



ATLAS Level-1 Calorimeter Trigger FOX (Fex Optics eXchange)

Project Specification

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66 **1. INTRODUCTION**

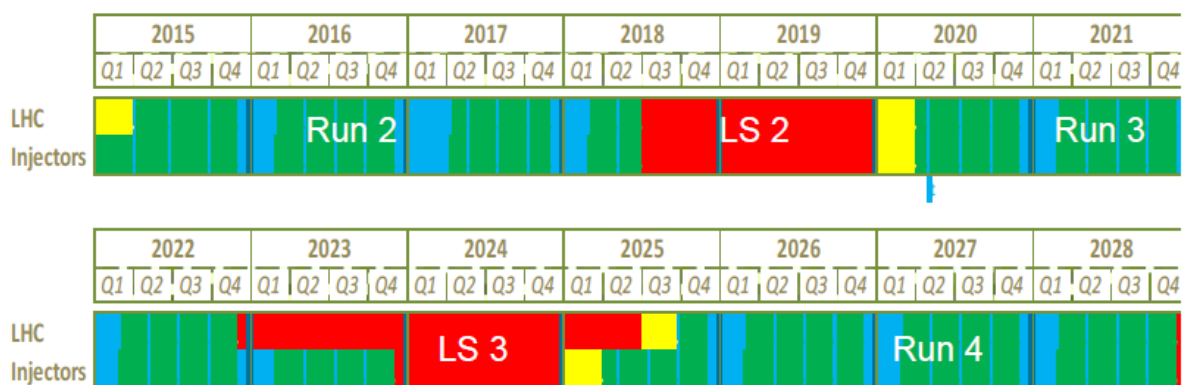
67 **1.1 CONVENTIONS**

68 The following conventions are used in this document:

- 69 • The term “FOX” is used to refer to the Phase-I L1Calo Optical Plant – Fex Optics eXchange or
- 70 Fiber Optics eXchange (FOX). Alternate names are “fiber plant” or “optical plant” or “FEX
- 71 optical plant”.
- 72 • eFEX – electron Feature EXtractor.
- 73 • jFEX – jet Feature EXtractor.
- 74 • gFEX – global Feature EXtractor.

75 Figure 1 explains the timeline for Atlas running and shutdowns: Phase-I upgrades will be installed

76 before the end of long shutdown LS 2; Phase-II upgrades will be installed before the end of LS 3.



77 **Figure 1: LHC Shutdown and Run Schedule.**

78

79 **1.2 RELATED PROJECTS**

- 80 [1.1] ATLAS TDAQ System Phase-I Upgrade Technical Design Report, CERN-LHCC-2013-018,
- 81 <http://cds.cern.ch/record/1602235>
- 82 [1.2] ATLAS Liquid Argon Phase 1 Technical Design Report, CERN-LHCC-2013-017,
- 83 <https://cds.cern.ch/record/1602230>
- 84 [1.3] ATLAS Tile Calorimeter, http://atlas.web.cern.ch/Atlas/SUB_DETECTORS/TILE/
- 85 [1.4] ATLAS L1Calo Jet-PPM LCD Daughterboard (nLCD)
- 86 [1.5] Electromagnetic Feature Extractor (eFEX) Prototype (v0.2), 6 February 2014,
- 87 https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/pub/Atlas/LevelOneCaloUpgradeModules/eFEX_spec_v0.2.pdf
- 88 [1.6] Jet Feature Extractor (jFEX) Prototype (v0.2), 14 July 2014,
- 89 http://www.staff.uni-mainz.de/rave/jFEX_PDR/jFEX_spec_v0.2.pdf
- 90 [1.7] L1Calo Phase-I gFEX Specification (not yet available)
- 91 <https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/Atlas/LevelOneCaloUpgradeModules>
- 92 [1.8] High-Speed Demonstrator (v1.5), 18 July 2011,
- 93 <https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/Atlas/LevelOneCaloUpgradeModules>
- 94 [1.9] FEX Test Module (FTM) (v0.0), 18 July 2014,
- 95 http://epweb2.ph.bham.ac.uk/user/staley/ATLAS_Phase1/FTM_Spec.pdf

96 **1.3 L1CALO TRIGGER PHASE I UPGRADE**

97 This document describes the fibre-optic exchange (FOX) that routes the optical signals via fibres from
98 the Liquid Argon (LAr) and Tile calorimeters to the feature extractor (FEX) modules of the ATLAS
99 Level 1 calorimeter trigger system (L1Calo). The upgraded L1Calo system provides the increased
100 discriminatory power necessary to maintain the ATLAS trigger efficiency as the LHC luminosity is
101 increased beyond that for which ATLAS was originally designed. The FOX maps each LAr and Tile
102 output fibre to the corresponding L1Calo FEX input, and it provides the required signal duplication.

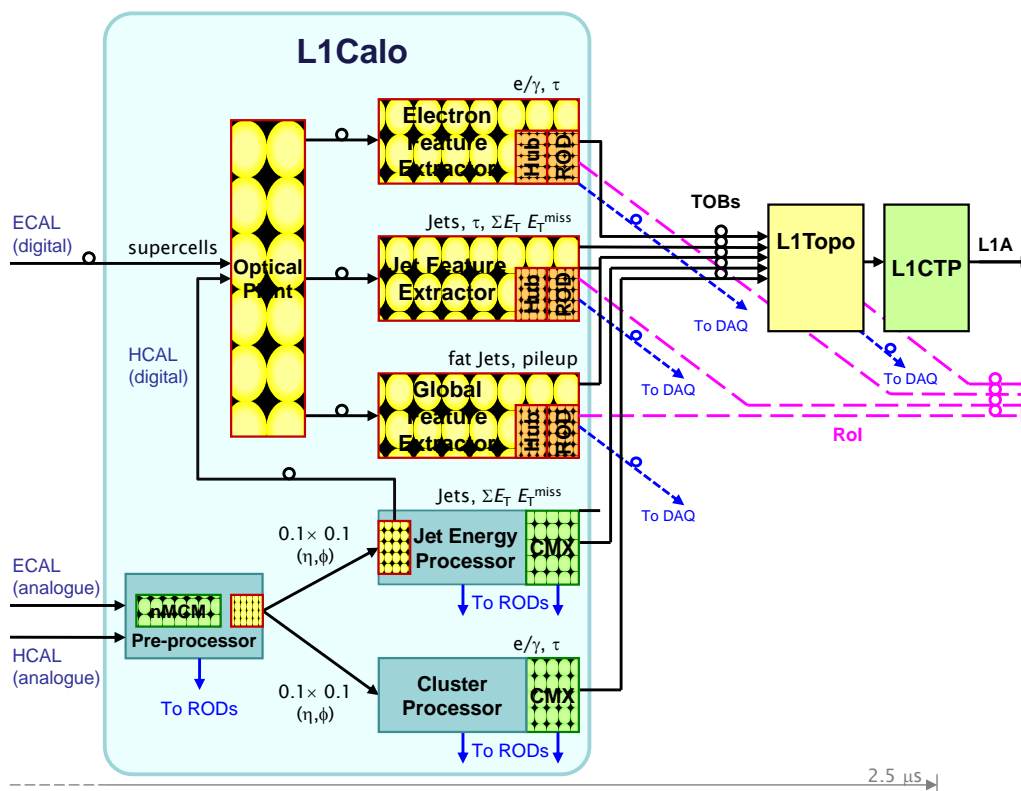
103 The FOX will be installed in L1Calo during the long shutdown LS2, as part of the Phase-1 upgrade,
104 and will operate during Run 3. Part of the FOX will be replaced in the Phase 2 upgrades during LS3 to
105 account for updated inputs from the Tile calorimeter. Other parts will remain unchanged and the FOX
106 will operate during Run 4, at which time it will form part of L0Calo. The following sections provide
107 overviews of L1Calo in Run 3 and L0Calo in Run 4.

