

# **Supporting presentation for comments #337 & #338**

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**Cisco**

September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

P802.3dj Interim Meeting, Minneapolis, Sep 2025

# Submitted Comments

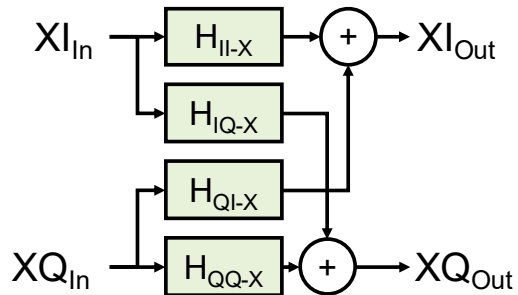
CI 185A	SC 185A.2.3.5	P914	L 19	# 337
Williams, Tom		Cisco		
Comment Type	TR	Comment Status X		
Reference equalizer misses to specify the number of taps.				
A supporting presentation will be provided				
SuggestedRemedy				
Add a specified number of taps to the description.				
Propose a 31 tap equalizer.				
"... with an adaptive 31 tap T-spaced feed-forward equalizer ..."				
Proposed Response		Response Status O		

CI 185A	SC 185A.2.3.7	P 914	L 29	# 338
Williams, Tom		Cisco		
Comment Type	TR	Comment Status X		
The purpose of ETCC is to quantify the penalty due to transmitter-only impairments. The addition of the reference post equalizer in D2.1 is proposed to compensate for a transmitter-caused penalty (IQ skew) which allows poorer transmitters to pass the test and pushing the burden to the link receiver to compensate.				
It is unclear if this reference post equalizer should remain in the specification.				
However, to limit the burden to the link receiver, propose to limit the Reference Post equalizer to 5 taps and only in the through paths which is sufficient to address the skew. And a seperate 1-tap phase error correction.				
A supporting presentation will be provided				
SuggestedRemedy				
Rewrite 185A.2.3.7 to:				
A reference post-equalizer for each polarization is placed after the carrier phase recovery, and used to compensate for transmit I-Q skew and transmit I-Q phase error impairments.				
The I-Q phase error is corrected via a 1-tap adaptive feed forward crosstalk cancellation between I-Q pairs.				
The I-Q skew is corrected via four independent 5-tap adaptive T-spaced feed forward filters for each of the XI, XQ, YI, YQ signals, where T is the symbol period.				
Proposed Response		Response Status O		

# Opening remarks

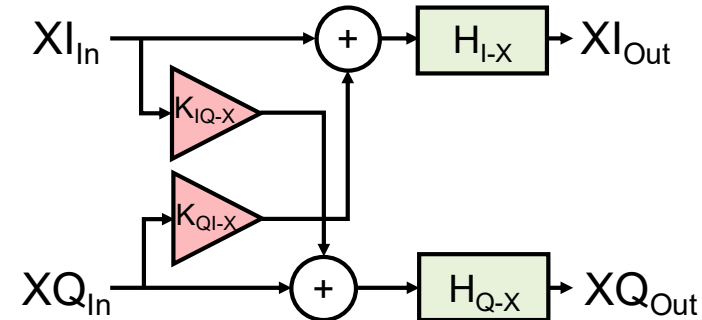
- A Reference Post Equalizer was proposed to compensate transmit I-Q skew and quadrature phase error
- The recommended 2x2 real MIMO with four T-spaced FIR filters per polarization may mask other transmitter impairments (crosstalk, frequency-dependent mismatch, etc.)
- Comment #338 proposes a simpler equalizer that achieves the same goal without any possible unwanted impairment masking

**2x2 real MIMO  
(Current)**





(Same for Y-pol)

**2x2 lattice + FIRs  
(Proposed)**



(Same for Y-pol)

 T-spaced 5-tap adaptive FIR

 Adaptive scaler (1-tap)

