

Silicon photonic devices and integrated circuits

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Nanophotonics 3.4-5 (2014): 215-228.

2015.12.01
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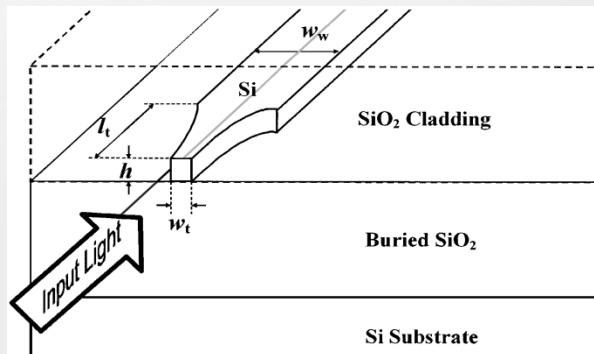
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Introduction

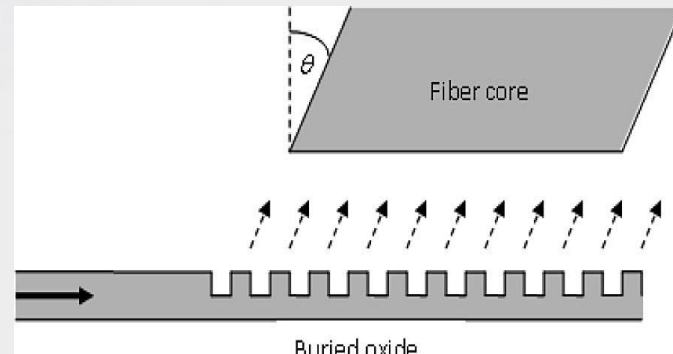
❖ Definition of Silicon Photonic devices in this paper

1. Using silicon-core waveguide

- ✓ High index contrast (≈ 2) with silicon oxide as a cladding
- ✓ High density integration (sub-micrometer)
- ✓ High coupling efficiency between silicon waveguide and optical fiber



< Inverse taper >



< Grating >

2. Whole-wafer processing based on CMOS fabrication

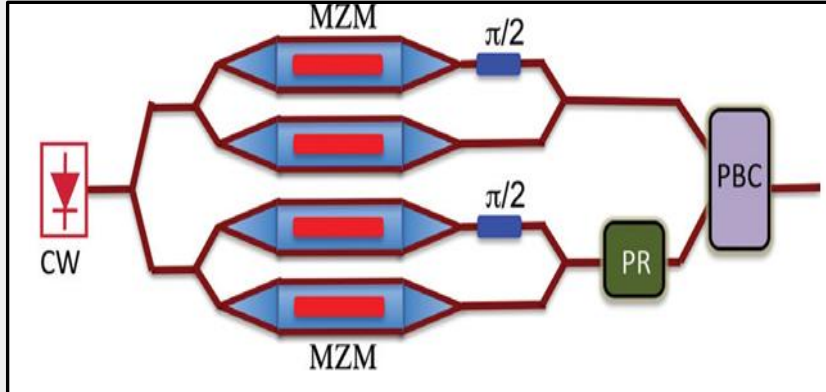
- ✓ Large-scale & low-cost manufacturability.
- ✓ Monolithic integration of silicon PICs with CMOS drivers
- ✓ Solve interconnect bottlenecks of modern electronic ICs

Introduction

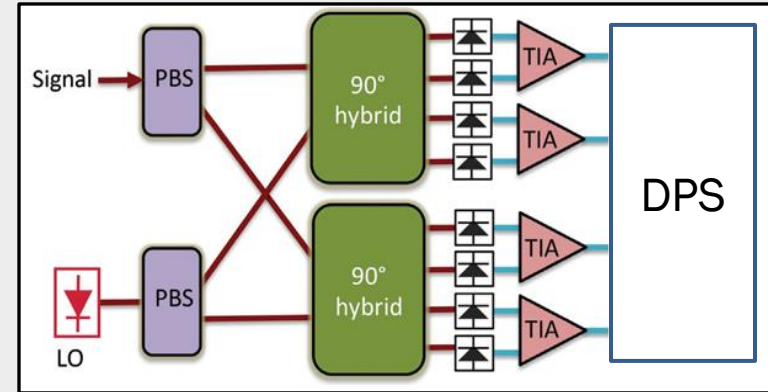
❖ Applications

1. Long-haul/metro coherent optical networks

- High-order modulation (QAM, OFDM) and coherent detection
- Maximize channel capacity up to 100 Gb/s, 400 Gb/s, 1 Tb/s
- Integration of complex photonic circuit and CMOS electronics