108 This document is the specifications of the prototype FOX, the demonstrator, which will be used for
109 optical transmission tests and for integration testing together with other modules at CERN. The
110 demonstrator is intended to exhibit the transmission properties of the production FOX, including
111 connectors, fibres and splitters.

112 The input and output specification for the full Phase 1 L1Calo system is also detailed.

113 **1.3.1 Overview of the L1Calo System in Phase I (Run 3)**

114



115
116 **Figure 2: The L1Calo system in Run 3. Components installed during LS2 are shown in yellow/orange**

117
118 In Run 3, L1Calo contains three subsystems that are already installed prior to LS2, as shown in Figure
119 2 (see document [1.1]):

- 120 • the Pre-processor, which receives shaped analogue pulses from the ATLAS calorimeters,
121 digitises and synchronises them, identifies the bunch-crossing from which each pulse

122 originated, scales the digital values to yield transverse energy (E_T), and prepares and
123 transmits the data to the following processor stages;

- 124 • the Cluster Processor (CP) subsystem (comprising Cluster Processing Modules (CPMs)
125 and Common Merger Extended Modules (CMXs)) which identifies isolated e/γ and τ
126 candidates;
- 127 • the Jet/Energy Processor (JEP) subsystem (comprising Jet-Energy Modules (JEMs) and
128 Common Merger Extended Modules (CMXs)) which identifies energetic jets and
129 computes various local energy sums.

130 Additionally, L1Calo contains the following three subsystems installed as part of the Phase-I upgrade
131 in LS2:

- 132 • the electromagnetic Feature Extractor eFEX subsystem, documented in [1.5], comprising
133 eFEX modules and FEX-Hub modules, the latter carrying Readout Driver (ROD)
134 daughter cards. The eFEX subsystem identifies isolated e/γ and τ candidates, using data of
135 finer granularity than is available to the CP subsystem;
- 136 • the jet Feature Extractor (jFEX) subsystem, documented in [1.6], comprising jFEX
137 modules, and Hub modules with ROD daughter cards. The jFEX subsystem identifies
138 energetic jets and computes various local energy sums, using data of finer granularity than
139 that available to the JEP subsystem.
- 140 • the global Feature Extractor (gFEX) subsystem, documented in [1.7], comprising jFEX
141 modules, and Hub modules with ROD daughter cards. The gFEX subsystem identifies
142 calorimeter trigger features requiring the complete calorimeter data.

143 In Run 3, the Liquid Argon Calorimeter provides L1Calo both with analogue signals (for the CP and
144 JEP subsystems) and with digitised data via optical fibres (for the FEX subsystems), see document
145 [1.2]. From the hadronic calorimeters, only analogue signals are received (see document [1.3]). These
146 are digitised on the Pre-processor, transmitted electrically to the JEP, and then transmitted optically to
147 the FEX subsystems, see document [1.4]. Initially at least, the eFEX and jFEX subsystems will
148 operate in parallel with the CP and JEP subsystems. Once the performance of the FEX subsystems has
149 been validated, the CP subsystem will be removed, and the JEP used only to provide hadronic data to
150 the FEX subsystems.

151 The optical signals from the JEP and LDPS electronics are sent to the FEX subsystems via an optical
152 plant, the FOX. This performs two functions. First, it separates and reforms the fibre bundles,
153 changing the mapping from that employed by the LDPS and JEP electronics to that required by the
154 FEX subsystems. Second, it provides any additional fan-out of the signals necessary to map them into
155 the FEX modules where this cannot be provided by the calorimeter electronics.

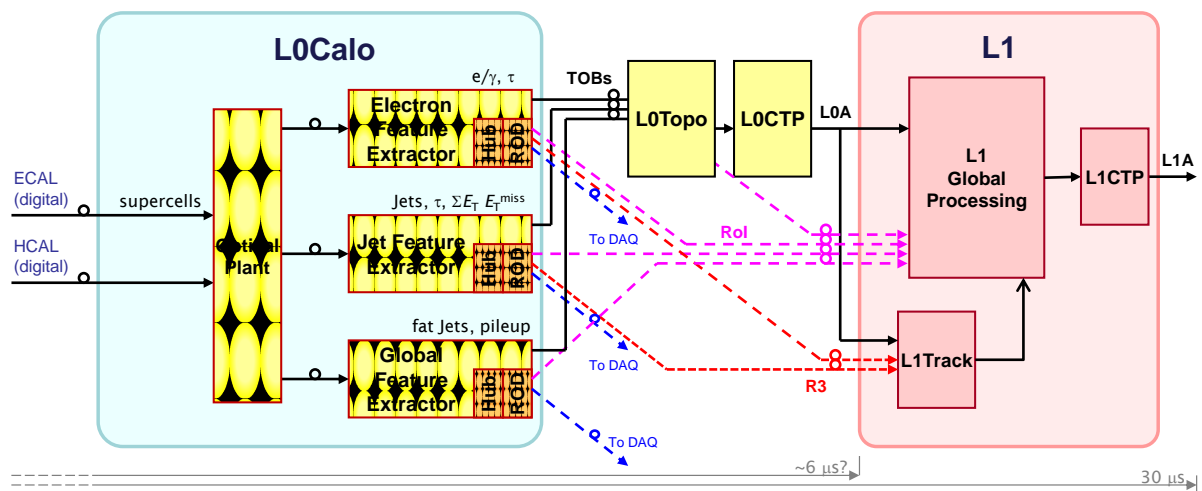
156 The outputs of the FEX subsystems (plus CP and JEP) comprise Trigger Objects (TOBs): data
157 structures which describe the location and characteristics of candidate trigger objects. The TOBs are
158 transmitted optically to the Level-1 Topological Processor (L1Topo), which merges them over the
159 system and executes topological algorithms, the results of which are transmitted to the Level-1 Central
160 Trigger Processor (CTP).

161 The eFEX, jFEX, gFEX and L1Topo subsystems comply with the ATCA standard. The eFEX
162 subsystem comprises two shelves each of 12 eFEX modules. The jFEX subsystem comprises a single
163 ATCA shelf holding 7 jFEX modules. The gFEX subsystem comprises a single ATCA shelf holding a
164 single gFEX module. The L1Topo subsystem comprises a single ATCA shelf housing up to four
165 L1Topo modules, each of which receives a copy of all data from all FEX modules. All L1Calo
166 processing modules produce Region of Interest (RoI) and DAQ readout on receipt of a Level-1 Accept
167 signal from the CTP. RoI information is sent both to the High-Level Trigger (HLT) and the DAQ
168 system, while the DAQ data goes only to the DAQ system. In the FEX and L1Topo subsystems, these
169 data are transmitted by each FEX or L1Topo module via the shelf backplane to two Hub modules.

170 Each of these buffers the data and passes a copy to their ROD daughter board. The RODs perform the
 171 processing needed to select and transmit the RoI and DAQ data in the appropriate formats; it is likely
 172 that the required tasks will be partitioned between the two RODs. Additionally, the Hub modules
 173 provide distribution and switching of the TTC signals and control and monitoring networks.