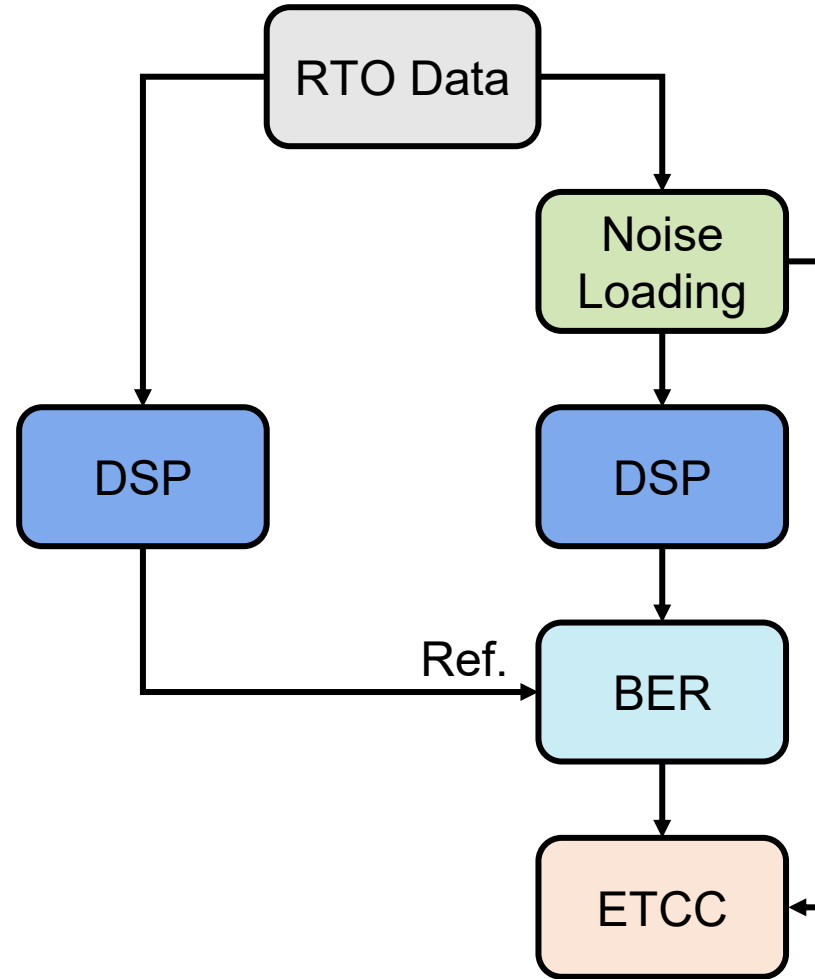
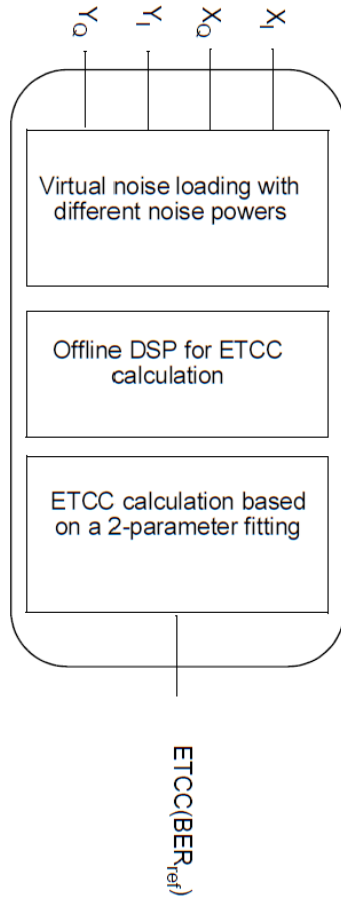
# Methodology

- ETCC results are generated from an analysis on real data from publicly available OFC 2025 Plugfest 800ZR dataset from OIF [1,2]
- Tx waveforms from seven different vendors captured with a Keysight OMA/RTO
- Processing done according to ETCC calculation in IEEE P802.3dj/D2.1, Annex 185A (without receiver deembedding)

[1] [OIF 400ZR and 800ZR Transmitter Quality Metric Measurements White Paper OFC 2025 Plugfest, April 2025, Pfeifle et al. \(Keysight\)](#)

[2] [Relevant data related to Transmitter Quality Metric development and validation](#)

# Data processing flow



# ETCC DSP pipeline

DSP

1.8 s.p.s.