< Optical coherent transmitter >



< Optical coherent receiver >

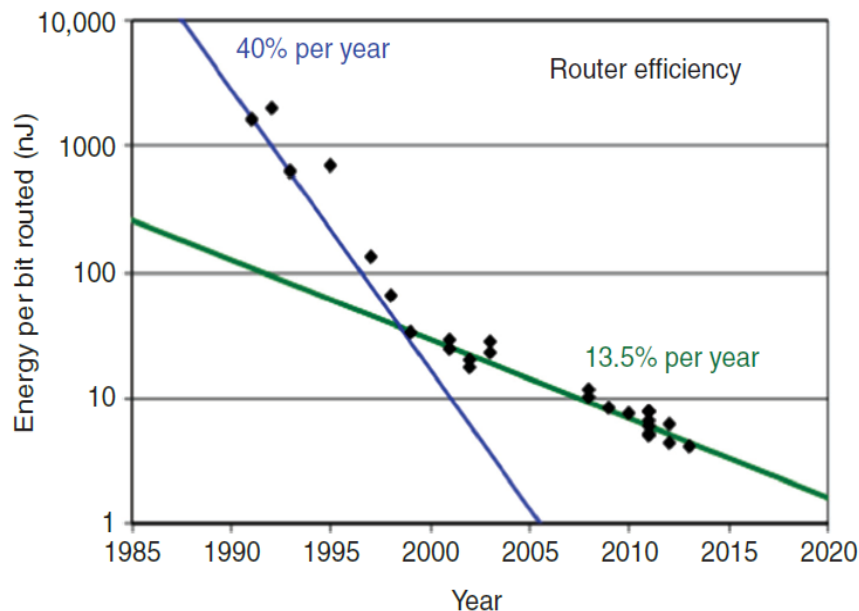
Introduction

❖ Applications

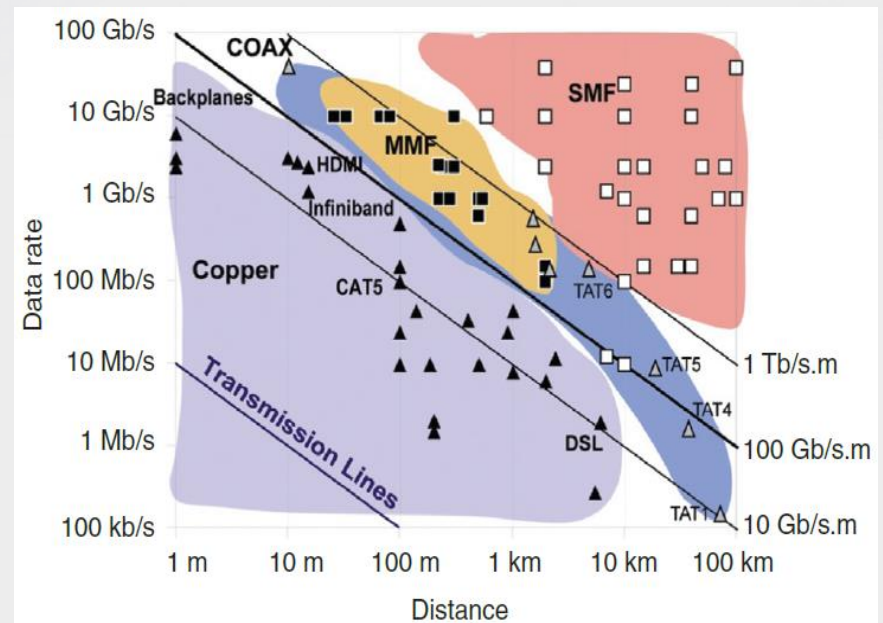
2. Optical interconnects for routers and switches