174 **1.3.2 Overview of the L1Calo System in Phase-II (Run 4)**

175 The Phase-II upgrade will be installed in ATLAS during LS3. At this point, substantial changes will
 176 be made to the trigger electronics. All calorimeter input to L1Calo from the electromagnetic and
 177 hadronic calorimeters will migrate to digital format, the structure of the hardware trigger will change
 178 to consist of two levels, and a Level-1 Track Trigger (L1Track) will be introduced and will require
 179 TOB seeding. The Pre-processor, CP and JEP subsystems will be removed, and the FEX subsystems,
 180 with modified firmware, will be relabelled to form the L0Calo system in a two stage (Level-0/Level-1)
 181 real-time trigger, as shown in Figure 3. Hence, the FOX as well as the FEX subsystems must be
 182 designed to meet both the Phase-I and Phase-II upgrade requirements. The main additional
 183 requirements are to provide real-time TOB data to L1Track, and to accept Phase-II timing and control
 184 signals including Level-0 Accept (LOA) and Level-1 Accept. Additional calorimeter trigger processing
 185 will be provided by a new L1Calo trigger stage. Figure 3: The L0/L1Calo system in Run 4. The new
 186 Level-1 system is shown in red and pink. Other modules (yellow /orange) are adapted from the
 187 previous system to form the new L0Calo.



188 **Figure 4: The L0/L1Calo system in Run 4. The new Level-1 system is shown in red and pink. Other**
 189 **modules (yellow /orange) are adapted from the previous system to form the new L0Calo.**

190

191 **1.4 FOX – OVERVIEW**

192 The FOX system is an integral part of the L1Calo Phase 1 upgrade. Its primary function is to receive
 193 the signal fibres from the LAr and Tile calorimeters, to redistribute them to the individual FEX cards
 194 (mapping), as well as to duplicate certain signal fibres as required by the FEX algorithms. An
 195 overview of the FOX connectivity is shown in Figure 5.

196 The FOX is schematically separated into five sets of modules by mapping functionality. The two input
 197 module sets are the LArFox and the TileFox which organize the fibres by destination. The three output
 198 module sets are eFox, jFox and gFox, which provide the final fibre ribbon by fibre ribbon mapping
 199 and provide fibre duplication as required. The LAr and JEP transmitters provide most of the signal
 200 duplication. Details about the fibre count and mapping are presented in Chapter **Error! Reference**
 201 **source not found..**

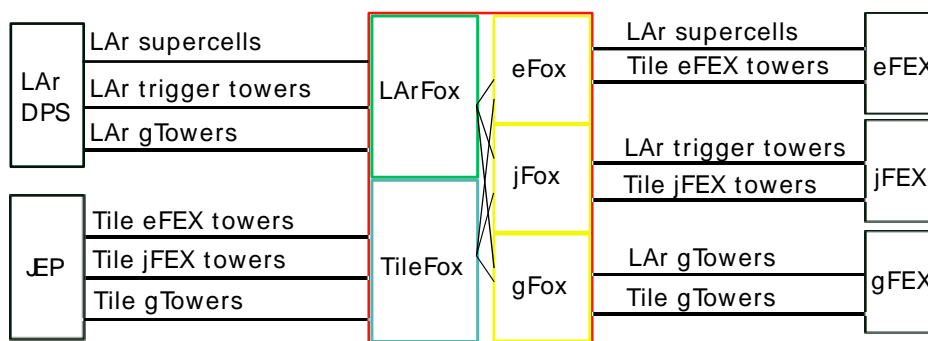


Figure 5: Overview of optical plant connections.

The LarFox receives three types of signals from the AMC cards, the LDPS system of the LAR calorimeter:

- LAr supercells, with fine-grained electromagnetic calorimeter information. Each calorimeter trigger tower of size 0.1×0.1 in $\eta \times \phi$ is subdivided into ten supercells in order to be able to create better isolation variables for electrons, photons and taus.
- LAr jet trigger towers, with a granularity of 0.1×0.1 in $\eta \times \phi$.
- LAr gTowers, with granularity of 0.2×0.2 in $\eta \times \phi$.

This information is received in groups of 48 fibres which are organized into four ribbons of 12 fibres each. One of these fibres will contain gTower information, 4 to 8 will contain trigger tower information, 24 to 32 fibres will contain supercell information, and the rest are spares.

The FOX also receives three types of hadronic calorimeter signals from the JEP:

- Tile trigger towers with a granularity of 0.1×0.1 for the eFEX.
- Tile trigger towers with a granularity of 0.1×0.1 for the jFEX. These might contain the same information as the eFEX trigger towers, but don't necessarily have to.
- Tile gTowers with a granularity of 0.2×0.2 for the gFEX.

Trigger towers sent to eFEX and jFEX have the same granularity and principally contain the same information. However, since the needs of the eFEX and the jFEX are different, they are treated distinctly here.

Each eFEX module receives three cables of four ribbons with 12 fibres, i.e. the eFEX has three input connectors, each for 48 fibres [1.5]. Each jFEX module receives four cables of six ribbons with 12 fibres, i.e. the jFEX has four input connectors, each for 72 fibres [1.6]. The gFEX module also receives four cables of six ribbons with 12 fibres, i.e. the gFEX also has four input connectors, each for 72 fibres [1.7].

The optical fibres themselves are multimode (OM4) with a nominal wavelength of 850nm. They are connected through Multi-fibre Push-On/Pull-Off (MPO) connectors.

1.5 FOX - FUNCTIONALITY

The FOX will map each of the input fibres to a specific FEX destination. It will also provide passive duplication (optical splitting) of some of the fibres, as required for corners and special regions. Signals arrive at the FOX via 48-fibre cables, organized as 4 ribbons of 12 fibres each. They arrive at the LArFOX or TileFOX, each a set of modules arranged by calorimeter geometry. The fibre cables plug into the FOX through a MPO connector. From the inputs, fibres are routed to a mapping module,

237 which redistributes the signals to output connectors, which are multi-fibre MPO connectors with
 238 varying number of fibres. Short fibre-optic patch cables connect these input modules to the output
 239 modules. Each of the eFOX, jFOX and gFOX contain output modules. In the eFOX and jFOX case,
 240 each module provides mapping and passive optical splitting. The gFOX simply routes fibres to the
 241 appropriate output connector.

242 For fibres that require passive splitting, a fibre is spliced and fused (or connected through a single ST
 243 connector) to a passive optical splitter, with the second output of the splitter going to a new
 244 destination.

245

246 **1.6 FUTURE USE CASES**

247 The FOX will continue to be used in the L1Calo and L0Calo trigger systems through Run 4. The LAr
 248 inputs as well as the FEX modules will remain unchanged, but the inputs from the Tile calorimeter
 249 will change. Thus, the TileFOX will need to be replaced by new mapping modules and the other parts
 250 can remain unchanged.

251

252 **1.7 SCHEDULE**

253 The schedule for design and construction of the FOX centers on the integration tests at CERN and the
 254 decision on the final fibre link speed. The schedule is shown below:

Demonstrator	PDR	Nov 2014
	Demonstrator design complete	May 2015
	Demonstrator assembly complete	Aug 2015
	Technology decision (link speed, mapping)	April 2016
Production FOX	Production readiness review	Nov 2016
	FOX ready to install	Jan 2018

255

256

257 **2. FOX INPUT AND OUTPUT SPECIFICATION**

258 This section describes the required mappings from LAr and Tile electronics to the inputs of the eFEX,
259 jFEX and gFEX. The descriptions are focussed on the requirements for the baseline link speed of 6.4
260 Gbit/s with notes on the changes for the higher link speed options.