Frequency offset  
equalization

4th-power FFT

Low-pass filter

Bessel Thomson w/  $0.55 \cdot BR$  BW

Pulse-shaping filter

Root-raised cosine w/ 0.1 roll-off

Clock phase recovery

Power clock tone per polarization

Reference equalizer

31-tap T-spaced 2x2 CMA/RDE/LMS

Carrier phase recovery

4th-power w/ inner & outer symbols

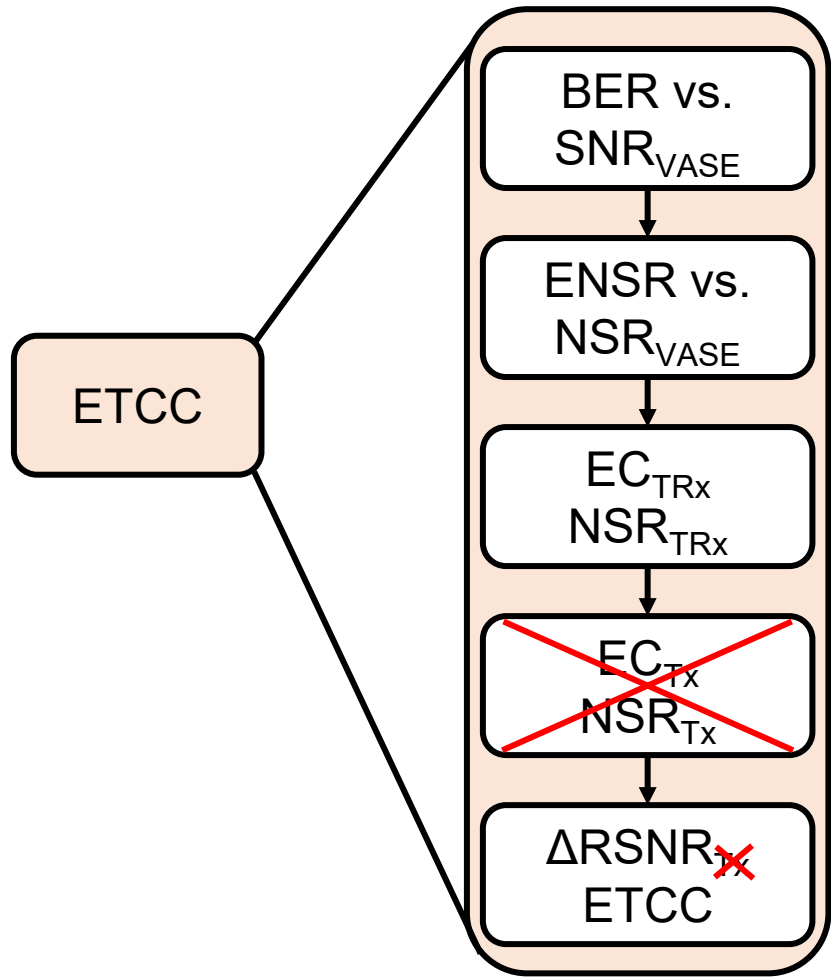
Reference post-equalizer

5-tap T-spaced 2x2 real MIMO per pol.

Symbol estimation and  
detection

Optimized thresholds

# ETCC flow



Error counting

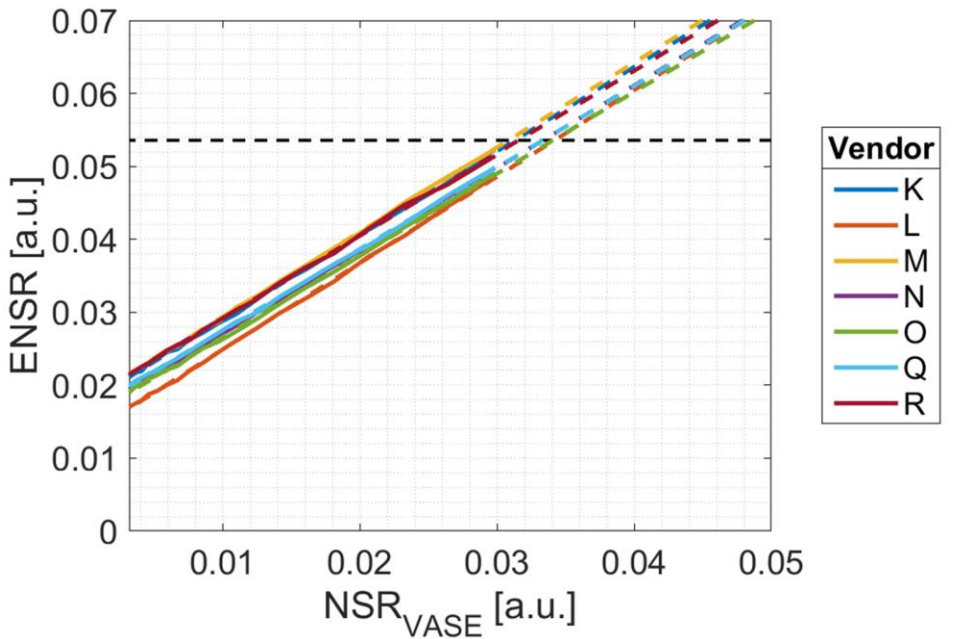
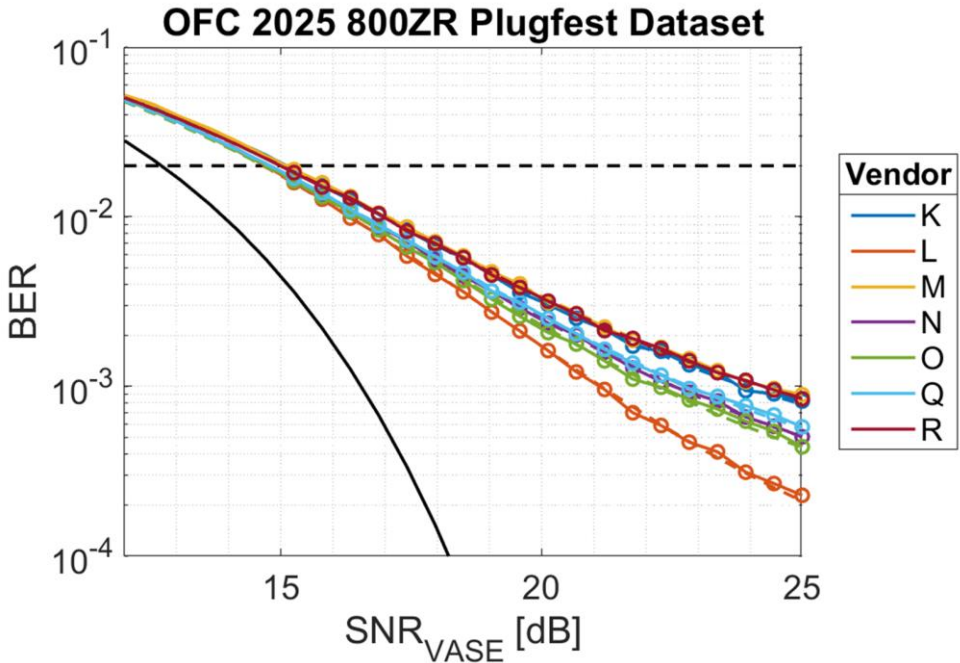
Estimation of ENSR from BER

