

Consensus Results: Corrections Needed in Clause 180.9.6

Norman Swenson
Affiliated with Nokia, Point2
Aug 31, 2026

Note: This presentation is being circulated to build consensus and may change before it is presented.

Addresses Comments: R2-15, R2-16, R2-17, R2-18, R2-126, R2-141, R2-144, R2-188, R2-189, R2-206

Supporters

Introduction

- With the changes introduced in 3.2, there are a few things that need cleaning up in clause 180.9.6
- The DFE is based on a:
 - Mean zero input signal
 - Balanced and scaled alphabet, $\{-1, -1/3, 1/3, 1\}$for the transmitted sequence
- SSPRQ is specified as a sequence from the unbalanced alphabet $\{0, 1, 2, 3\}$
- The signal out of the reference receiver is not mean zero
 - It is referred to as “optical power” in the clause, which cannot be negative

Comments: R2-141, R2-188, R2-206

The reference equalizer is a T-spaced, discrete-time equalizer with 15 feed-forward taps and a single decision feedback tap, where T is the symbol period. Equalizer coefficient constraints are given in Table 180–16. The reference equalizer may be implemented in the oscilloscope.

The equalizer is modeled as shown in Figure 180–10, where

- $r(t)$ is the output of the reference receiver defined in 180.9.2, with the mean value subtracted from the signal
- $\eta(t)$ is colored Gaussian noise, generated from additive white Gaussian noise (AWGN) filtered by a Bessel-Thomson (BT) filter as defined in 180.9.2
- $z(t)$ is the input signal given by Equation (180–1)
- z_n is the sampled response of input signal $z(t)$, given by Equation (180–2)
- v_n is the equalizer output corresponding to x_n
- X_n is the n th symbol in the test pattern sequence, $X_n \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$, and x_n is given by Equation (180-3)
- ~~w is the set of feed-forward tap coefficients, given by Equation (180–3)~~
- ~~a vector of feed-forward tap coefficients, given by Equation (180-4)~~
- $b(1)$ is the feedback tap coefficient
- ~~the feedback is modeled as correct, i.e., x_n is the pattern used to generate the input $r(t)$~~
- decisions are modeled as being correct, i.e., the decision feedback path is fed by the sequence $\{x_n\}$ corresponding to the transmitted test pattern sequence without errors
- the received signal $r(t)$ is aligned with the test pattern such that $r(nT)$ corresponds to x_n

$$z(t) = r(t) + \eta(t) \quad (180-1)$$

$$z_n = z(nT + \phi), \text{ where } 0 \leq \phi < T \quad (180-2)$$

$$x_n = 2/3 X_n - 1, \quad x_n \in \{-1, -1/3, 1/3, 1\} \quad (180-3)$$

~~$$w = \{w(a), w(a+1), \dots, w(a+14)\} \quad (180-3)$$~~

$$\mathbf{w} = [w(a), w(a+1), \dots, w(a+14)] \quad (180-4)$$

R2-206

R2-141

Comments: R2-144, R2-189

For a given sampling phase ϕ_0 and assumed RMS value σ_G for the colored Gaussian noise $\eta(t)$, determine the equalizer coefficients $\mathbf{w}$ and $b(1)$, subject to the limits in Table 180–16, that result in the minimum mean squared error (MMSE) between y_n and x_n . Alternative optimization methods may be used to determine equalizer tap weights if they report comparable values of TDECQ.

αx_n , where α is a scaling factor chosen such that the tap weights in $\mathbf{w}$ sum to 1.

Explanation (not to be included in the standard):

Because we require that $\text{sum}(\mathbf{w}) = 1$, we are not really minimizing MSE between y_n and x_n , we are minimizing MSE between y_n and a scaled version of x_n . One way to do this is to first minimize MSE between y_n and x_n . Let that solution be $\mathbf{w}_0$ and b_0 . Let $\alpha = 1/\text{sum}(\mathbf{w}_0)$, and scale $\mathbf{w}$ and b such that $\mathbf{w}_1 = \alpha \mathbf{w}_0$ and let $b_1 = \alpha b_0$. Then $\mathbf{w}_1$ and b_1 minimize MSE between y_n and αx_n .

Note that, with $x_n \in \{-1, -1/3, 1/3, 1\}$, $\alpha \approx \frac{OMA_{outer}}{2} \approx \frac{OMATDECQ}{2}$. The relation is not exact because we are not measuring OMA as steady state values. If we were, the equality would be exact.