261 The first two subsections deal respectively with the organisation of the outputs from LAr and Tile
262 calorimeters. For LAr there are different mappings from EM barrel, endcaps, HEC and FCAL. For
263 Tile there is a different mapping for phase 1 where the Tile towers will still be processed by the
264 existing L1Calo preprocessor and for phase 2 when the Tile towers will be sent from new Tile
265 electronics.

266 The remaining subsections cover the organisation of the inputs to the three FEX systems.

267

268 **2.1 TRANSMITTERS (FOX INPUTS)**

269 **2.1.1 LAr DPS transmitters**

270 The trigger information from the entire LAr calorimeter to the three FEX systems will be sent by the
271 LAr Digital Processor System (LDPS). The LDPS is a set of about 30 ATCA modules called LAr
272 Digital Processor Blades (LDPBs) housed in three ATCA shelves (crates). Each LDPB acts as a
273 carrier board for four mezzanine cards (AMCs) each of which has a single FPGA with 48 output
274 optical links providing data to the FEXes. There are therefore 192 output fibres per LDPB and over
275 5500 from the whole LDPS system.

276 The η * ϕ coverage of each AMC FPGA is $0.8*0.4$ in the central part of the EM calorimeter,
277 however this is larger in the outer endcaps where the granularity changes. The hadronic endcaps
278 (HEC) and forward calorimeter (FCAL) have other granularities which are described separately.

279 **2.1.1.1 LAr EM**

280 Over most of the EM calorimeter every $0.1*0.1$ trigger tower will send one presampler, four front
281 layer, four middle layer and one back layer supercell to the LDPS. Each of those 10 supercells per
282 tower needs to be sent to the eFEX. However the jFEX only needs the Et sum from all 10 supercells,
283 ie one quantity per tower and the gFEX will receive just one Et sum from a $0.2*0.2$ area of four trigger
284 towers. Thus for the EM layer the bulk of the output fibres are sent to the eFEX.

285



286

287 At the baseline link speed of 6.4 Gbit/s the intention is that each fibre to the eFEX will carry the 20
288 supercells from two adjacent towers in eta, ie each fibre will cover 0.2×0.1 in $\eta \times \phi$. To provide a
289 reasonable number of bits per supercell this option requires the use of a digital filter using peak finder
290 and the bunch crossing multiplexing scheme (BCMUX). At higher links speeds of around 10 Gbit/s
291 each fibre will still carry the same 20 supercells but there would be no need for the BCMUX scheme.
292 In either case each AMC will have 16 different 0.2×0.1 fibres though the fanout requirements of the
293 eFEX architecture mean that some of these fibres need to be sent with multiple copies at source.

294 For the jFEX each fibre would carry eight towers from a 0.4×0.2 area at 6.4 Gbit/s but could carry 16
295 towers from a 0.4×0.4 area at the higher link speeds. This mapping implies four or two separate fibres
296 with low or high speed links. However the jFEX fanout requirements may change with the link speed,
297 needing a minimum of two copies at low links speed but three copies at the higher link speed making
298 eight or six output fibres per AMC in total. The gFEX only needs a single fibre from the whole
299 0.8×0.4 AMC area independent of the link speed.

300 The diagrams in figure X.1 (**FIXME**) indicate the coverage and fanout requirements (number of
301 copies) of eFEX and jFEX fibres from each AMC and low and high link speeds. The jFEX
302 requirements are uniform across the AMC but change with link speed whereas the eFEX requirements
303 are independent of link speed but are more complex with additional copies required at the edges and
304 corners. The eFEX fanout pattern also varies with the eta and phi location of the AMC both in the
305 central region and in the outer endcaps. However there is a single superset pattern that covers all
306 possible locations. This would allow a single firmware version in the AMC with the FOX connecting
307 only those fibres required from each AMC.

308 Although the structure of the eFEX EM fanout pattern is independent of link speed, optimisation of
309 the fanout for the hadronic fibres to eFEX would suggest shifting the whole EM pattern by 0.2 in phi.

310 2.1.1.2 LArHEC

311 The granularity of the HEC is much lower than the EM calorimeter. Each input channel of the DPS is
312 a single trigger tower of 0.1×0.1 for the inner region ($|\eta| < 2.5$) and mostly 0.2×0.2 in the outer
313 endcaps. In contrast to the EM layer, both the eFEX and jFEX receive identical information with the
314 coverage of each fibre the same as the jFEX fibres from the EM layer. Since the jFEX needs three
315 copies at the higher link speed, the majority of the HEC LDPS outputs will be to jFEX with fewer to
316 eFEX. The $\eta \times \phi$ coverage of the AMCs for the HEC is larger and so the gFEX will receive four
317 fibres from each AMC.

318 The HEC contribution in the HEC/Tile overlap region ($1.5 < |\eta| < 1.6$) is awkward and is handled
319 differently for each FEX. The eFEX only needs one copy so the overlap towers are included on fibres
320 covering the forward region. The jFEX needs three copies and the overlap region is sent on separate
321 fibres. For the gFEX it is assumed that the overlap towers are summed into the neighbouring gTowers
322 which will therefore cover $1.5 < |\eta| < 1.8$.

323 Given the very different fanout requirements from the EM and hadronic layers, a possible optimisation
324 of the system is to combine signals from both HEC and the outer EM endcaps in a single LDPS AMC
325 covering an octant in phi on C or A sides. The HEC extends from $1.5 < |\eta| < 3.2$ and the outer EM
326 endcap towers in this AMC would cover $2.4 < |\eta| < 3.2$. This is the scheme which will be described
327 here though alternative schemes are possible.

328 2.1.1.3 LAr FCAL

329 The FCAL has a completely different granularity and geometry than the rest of the LAr calorimeter
330 with two separate hadronic layers in addition to the EM layer. It is assumed that the eFEX will not
331 need any input from the FCAL so the FCAL information is only sent to jFEX and gFEX.

332 2.1.2 Tile transmitters

333 In phase 1 (Run 3) the Tile towers will be sent to the FEXes from the existing L1Calo preprocessor
334 modules (PPMs) via new rear transition cards. Each PPM covers 0.4×1.6 in $\eta \times \phi$ so the geometry is

335 different from that of the LDPS AMC in the same eta region. This has no effect on the eFEX or jFEX
336 as they receive fibres covering 0.4*0.2 (at low speed) or 0.4*0.4 (at high speed). However the gFEX
337 fibres will each cover 0.4*0.8 instead of 0.8*0.4 from the LDPS.

338 After the phase 2 upgrade (Run 4) the Tile front end electronics will be replaced and the FEXes will
339 then receive the Tile towers from new Tile RODs. These will each cover 1.6*0.4 in eta*phi.

340 This change in geometry will switch the gFEX fibres to have the same geometry as from the EM layer.
341 The gFEX firmware will need to be updated with a new mapping at that point.

342 2.1.3 Summary of fibre counts

343 Table X.1 (**FIXME** reference) shows the numbers of fibres from each part of the calorimeter at
344 the baseline 6.4 Gbit/s link speed. It indicates those “direct” fibres needing no additional fanout and
345 those which must be fanned out after the DPS via 1:2 optical splitters. In the table, the EM Barrel
346 AMCs cover $|\eta| < 1.6$, the EM Endcap AMCs cover the standard $1.6 < |\eta| < 2.4$ region and the AMCs
347 handling the special crate include the forward EM region with $|\eta| > 2.4$. Due the corners in the eFEX
348 design half the Tile PPMs need 1:2 fanout with the other half not needing any further fanout. The two
349 cases are shown as min/max in the table and the numbers assume the PPM rear transition card will
350 have three minipods. Any fewer would require 1:3 or 1:4 fanout. The Tile “sROD” in phase 2 will
351 have a more favourable geometry and all modules have the same number of output fibres.

