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COM Simulation for 200G/L CR and KR with Floating FFE Taps

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Contributors

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Overview

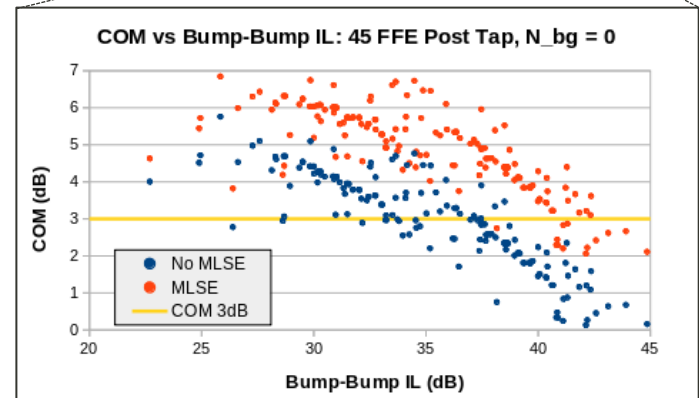
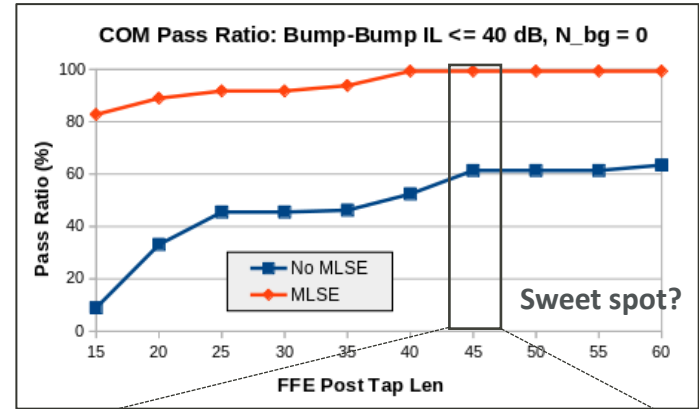
- ❑ **Background and Objective**
- ❑ **COM Analysis with Post Tap Dimension**
- ❑ **Benefits from Floating Taps**
- ❑ **Discussion and Summary**

Background and Objective

- Discussion on floating FFE since August 2023
 - Floating-tap DFE and FFE have been compared in [lit_3dj_elec_01a_230817](#), which shows impact on channel pass/fail
 - [lit_3dj_01a_2309](#) and [lim_3dj_05_2309](#) addressed the floating FFE methodology for COM
- [mellitz_3dj_elec_02_231026](#) investigated the effect on RX FFE length
 - Without MLSE, 120+ post taps required to meet 40dB loss target and 3dB COM
 - Floating taps are not used for this set of experiments
- This presentation provides results from COM 4.2beta2 with floating FFE implementation to help progress CR & KR baseline equalizer
 - Key feature of COM 4.2beta2: floating DFE → floating FFE
 - [Change from COM 4.2beta](#) (This presentation): floating bank searched based on pulse response (ISI), instead of FFE coefficients