3. Datacenters and supercomputers

✓ Low power consumption & Co-integration of electronics and photonics



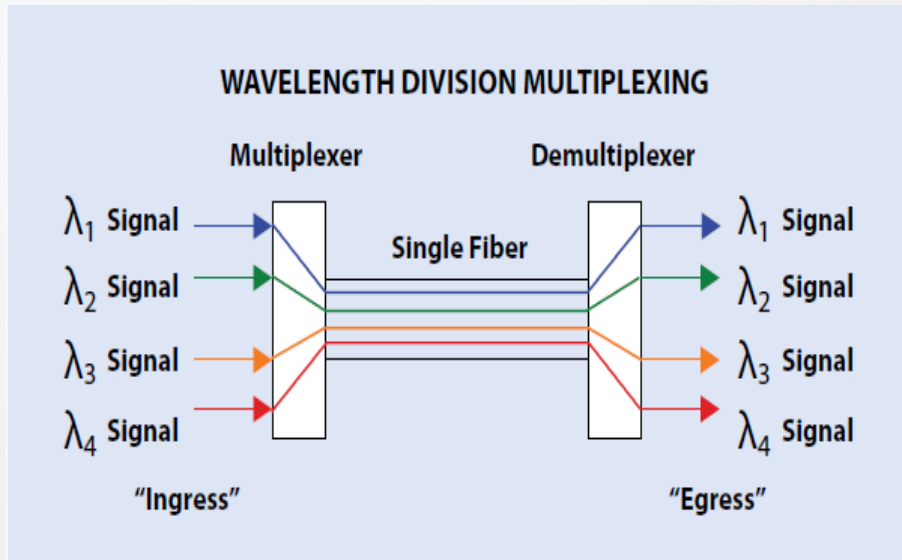
< Energy per bit routed for routers >



< Commercial interconnects >

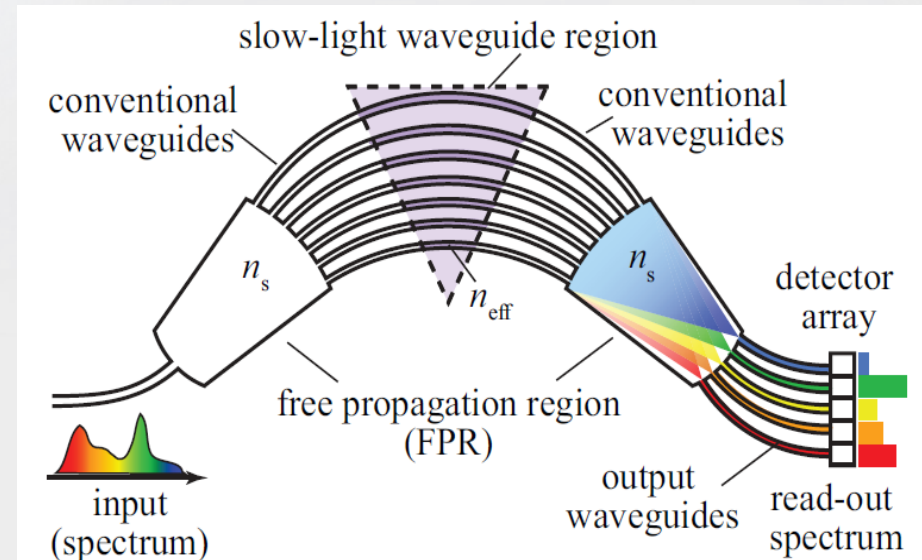
WDM transmitters & receivers

❖ WDM (Wavelength Division Multiplexing)



< Basic WDM technology diagram >

- Multi-channel system
- Transport multiple wavelengths over a fiber
- Use wavelength Mux/Demux

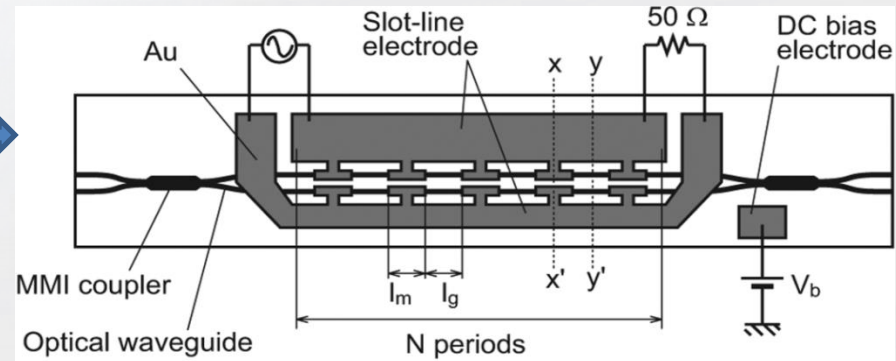
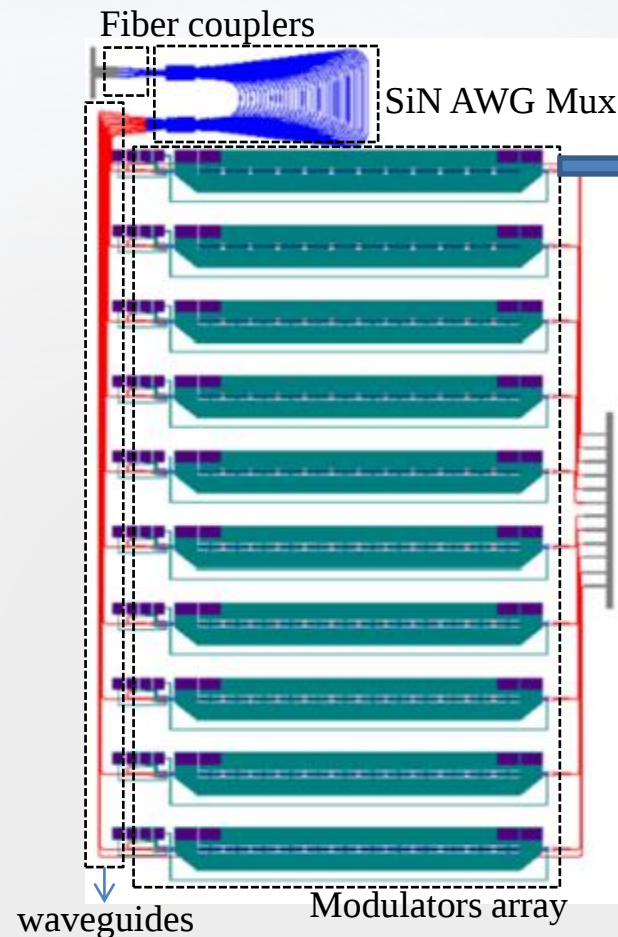