Linear fit to ENSR vs. NSR\_VASE curve

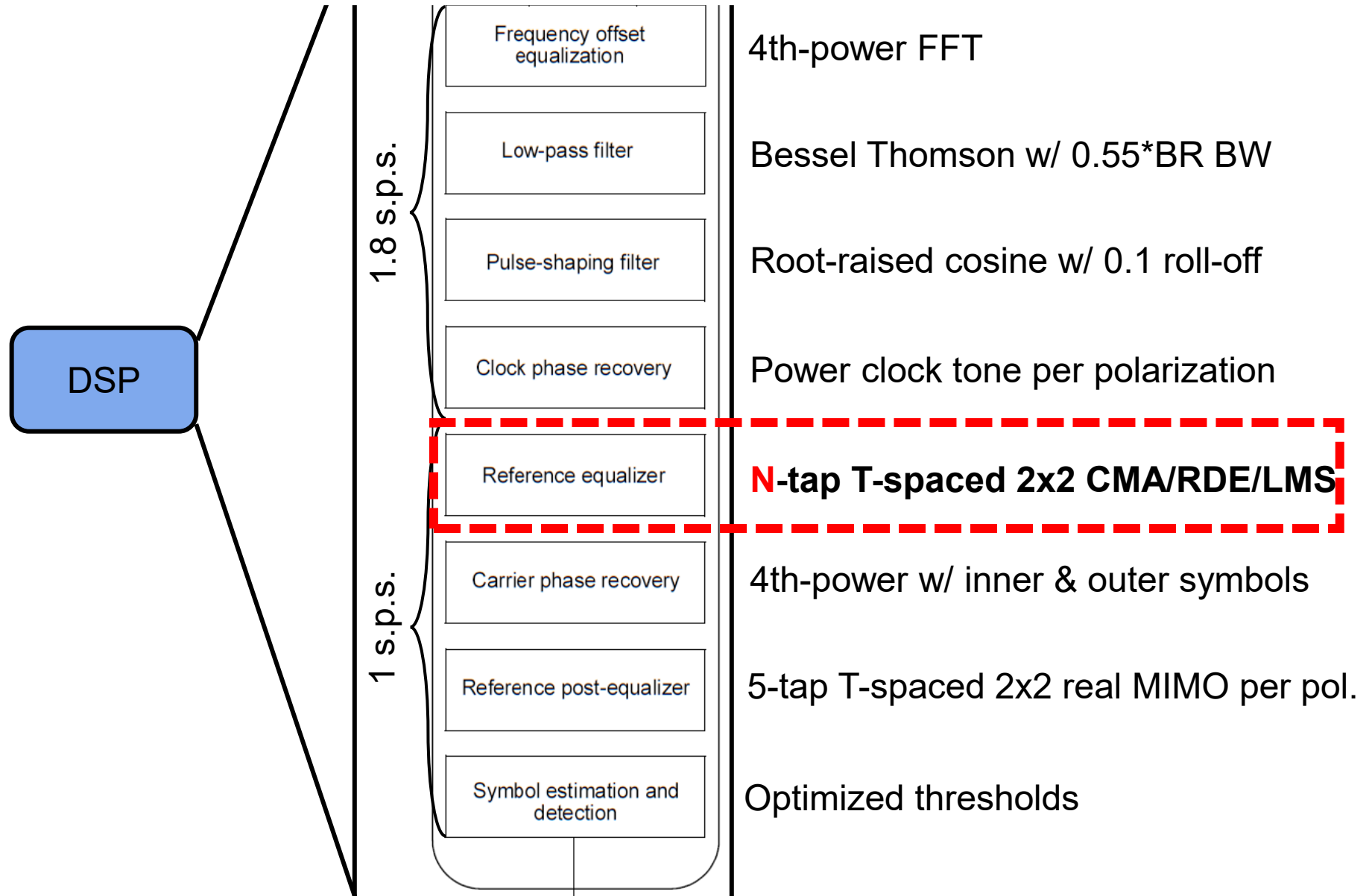
~~Deembed using known EC<sub>Rx</sub>, NSR<sub>Rx</sub>~~