First look at the CR/KR Channels: Fixed FFE Tap Only

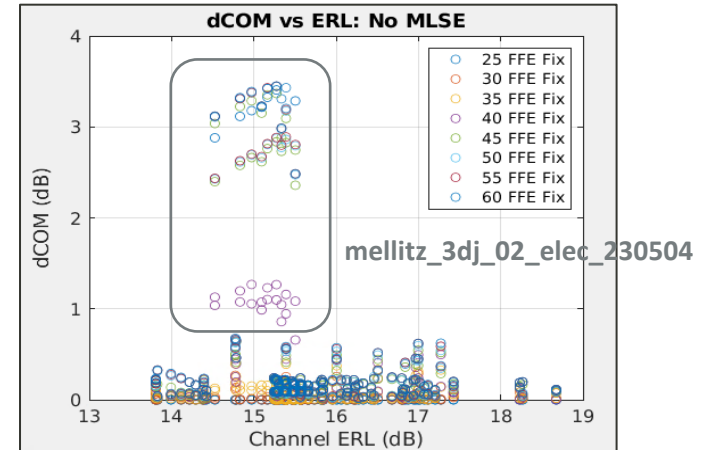
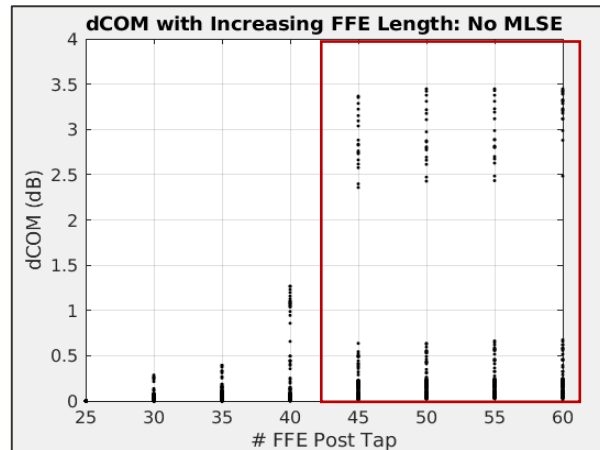
- Total of 145 test cases varies with
 - All CR & KR channels posted in 802.3dj [Tools & Channels](#)
 - 2 package test cases: short/long
 - Bump-bump IL ≤ 40 dB
- With MLSE, 40 taps are good enough?
 - COM gets consistent 2 dB gain as IL > 35 dB
 - In practical, MLSE gain is a little over 1 dB at most
 - More work required here
- Power efficiency: 60+ taps vs MLSE?
 - > 45 -tap seems less helpful?



Benefits from Increasing Taps: Fixed FFE Tap Only

- FFE taps span within some ranges, e.g., 45th-60th UIs, contribute negligible COM gain
 - Benefits from floating taps?
- mellitz_3dj_02_elec_230504 channel seems to benefit more with increasing FFE taps
 - Reflections majorly located at increasing tap range?
 - Relative low ERL?
 - Need more study

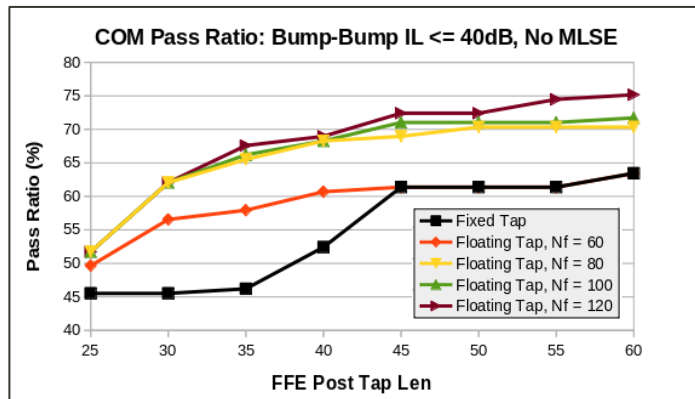
Baseline: 25 fixed taps



Benefits from Floating Tap

- Floating tap enjoys higher flexibility under the identical FFE length
 - Short fixed taps + floating taps
- Sweet spots of post tap dimension
 - Floating taps with total of ≥ 45 taps
 - $N_f = 80$