< AWG (Arrayed Waveguide Gratings) >

- Widely used for optical MUX/DeMUX
- Composed of two couplers and waveguides array
- Use phase shift and optical interference

WDM transmitters & receivers

❖ WDM transmitter (100 GHz spacing, 25 Gbps/wavelength, 5x8 mm² footprint)



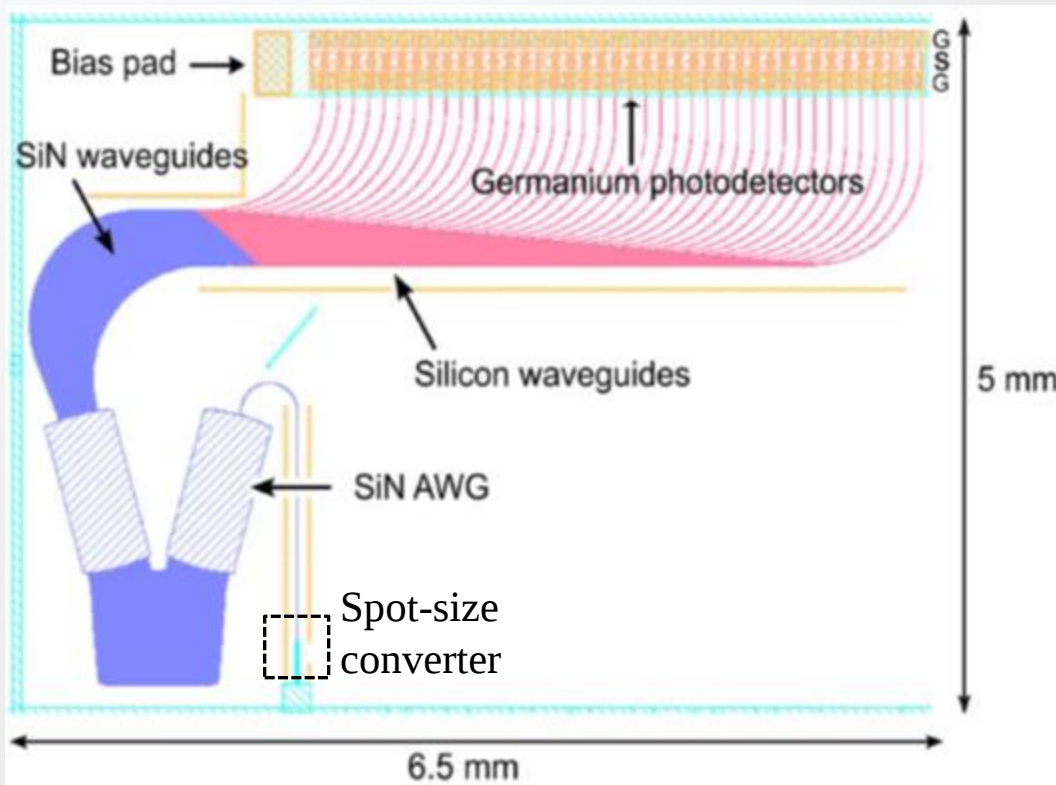
- Carrier depletion based MZM
- Use capacitively loaded traveling-wave electrodes
- Low capacitance, high speed operation