$$RSNR_{ase,tx} = ((EC_{tx} \cdot ENSR_{ref})^{-1} - NSR_{tx})^{-1}$$

$$ETCC = \Delta RSNR_{tx} = 10 \log_{10} \left( \frac{RSNR_{ase,tx}}{ENSR_{ref}} \right)$$

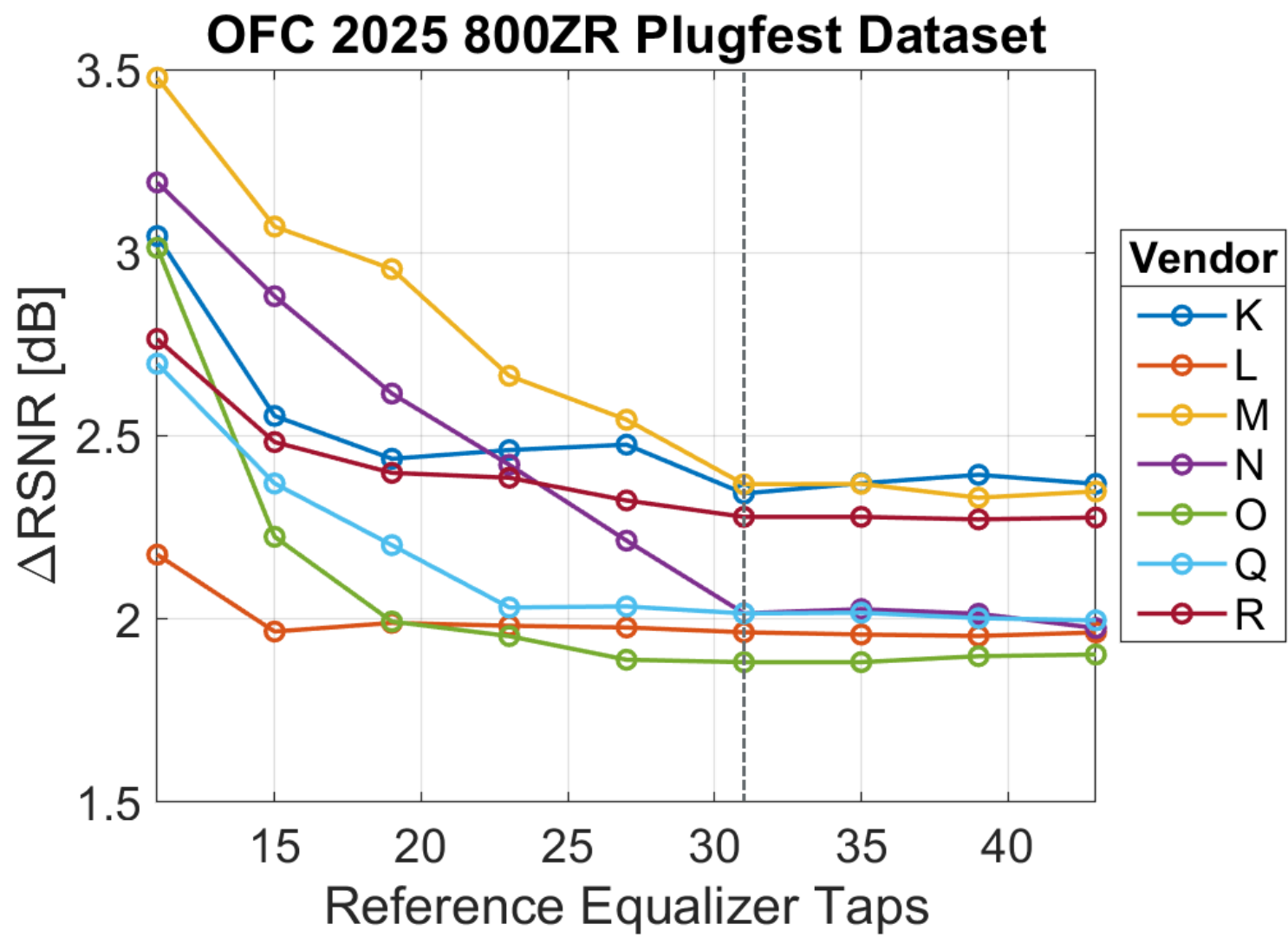


# Comment 337. Reference Equalizer Taps

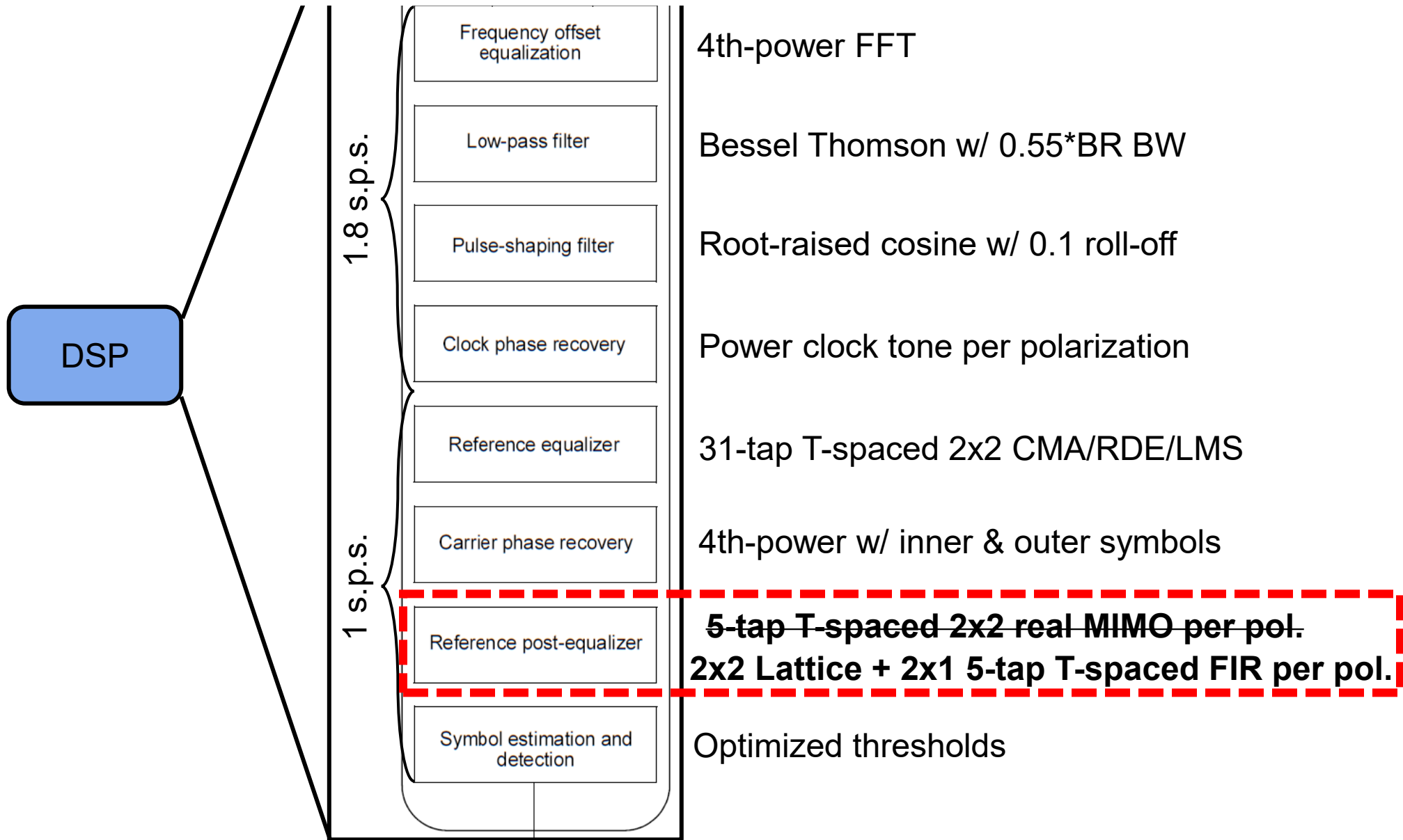