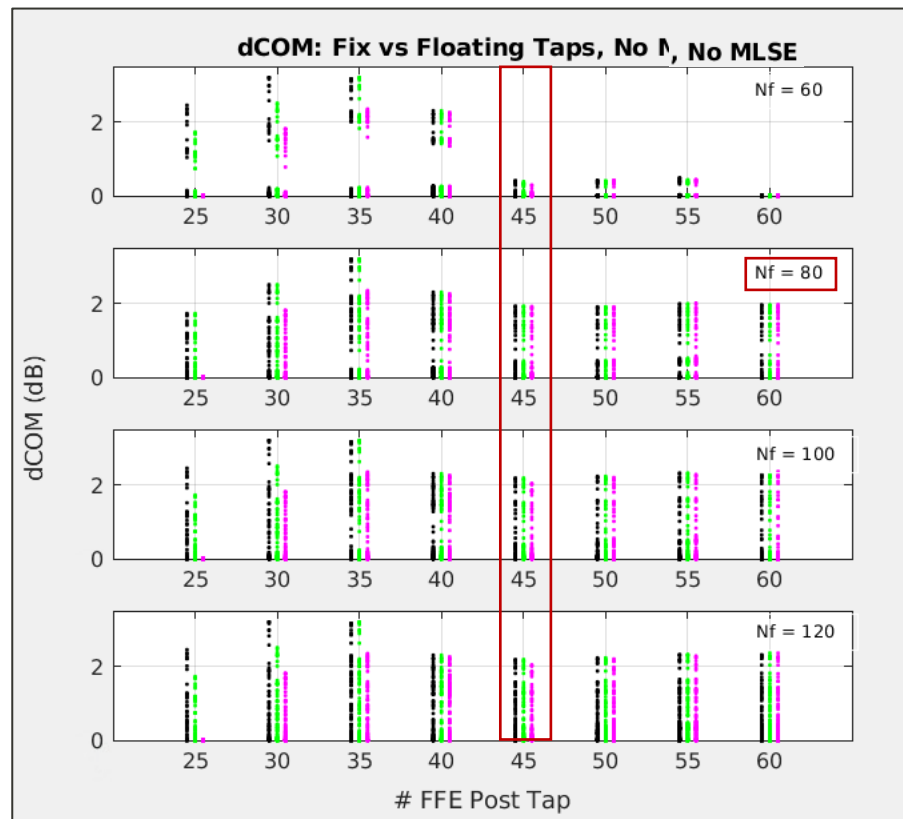
** 20 FFE fixed taps + floating taps*



dCOM = COM (Floating Tap) - COM (Fixed Tap Only)

** Set total taps identical for comparison*

- 15 FFE Fix + Floating
- 20 FFE Fix + Floating
- 25 FFE Fix + Floating



Discussion and Summary

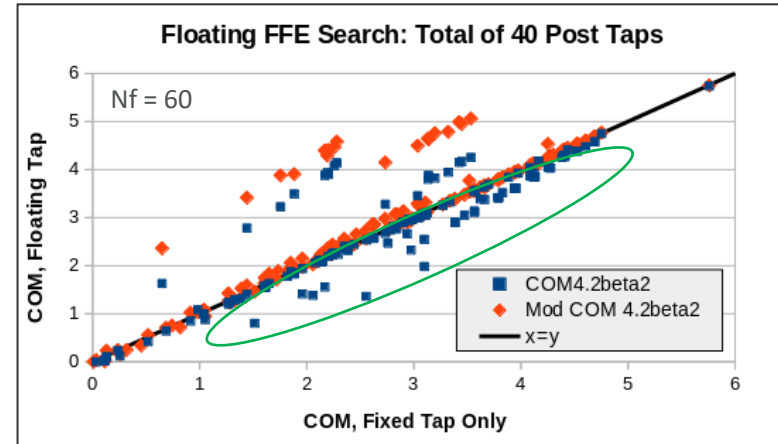
- **Suggested to revise floating FFE functionality with proposed methodology for COM**
- **Provided CR and KR channel analysis suggesting reference parameters path forward**
 - **≤ 45 FFE taps in total**
 - **Floating FFE with $N_f \leq 80$**
- **Recommended baseline equalizer for 802.3dj CR and KR: MLSE with floating FFE taps**
 - **Floating taps yield benefit of less taps**
 - **Need more study on MLSE behavior in COM**

Appendix



Sensitivity of Floating Bank Search Criteria

- **COM 4.2beta2: Floating bank search methodology**
 - Step 1: Compute FFE coefficients for all taps within floating tap range N_f
 - Step 2: Search floating bank location based on resulting **FFE coefficient** in Step 1
- **[This Presentation] Modified COM 4.2beta2**
 - Step 1: Search floating bank location based on **FFE input SBR (ISI)**, see lit_3dj_01a_2309



- **With the same tap number, fixed tap outperforms floating tap frequently**
 - **[Major] Current methodology of floating bank search cannot guarantee the optimal bank location**
 - FFE coefficients are hard to determine ISI strength directly due to inherent behavior of convolution
 - **Suggestion: Search bank location based on ISI, instead of FFE coefficients**
 - **[Minor] Even we allocate floating taps to the identical location that fixed taps used, the resulting FFE coefficients are different**
 - COM 4.2beta2 simply set all resulting FFE coefficients at non-selected floating taps to 0
 - **Suggestion: Calculate FFE coefficients with selected taps only (and their corresponding delay)**

Thank you

Questions and Discussions