Component	Waveguide	Reason
Fiber couplers	Silica	Low index contrast
AWG	Si_3N_4	Fabrication tolerance
Waveguides	Silicon	Low loss
Modulators	Silicon	p-n junctions

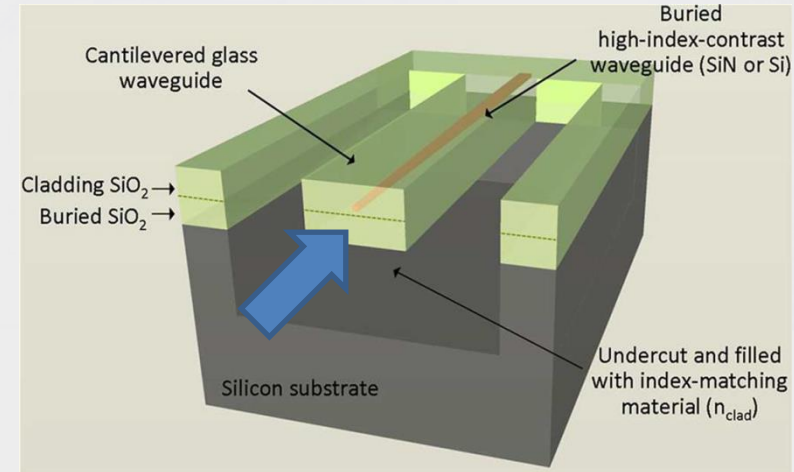
WDM transmitters & receivers

❖ WDM receiver (0.2 A/W, 200 GHz spacing, 40 channels)

➤ Monolithically integrated WDM receiver



< Integrated WDM receiver >



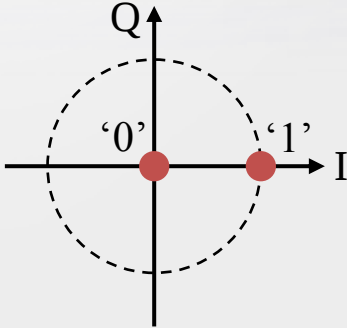
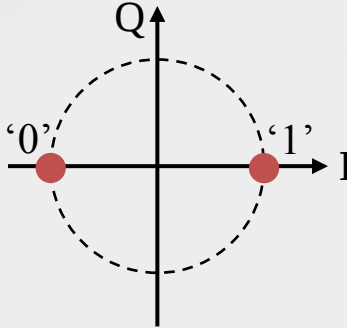
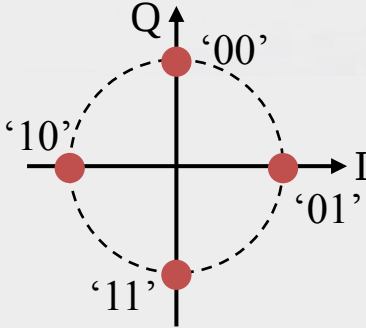
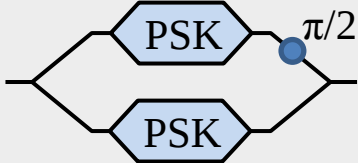
< cantilever based spot-size converter >

Component	Waveguide	Reason
Spot-size converter	Si_3N_4	Low coupling loss
AWG	Si_3N_4	Fabrication tolerance
Waveguides	Silicon	Low loss
Ge-PD	Silicon	p-n junctions