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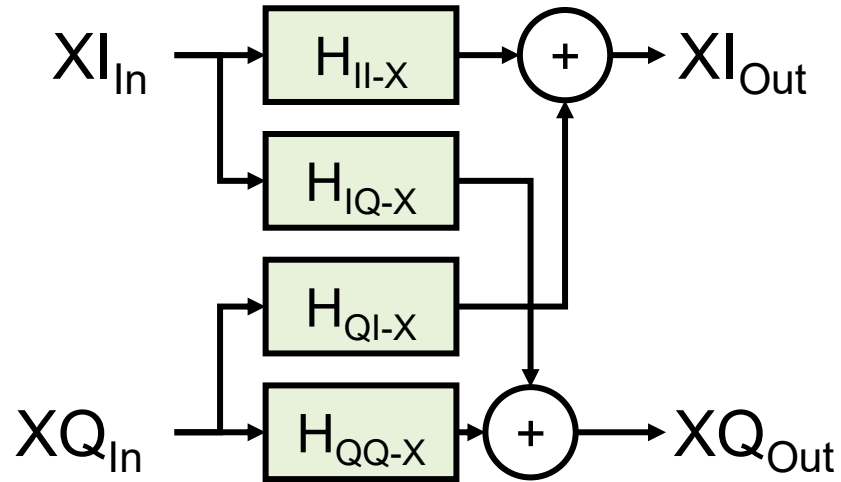


# Comment 338. Post Reference Equalizer Implementation

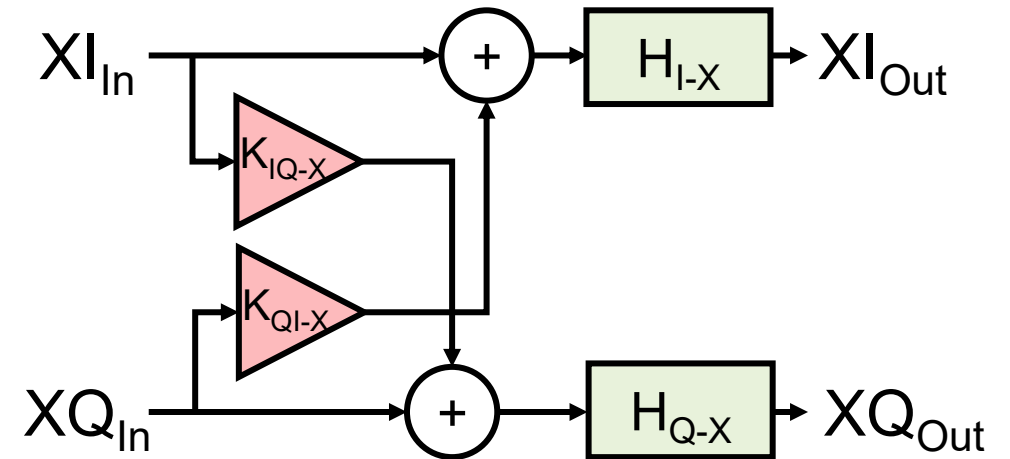


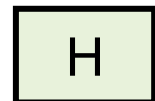
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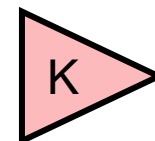
## 2x2 real MIMO (Current)