Comments: R2-15,
R2-144, R2-188

Parameter	Symbol	Value	
		Minimum	Maximum
Number of feed-forward taps	N_w	15	
Number of pre-cursor feed-forward taps	—	0	3
Main tap coefficient limit	$w(0)$	$0.9 - b(1)$	2.5
Normalized feed-forward tap coefficient limits:	$w(i)/w(0)$		
$i = -3$		-0.15	0.1
$i = -2$		-0.1	0.25
$i = -1$		-0.5	0.1
$i = 1$		-0.6	0.2
$i = 2$		-0.2	0.3
$i = 3$		-0.15	0.15
$i = 4$		-0.15	0.15
$i = 5$		-0.15	0.15
$i = 6$		-0.15	0.15
$i \geq 7$		-0.1	0.1
Pre-post-cursor tap coefficient difference limit: $ w(1)/w(0) - b(1) - w(-1)/w(0) $	—	—	0.25
Feed-forward tap DC gain ^a	—	1	
Number of feedback taps	N_b	1	
Feedback tap coefficient limit ^b	$b(1)$	0	0.33 α

^a The sum of all 15 feed-forward tap coefficients, $w(i)$.

^b ~~The feedback tap coefficient $b(1)$ is referenced to $OMA_{TDECQ}/2$ (see 180.9.6.4 for definition of OMA_{TDECQ}).~~

 Use of α obviates the need to define OMA_{TDECQ}

Comments: R2-188, R2-18

y_n is implicitly a function of X_n

$$P(y_{n,L}, \sigma_G) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{cases} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{P_{th1} - y_{n,L}}{\sqrt{2} C_{eq} \sigma_G}\right) & X_n = 0 \\ \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y_{n,L} - P_{th1}}{\sqrt{2} C_{eq} \sigma_G}\right) + \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{P_{th2} - y_{n,L}}{\sqrt{2} C_{eq} \sigma_G}\right) & X_n = 1 \\ \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y_{n,L} - P_{th2}}{\sqrt{2} C_{eq} \sigma_G}\right) + \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{P_{th3} - y_{n,L}}{\sqrt{2} C_{eq} \sigma_G}\right) & X_n = 2 \\ \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y_{n,L} - P_{th3}}{\sqrt{2} C_{eq} \sigma_G}\right) & X_n = 3 \end{cases} \quad (180-7)$$

Use X_n instead of x_n

$X_n = 0$

where

C_{eq}

is a coefficient which accounts for the reference equalizer noise enhancement

$P_{th1}, P_{th2}, P_{th3}$

are thresholds adjusted from $P_{0,th1}, P_{0,th2}, P_{0,th3}$ within limits described below

Addresses Hajduczenia Comment R2-18.

The nominal threshold levels $P_{0,th1}$, $P_{0,th2}$, and $P_{0,th3}$, are determined from the OMA_{TDECQ} and the average optical power P_{ave} as defined in Equation (180–4), Equation (180–5), and Equation (180–6), and illustrated in Figure 180–11.

$$P_{0,th1} = P_{ave} - \frac{OMA_{TDECQ}}{3} \quad (180-4)$$

$$P_{0,th2} = P_{ave} \quad (180-5)$$

$$P_{0,th3} = P_{ave} + \frac{OMA_{TDECQ}}{3} \quad (180-6)$$

where OMA_{TDECQ} is measured on the equalized captured waveform y_n using the method defined in 180.9.5.

$r(t)$ is no longer a power, as the mean has been subtracted off, and y_n is a discrete-time signal, not a continuous-time signal. The method defined in 180.9.5 is for a continuous-time signal with runs of threes and runs of zeros. If we define the thresholds in terms of α (the scaling factor applied to x_n), we do not need to define OMA_{TDECQ} at all.

Original:

An eye diagram to help illustrate TDECQ is shown in Figure 180–11. The eye diagram corresponds to the optimized equalizer setting at sampling phase ϕ_0 . The feedback symbol x_n changes at phase $\phi = \phi_0 - T/2$.

I suggest:

An eye diagram to help illustrate TDECQ is shown in Figure 180–11. The eye diagram corresponds to the optimized equalizer setting at sampling phase ϕ_0 . The feedback symbol ~~x_n changes at phase $\phi = \phi_0 - T/2$.~~

x_{n-1} changes value to x_n at time $t = nT + \phi_0 + T/2$.

The eye diagram can be constructed, for example, by using the equalizer taps optimized at ϕ_0 and varying the phase ϕ in Eq. 180-2 to generate samples y_n at multiple phases.