352

Calo Region vs N.Fibres to FEXes at 6.4 Gbit/s	EM Barrel	EM Endcap	Special Crate		FCAL	Tile (PPM) min/max	Tile (sROD)
			EM Fwd	HEC			
<i>N.AMC/PPM/ROD</i>	64	32	16		4	32	32
eFEX (direct)	25	20	6	6	0	12/0	18
eFEX (via 1:2 f/o)	0	0	2	6	0	0/12	0?
eFEX (after f/o)	0	0	4	12	0	0/24	0?
jFEX (direct)	12	12	0	9	24	16	24
jFEX (via 1:2 f/o)	0	0	2	11	0	4	0?
jFEX (after f/o)	0	0	4	22	0	8	0?
gFEX (direct)	1	1	2	4	3?	2	2
Direct/AMC	38	33	8	19	27?	30/18	44
To Fanout/AMC	0	0	4	17	0	4/16	0
After Fanout/AMC	0	0	8	34	0	8/32	0
Total direct	2434	1056	432		108?	768	1408
Total fanouts	0	0	336		0	320	0
Total from AMCs	2434	1056	768		108?	1088	1408
Total to FEXes	2434	1056	1104		108?	1408	1408

353 **FIXME** ADD TABLE FOR HIGH SPEED LINKS

354

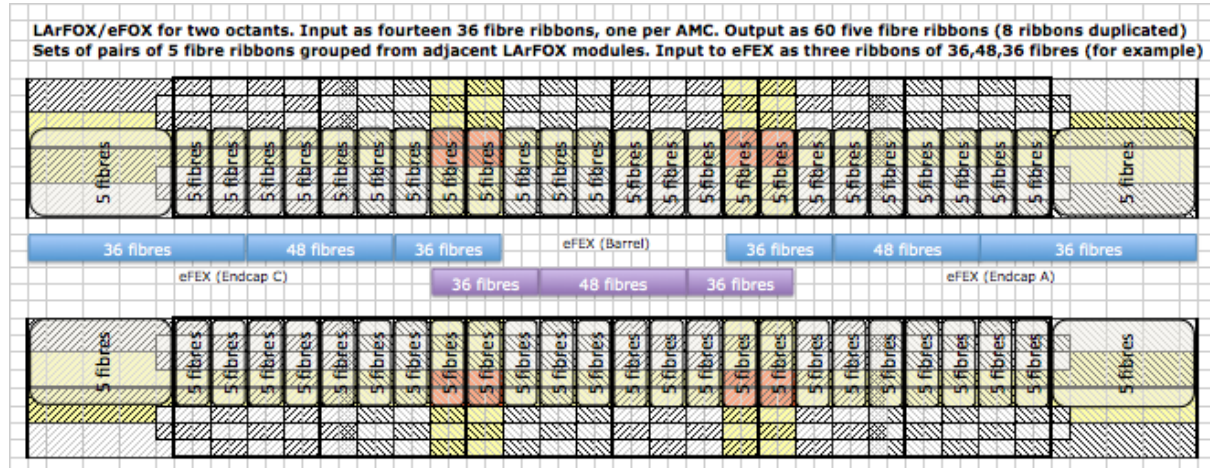
355 2.2 RECEIVERS (FOX OUTPUTS)

356 2.2.1 eFEX

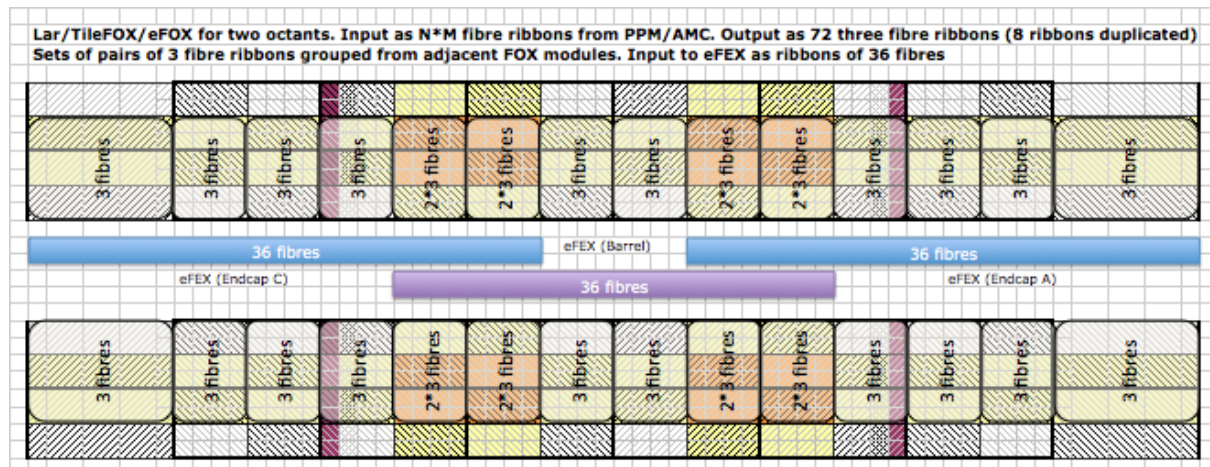
357 Each eFEX module handles a core area of roughly 1.6*0.8 in eta*phi but the trigger algorithms require
358 an addition ring of towers taking the total coverage to 2.0*1.0 in the centre of the EM layer and rather
359 larger at the endcaps. The coverage of each hadronic fibre does not neatly fit the same area so the
360 effective coverage of the hadronic layer will be 2.4*1.2.

361 The eFEX inputs will be arranged such that a group of 12 EM fibres is used to provide each 0.2×1.0
 362 area in eta with 2 unused fibres per group. In the hadronic layer each full group of 12 fibres will cover
 363 0.8×1.2 at the low link speed baseline, though the same area could in principle be covered by only six
 364 fibres in the high speed option but the alignment in phi may result in eight fibres being used.
 365 Realigning the system to optimise the high speed hadronic inputs would imply a phi shift of 0.2 of the
 366 EM fanout pattern.

367



368



369

370

371 2.2.2 jFEX

372 In the baseline jFEX design each jFEX module covers a complete ring in phi for a slice of eta. The
 373 core eta coverage of each jFEX module is 0.8 but the extended environment stretches an additional 0.4
 374 each side in the original 6.4 Gbit/s design and 0.8 each side in the high speed design. This requires
 375 input of 1.6 or 2.4 in eta respectively.

376 A recent proposal has suggested an alternative design at the baseline link speed with a core coverage
 377 of 0.6 in eta with 0.6 each side with a total eta requirement per module of 1.8. In this scheme each
 378 fibre covers 0.2×0.4 in eta*phi (cf 0.4×0.2 for eFEX) and three copies of each fibre are required. This
 379 is the worst case for the mappings and use of HEC DPS outputs.

380 In particular to provide enough outputs from the suggested special crate DPS (forward EM + HEC) the
 381 fibres covering the region $2.4 < |\eta| < 3.2$ need to carry signals from 12 towers instead of 8. This could
 382 be done by reducing the number of bits per tower or by summing some low granularity or both.

