# Next Generation IO Enabling 400Gbps C2M and CR Channels

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## 400 Gbps Next Generation Pluggable IO

- A new generation of face plate pluggable interconnect is proposed with an optimized stub-less interface
- Based on this new face plate pluggable IO interconnect, two channels have been simulated:
  - C2M (Chip to Module): tracy\_efai\_02a\_250430
  - CR (passive copper cable assembly): tracy\_efai\_03a\_250430
- S-parameter channels are included with this contribution for IEEE attendee analysis regarding architecture, modulation and equalization tradeoffs for the IEEE 802.3 NEA "Ethernet for AI" Assessment activity
- This interconnect development and related channels are an on-going body of work and further progress will be contributed

## C2M Channel (tracy\_efai\_02a\_250430)





#### **CPC Connector**

- Includes connection to substrate (device package) and internal cable termination.
- Does not include substrate footprint and breakout.

#### **Pluggable IO Connector**

- Includes: internal cable termination and short module trace.
- Does not include full trace routing on module board.

Channel File Name: tracy\_efai\_02a\_250430



Models are preliminary and under development.

-90

-100

Frequency, GHz



## Direct Attach Copper Cable Channel (tracy\_efai\_03a\_250430)



#### **CPC Connector**

- Includes connection to substrate and internal cable termination.
- Does not include substrate footprint and breakout.

#### **Pluggable IO Connector**

Includes internal cable termination.

#### **Paddle Card**

• Includes external cable termination and paddle card routing and bulk cable

Channel File Name: tracy\_efai\_03a\_250430.





### 400 Gbps Imperatives

- New pluggable interconnect is required, eliminate transmission line stubs for optimal impedance management
- Insertion Loss: PCB, Substrate trace loss is challenging at these candidate Nyquist frequencies and densities. Twinax cable-based architectures are a viable alternative.
- Return Loss: Relentless drive for optimized transitions to minimize reflections is critical. Interconnect mating interfaces and leadframes are streamlined
- Crosstalk: Interconnect design and PCB/Substrate escapes are highly shielded to minimize near and far end crosstalk. This is especially critical at the densities required.





## Summary

- Transition to 400G/lane drives addressable challenges along all SI vectors: loss, crosstalk, reflections
- A new pluggable IO connector is proposed as opposed to 'band-aiding' existing interfaces
- Addressing the SI challenges in the accelerated adoption time frame demands an optimized approach to channel development
- The authors are providing early simulation-based 400G C2M (tracy\_efai\_02a\_250430) and CR (tracy\_efai\_03a\_250430) channels for IEEE attendee evaluation and analysis
- Face plate pluggable module and passive copper cable-based architectures are promising realities at 400 Gbps
- This interconnect development and related channels are an on-going body of work and further progress will be contributed