Coherent transmitters & receivers

❖ Optical coherent system

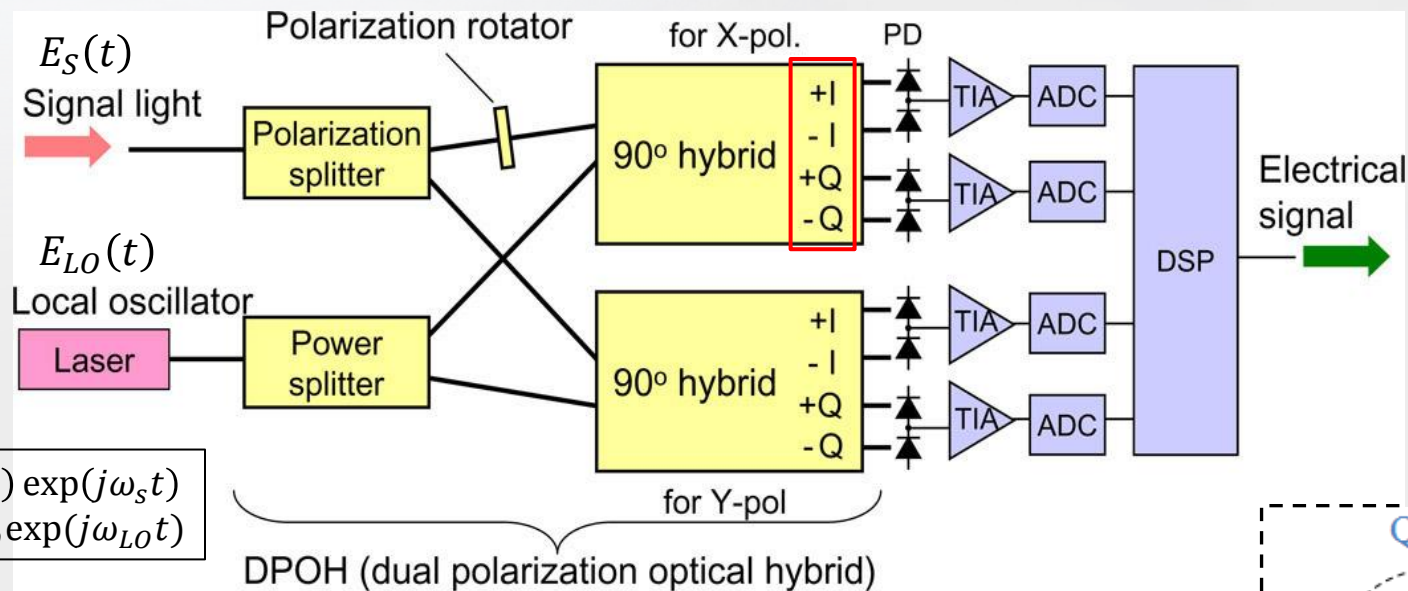
- High spectral efficiency: High-order modulation (QAM, OFDM)
- High receiver sensitivity: optical beating between signal and local oscillator

Modulation formats	OOK	BPSK	QPSK (4-QAM)
Constellation			
Efficiency	1 bit/symbol	1 bit/symbol	2 bits/symbol
Modulator configuration			

Coherent transmitters & receivers

❖ Optical coherent system

- High spectral efficiency: High-order modulation (QAM, OFDM)
- High receiver sensitivity: optical beating between signal and local oscillator



$$E_S(t) = A_S(t) \exp(j\omega_S t)$$

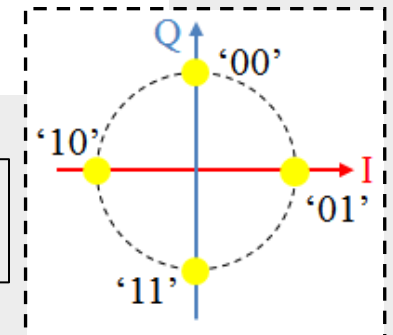
$$E_{LO}(t) = A_{LO} \exp(j\omega_{LO} t)$$

$$+I = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(E_S + E_{LO}), -I = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(E_S - E_{LO})$$

$$+Q = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(E_S - jE_{LO}), -Q = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(E_S + jE_{LO})$$

$$(+I)^2 - (-I)^2 = 2\text{Re}\{E_S E_{LO}^*\}$$

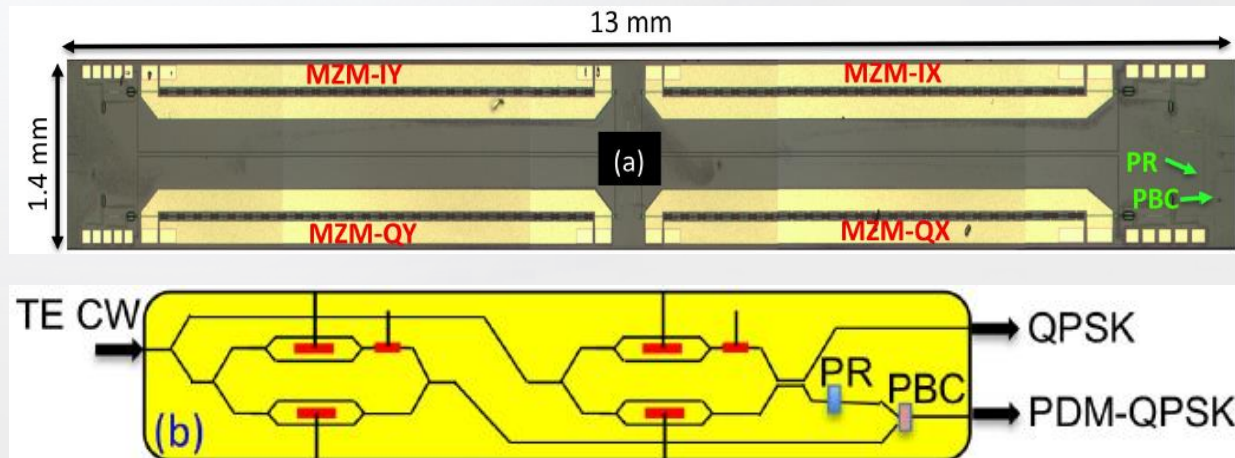
$$(+Q)^2 - (-Q)^2 = 2\text{Im}\{E_S E_{LO}^*\}$$



