable cost for performance.**
- c) Consideration of installation costs.**

- The cost factors for Ethernet components and systems are well known. The proposed project will reduce cost for carrier applications, enable Ethernet services transition and increase global Ethernet footprint & penetration. For carrier applications a 40G Single Mode Fiber PMD would enable a single module type which minimizes Operating Expense (OpEx) by allowing configuration of the same module for different services. This also provides backwards compatibility with deployed technology in carrier networks.
- For carrier applications the preferred carrier approach would be to utilize a 40G Serial PMD & deploy multi-protocol 40GE/OC-768/STM-256/OTU3 modules to provide the best balance of performance and cost:
 - provide backwards compatibility with deployed technology.
 - minimize OpEx costs due to simplified deployment.
 - leverage combined volumes to achieve lower Capital Expense (CapEx) for serial modules.
- In consideration of installation costs, the project is expected to use the proven and familiar medium of single mode fiber. A 40G Serial PMD would enable a single multi-protocol 40G module for carrier applications – this would simplify and reduce installation cost.
- Network design, installation and maintenance costs are reduced by preserving carrier network architecture, management, and software. A single module reduces cost as there is no need to individually support and maintain multiple modules to cover the required protocols.