## 2x2 lattice + FIRs (Proposed)

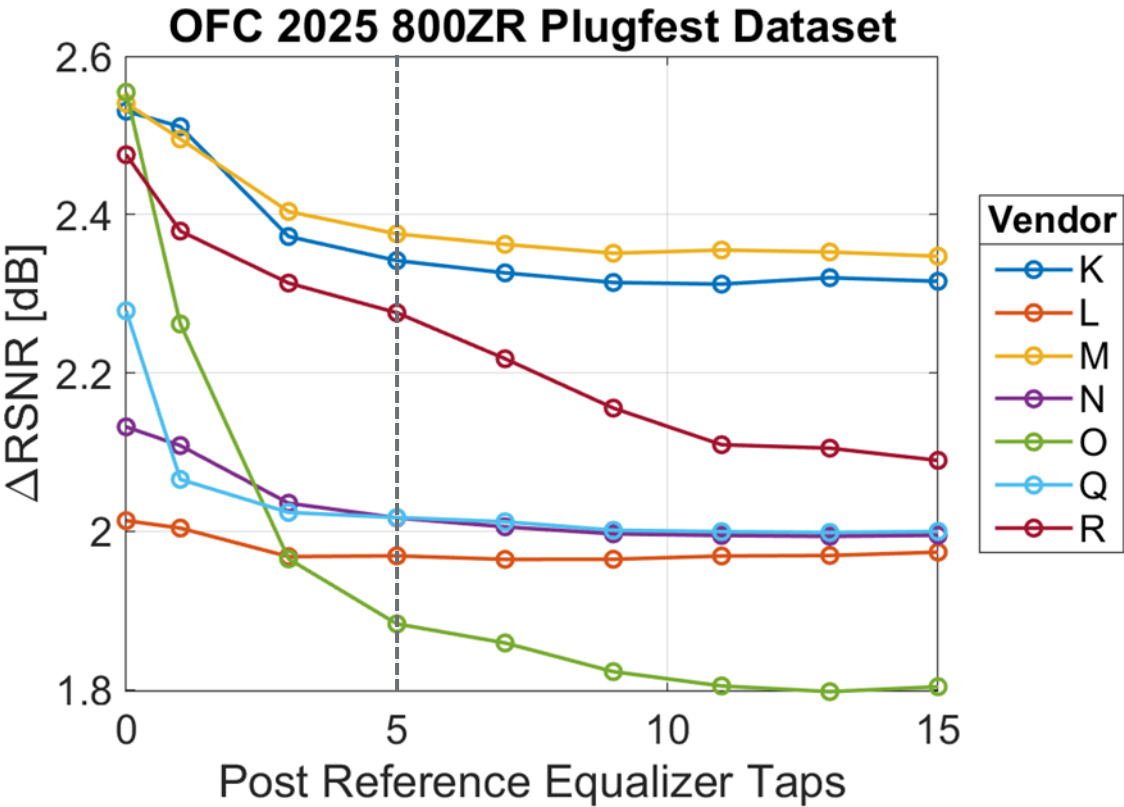


 T-spaced 5-tap adaptive FIR

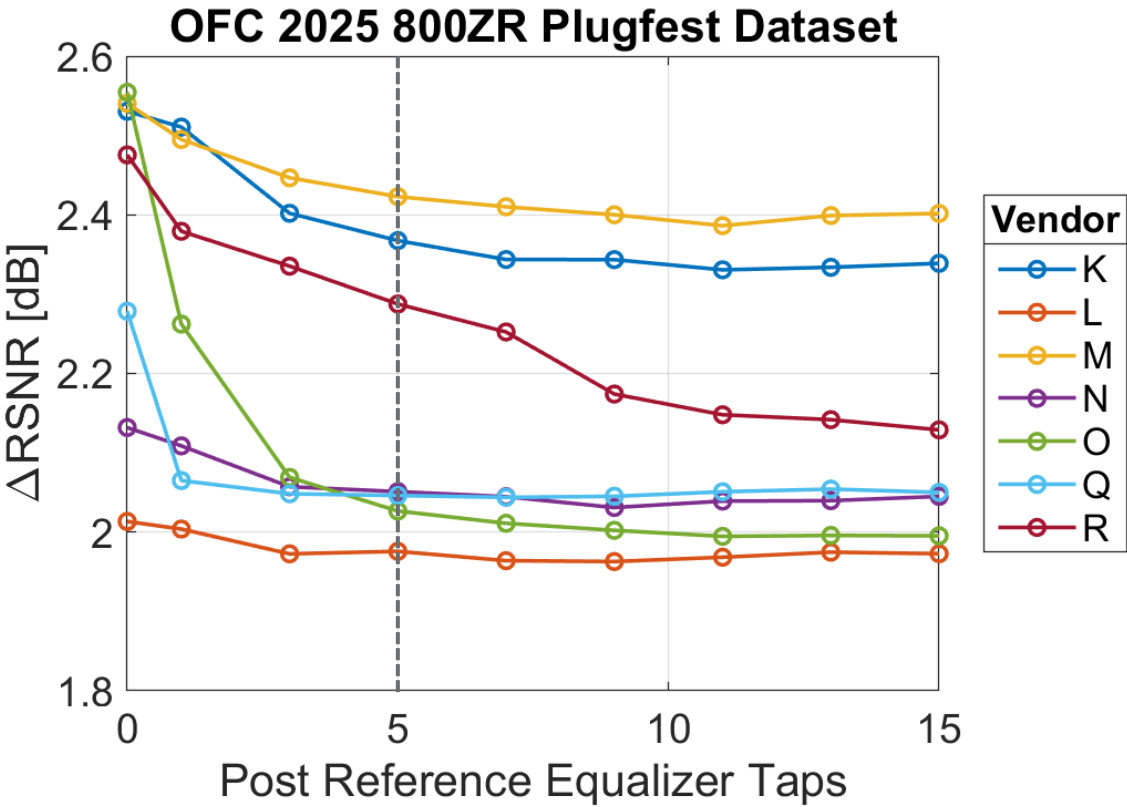
 Adaptive scaler (1-tap)

# Comment 338. Post Reference Equalizer Implementation

## 2x2 real MIMO (Current)



## 2x2 lattice + FIRs (Proposed)



**Thank you – questions?**