Coherent transmitters & receivers

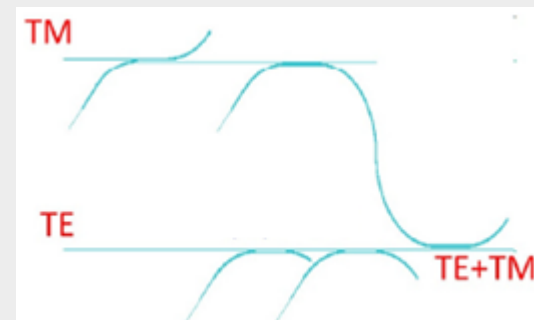
❖ Coherent transmitter

➤ MZM based dual-polarization coherent transmitter (PDM-IQ modulator)



➤ Components

- ✓ Four MZMs
- ✓ Phase shifters
- ✓ Polarization rotator (PR)
- ✓ Polarization beam coupler (PBC)

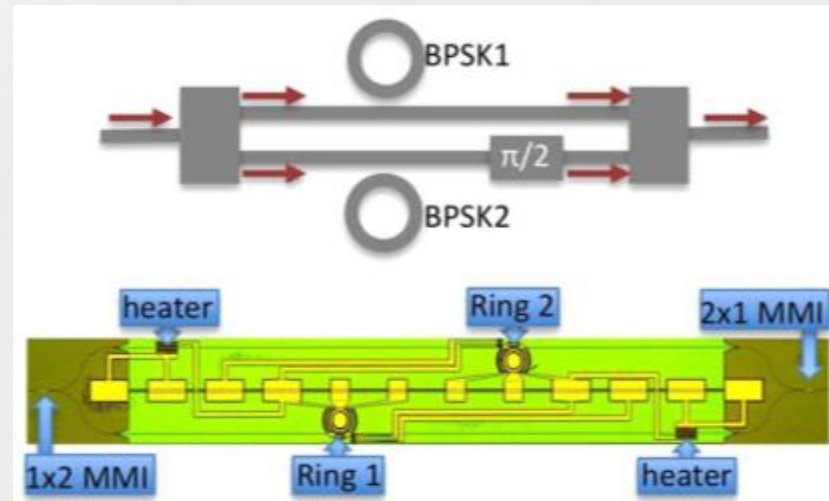
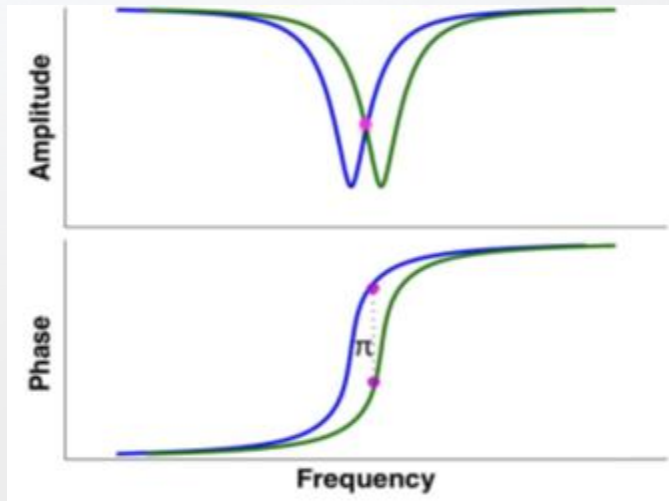


< directional coupler based PBC >

Coherent transmitters & receivers

❖ Coherent transmitter

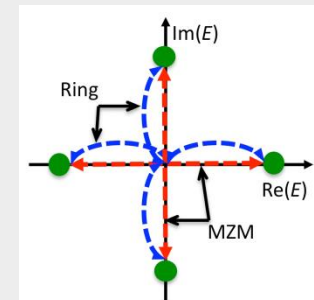
➤ Ring modulator based coherent transmitter