383 ****FIXME** LAYOUT OF FIBRES TO BE DONE**

384 **2.2.3 gFEX**

385 The single gFEX module covers the entire eta phi space without any need for fanout. Each FPGA
386 covers roughly 1.6 in eta (more at the endcaps) and receives 32 fibres from each of the EM and
387 hadronic layers. The challenge for the FOX is that these fibres must be collected one per AMC.

388 ****FIXME**** LAYOUT OF FIBRES TO BE DONE

389

390 **2.3 OPEN QUESTIONS**

391 This section has outlined the current ideas for mappings between the LAr DPS and the FEXes
392 including the Tile outputs from PPMs in phase 1 or new Tile RODs in phase 2. This is still preliminary
393 and there are several open questions.

394 The main unknown is the link speed to be used. This choice has a large impact on the number of
395 hadronic fibres and their mapping and also affects the EM mapping due to a reoptimisation of the
396 layout.

397 Another question to be resolved is how and where to handle the different mappings on A and C sides.
398 In the detector the mappings are either rotated (EM, Tile) or reflected (HEC?) between the two sides.
399 The trigger algorithms expect to operate on an eta phi space with translational symmetry – at least
400 within a given FPGA. In the original L1Calo system all input towers were remapped into a single eta
401 phi space at the PPM inputs. However the FEXes have separate modules or FPGAs for A and C sides
402 and it might be useful to keep the rotational symmetry to minimise the number of remappings.

403

404 **3. COMPONENTS OF OPTICAL CHAIN**

405 The FOX optical chain contain necessary components to connect, split (if needed) and map the optical
406 outputs of calorimeter electronics (ECAL and HCAL) to the optical inputs of different FEX modules.
407 The optical outputs and inputs connectors are parallel Multi-fibre Push-On/Pull-Off (MPO) connectors
408 (or MTP which is inter-changeable).

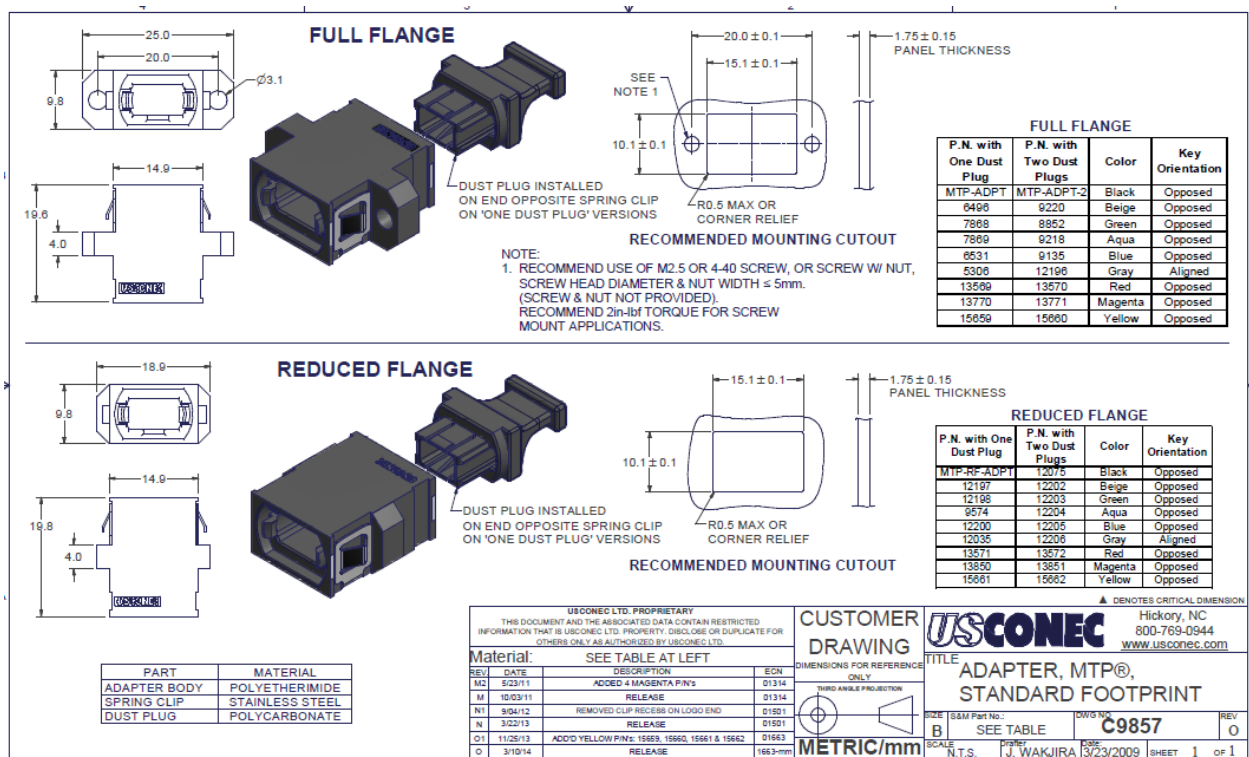
409 The information from the calorimeter electronics is received in groups of 48 fibers which are
410 organized into four ribbons of 12 fibers each (parallel fiber cables). Therefore, the inputs to the FOX
411 are 12 fibers MPO connectors.

412 The outputs of the FOX are also 12 fibers MPO connectors. The eFEX module uses 48 fibers MPO
413 connectors and the jFEX and the gFEX modules use 72 fibers MPO connectors. Therefore there may
414 be the break-out cables (48 to 4x12 and 72 to 6x12 fibers) between the FOX output 12 fibers MPO
415 connectors and FEX'es 48 and 72 fibers connectors.

416

417 **3.1 INPUT ADAPTERS FOR MPO/MPT CONNECTORS**

418 MPO connectors come in female and male versions, differentiated by the absence or presence of guide
419 pins. MPO connectors have springs inside to keep the fibres pressed together. The multiple fibers
420 terminated at the MPO connector are arranged in rows of twelve fibres each. Two MPO connectors
421 can be connected together with a bulkhead mating adapter (feedthrough) to hold them in place.
422



423 **Figure x: Individual MPO/MPT adapter.**

424

425 Depending on FOX implementation, denser packing of the adapters for the input and output MPO
426 connectors may be required. In this case quad adapters may be used (see below).
427

428 Input MPO connectors of the FOX will be male version (with guide pins). The parallel fiber ribbons of
429 12 fibers will have female version of the MPO connector.