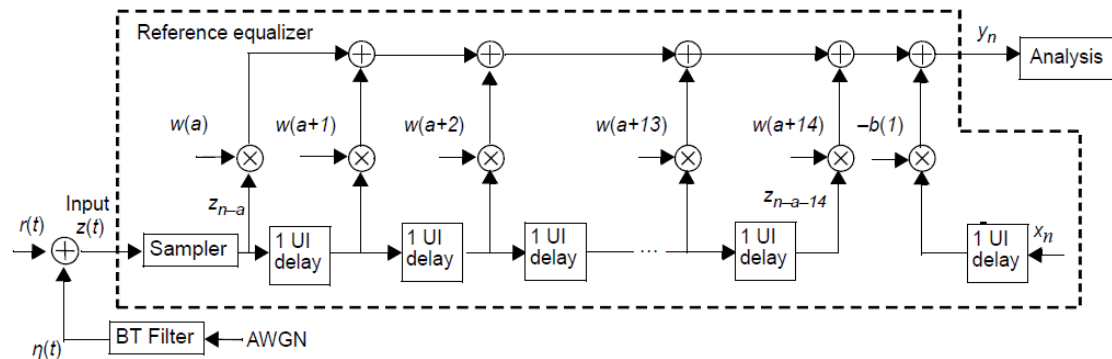


Figure 180–10—TDECQ reference equalizer functional model

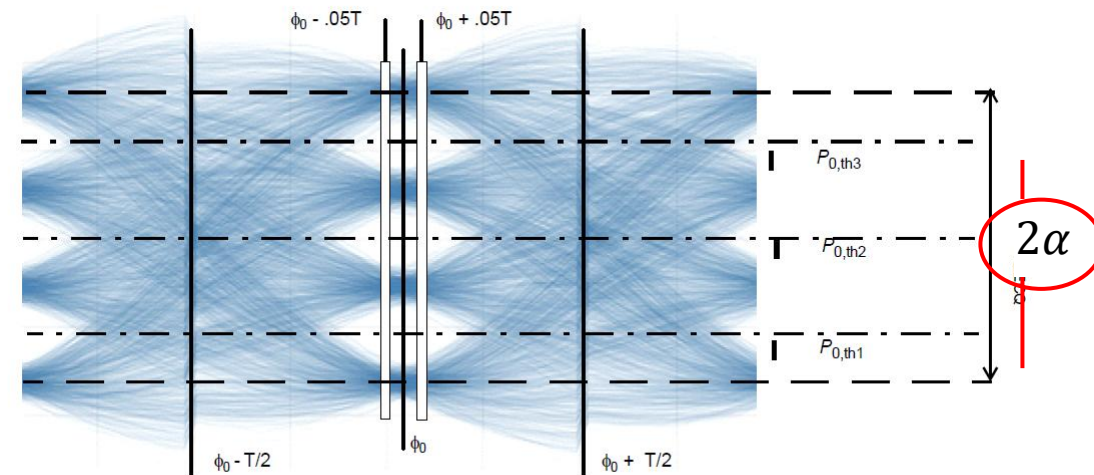


Figure 180–11—Illustration of the TDECQ measurement

The nominal threshold levels $P_{0,th1}$, $P_{0,th2}$, and $P_{0,th3}$, are ~~determined from the OMA_{TDECQ} and the average optical power P_{ave}~~ defined in Equation (180-4), Equation (180-5), and Equation (180-6), and illustrated in Figure 180-11.

$$P_{0,th1} = \cancel{P_{ave} + \frac{OMA_{TDECQ}}{3}} - \frac{2\alpha}{3} \tag{180-4}$$

$$P_{0,th2} = \cancel{P_{ave}} - 0 \tag{180-5}$$

$$P_{0,th3} = \cancel{P_{ave} + \frac{OMA_{TDECQ}}{3}} + \frac{2\alpha}{3} \tag{180-6}$$

~~where OMA_{TDECQ} is measured on the equalized captured waveform y_n using the method defined in 180.9.5~~,
where α is the scaling factor applied to x_n to achieve an MMSE fit to y_n where the tap coefficients in w sum to 1.

nominally

For a given sampling phase ϕ_0 two regions of a UI are measured, centered $\downarrow$ 0.05 UI before and after the sampling phase ϕ_0 , each with a width of 0.04 UI. For the left region, all samples such that $\phi_0 - 0.07T \leq \phi \leq \phi_0 - 0.03T$ are included. For the right region, all samples such that $\phi_0 + 0.03T \leq \phi \leq \phi_0 + 0.07T$ are included. The precise time position of the pair of regions is adjusted to minimize TDECQ while keeping the regions spaced 0.1 UI apart. Let $y_{n,L}$ and $y_{n,R}$ be the equalized samples in the left region and the right region respectively.

Thank you