< BPSK modulation in ring modulator >

< QPSK modulator based on ring modulator >

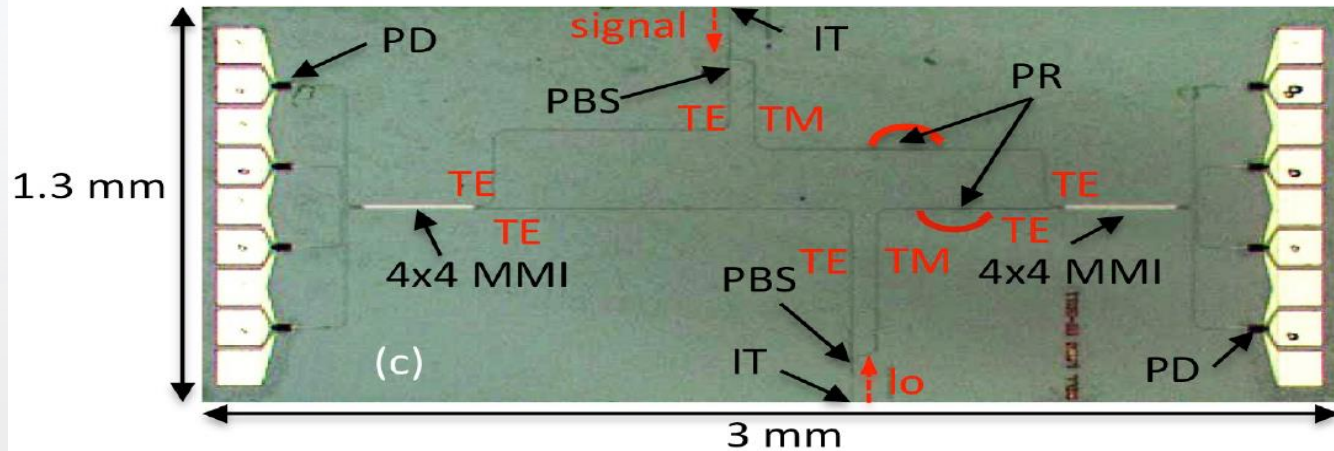
- BPSK modulation using overdrive of ring modulator
- BPSK modulator x 2 + phase shift = QPSK modulator



Coherent transmitters & receivers

❖ Coherent receiver

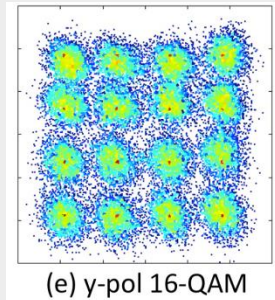
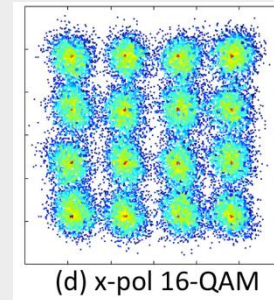
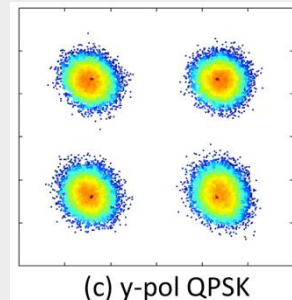
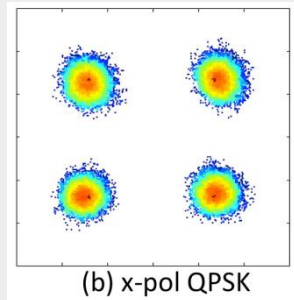
➤ Dual-polarization coherent receiver (PDM-coherent receiver)



IT: inverse taper, LO: local oscillator, PBS: polarization beam splitter,
MMI: multimode interference coupler (90 degree hybrid)

➤ Components

- ✓ Two PBSs
- ✓ Two ITs
- ✓ Two PRs
- ✓ Two MMIs
- ✓ Eight PDs



Summary

❖ Silicon Photonic devices

- Using silicon-core waveguide
- Whole-wafer processing based on CMOS fabrication
- Applications
 - ✓ Long-haul/metro coherent optical networks
 - ✓ Optical interconnects for routers and switches
 - ✓ Datacenters and supercomputers
- PICs
 - ✓ WDM transmitter/receiver
 - Integration of AWG and modulators array/PDs array
 - ✓ Coherent transmitter & receiver
 - MZM based PDM-IQ modulator
 - Micro-ring modulator based Coherent transmitter
 - PDM-coherent receiver