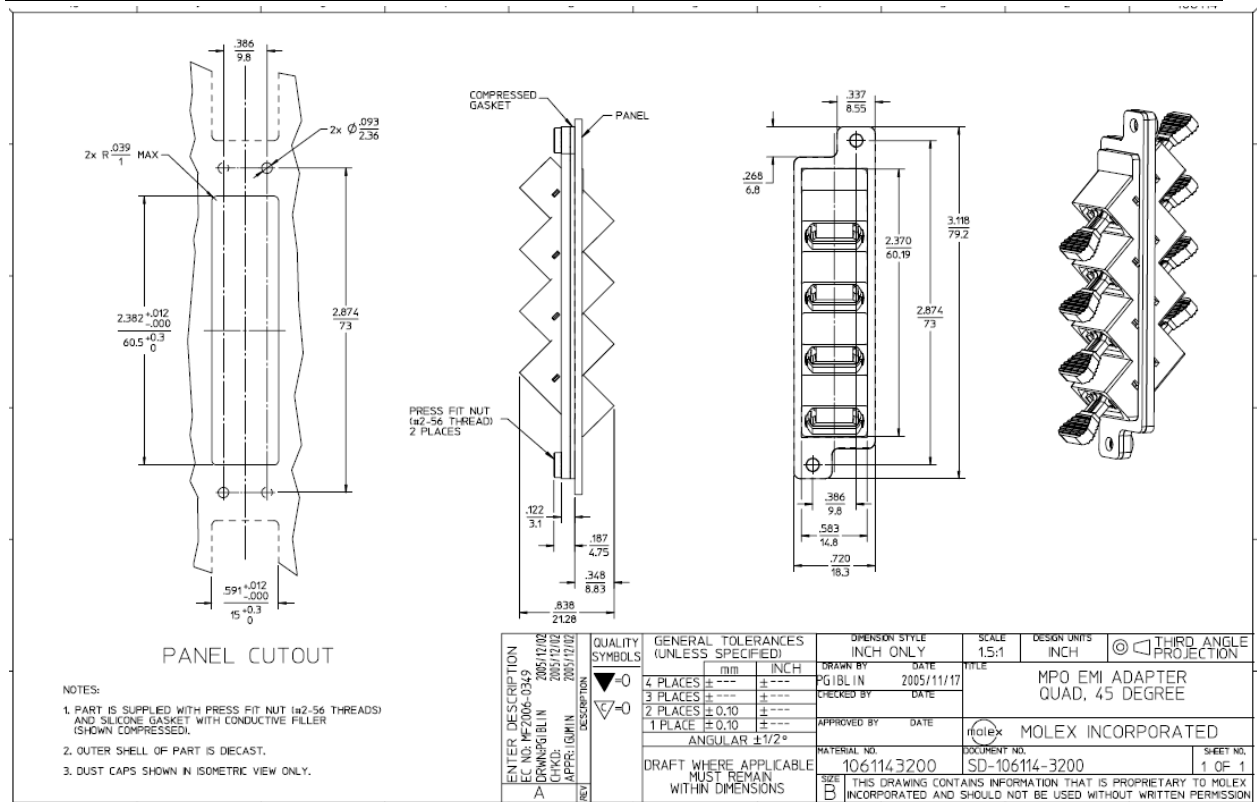


Figure x: Quad MPO/MPT adapters.

3.2 FIBERS MAPPING

3.2.1 Mapping at the input and output

The information from the calorimeter electronics is received in groups of 48 fibers which are break-out into four ribbons of 12 fibers each (parallel fiber cables). It is assumed, that these 48 fibers can be split into 12-fibre ribbons with any desired mapping with custom cable assembly. This first stage of mapping shall be defined a priory and can be changed by replacing the cable assembly.



Figure x: 48 to 4x12 MPT custom cable assembly.

3.2.2 Mapping by connectors

The FOX will map each of the input fibers to a specific FEX destination. In order to achieve this, the input and output parallel fiber ribbons of 12 fibers break out in individual fibers with MPO harness cable, and then individual connectorized fibers are connected to each other using couplers:

445



446



447

448

Figure x: MPO harness and connector couplers (LC, ST, SC).

449

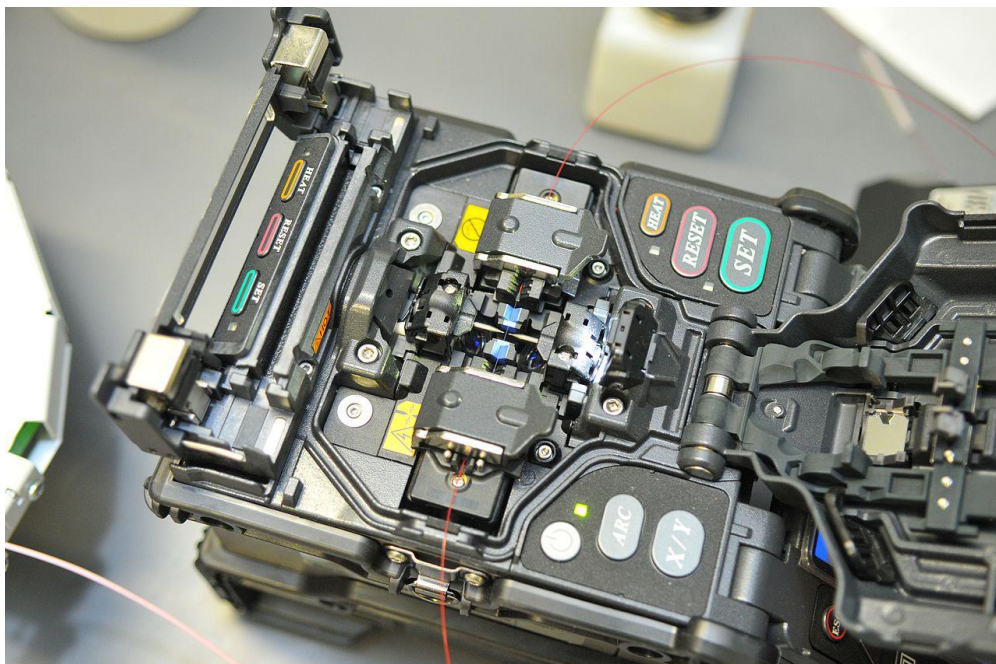
This way of mapping is very flexible and allow for quick modification. However, with a big number of connections it may occupy a lot of space.

450

451 **3.2.3 Mapping by fusion splicing**

452 Instead of connecting fibers by connectors and couplers, fusion splicing may be used. The splicing
453 process includes stripping the fiber by removing all protective coating, cleaning, cleaving, fusing and
454 protecting either by recoating or with a splice protector. Advantages of fusion splicing are higher
455 reliability, lower insertion and return losses than with connectors. However, fusion-splicing machines
456 are rather expensive and this method may be difficult to use in-situ.

457



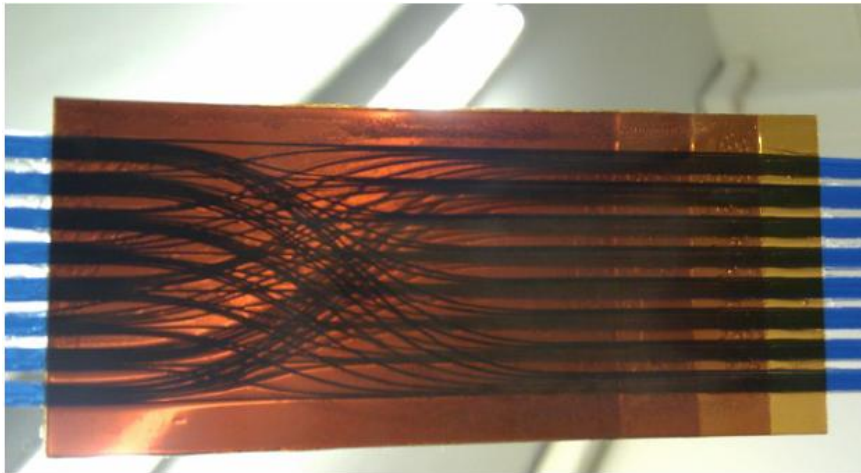
458

459

Figure x: Fusion splicing.

460 **3.2.4 Mapping by custom mapping module**

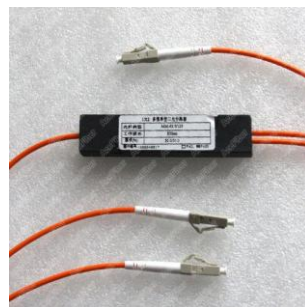
461 In a case the mapping is defined a priori and will not change, a custom build commercial mapping
462 module, which redistributes the input signals to output connectors, can be manufactured. This way of
463 mapping is however is not flexible and doesn't allow for further modifications.



464
465 **Figure x: Fiber mapping.**
466

467 **3.3 FIBER PASSIVE SPLITTING**

468 For the fibers that go to two destinations and therefore require passive splitting, a passive optical
469 splitter with the even split ration (50/50) can be used. The splitter may be connected to the
470 input/output fibers by connectors (see 3.2.2), which create addition insertion loss, or by fusion splicing
471 (see 3.2.3). Example of connectorized passive splitter is shown below:



472
473
474 **Figure x: Fiber passive splitter.**

475 <http://www.acefiber.com/1x2-lc-to-lc-splitter-50125-multimode-850-20mm-p-183067.html>

476 1x2 LC to LC Splitter 50/125 Multimode 850 2.0mm - 1x2 LC/PC to LC/PC Splitter/Fiber
477 Splitter/FBT Splitter/Coupler 50/125 Multimode Even split ratio, 2.0mm 1 m input, 1 m output,
478 wavelength: 850 nm.

479
480 **3.4 FIBER ACTIVE SPLITTING**

481 For the fibers that go to more than two destinations, a passive optical splitter may not work due to the
482 high losses and another way of the optical signal distribution shall be used. This can achieved in
483 different way and in different places, therefore a total cost shall be estimated before making a decision.

484 **3.4.1 Electrical signal fan out at the source**

485 The electrical fan out of the signals before electrical to optical conversion and optical transmission can
486 be implemented in ECAL and HCAL transmitters. This way of signal duplications may increase the
487 number and the cost of transmitters and the number of input connectors to the FOX.

488 **3.4.2 Optical amplification**

489 The optical signal can be amplified before the passive splitters on order to rise the optical power
490 budget. In this case 1 to 4 (and more) passive splitting may be achieved. An example of the
491 commercial Semiconductor Optical Amplifier (SOA) @ 850nm, QSOA-372:
492 <http://www.qphotonics.com/Semiconductor-optical-amplifier-850nm.html>

- 493 • SUPERLUM Diodes
- 494 • Traveling-wave MQW design
- 495 • CW or pulsed operation
- 496 • PM or SM pigtailed
- 497 • Low chip-to-fiber coupling loss
- 498 • Built-in thermistor and TEC
- 499 • Hermetic butterfly package or DIL package
- 500 • Optional FC/APC connectors



Features:

- more than 20 dB fiber-to-fiber optical gain
- 40 nm gain bandwidth (-3 dB)

Package: butterfly (DBUT)

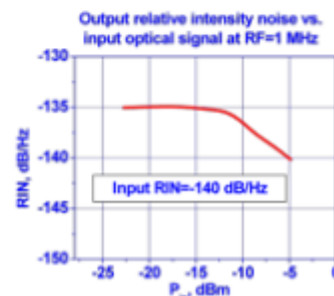
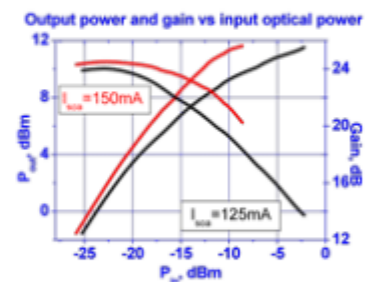
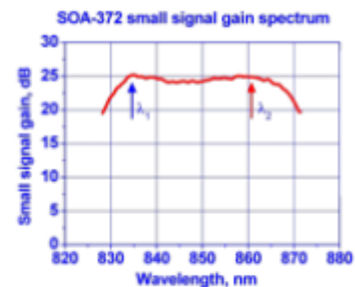
Additional and customized:

- PM fiber pigtailed
- FC/APC terminated pigtailed

Specifications
(Nominal Emitter Stabilization Temperature +25 °C)

Parameter	Typ.	Max.
Forward current, mA		200
Forward voltage, V		2.2
Central wavelength λ_c , nm	850	
-3 dB optical gain bandwidth, nm	40	
Gain ripple, dB	≤ 0.1	0.2
Small signal gain at λ_1 λ_2 (gain maximums), dB	25	
Saturation output power, dBm	8.0	
Polarization dependent gain, dB	7	

PERFORMANCE EXAMPLES



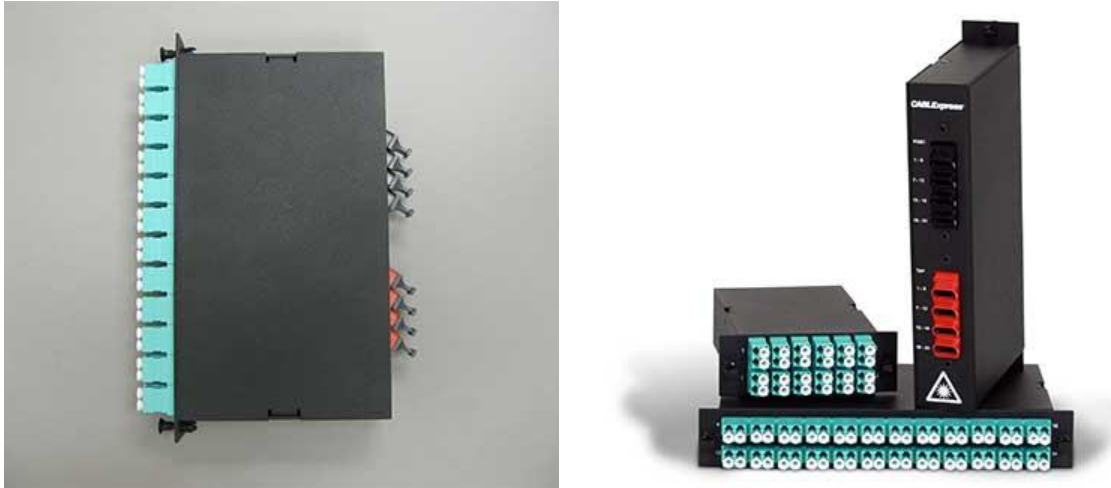
501
502 The SOA has a fibre-to-fibre optical gain of more than 20dB, which is, however, much more than
503 needed (something on the order of 6dB for a 1:3 split plus insertion losses). So an extra passive splitter
504 or an attenuator is needed to work with it. Also SOA needs a simple PCB and power.

505 **3.5 MECHANICS**

506 A mechanical arrangement of the individual components of the FOX optical chain is defined by the
507 demonstrator layout and implementation. For the initial measurements, the components may be
508 assembled on the optical test bench on the table. However, for the integration tests with other
509 components of the L1Calo, some housing for the individual components will need.

510 Commercial customized housing and available from a number of manufacturers:

511



512

513

Figure x: LC to MTP Modules.

514



515

516

Figure x: 4U 192 Port / 384 Fiber LC Pass Thru Enclosure.

517

518 The final implementation and design of the demonstrator's housing will be specified during the
519 demonstrator design according to the integration tests requirements.

520

521 **4. DEMONSTRATOR(S)**

522 This section focuses on studies preparing for the practical implementation of a FOX system. These
523 hardware studies are conducted in parallel to the ongoing work defining the details of the total count
524 and internal mapping for all the input and output fibers of the FOX system.

525

526 **4.1 DEMONSTRATOR GOALS**

527 The demonstrator stage for the FOX system has two main goals. The first goal is the study of the light
528 path between the transmitter miniPODs of the Liquid Argon or Tile Detector Front-Ends and the
529 receiver miniPODs of the Feature Extractor modules of Hcalo. The second goal is a study of the
530 mechanical components required to build an overall physical plant providing the required management
531 and mapping of all the fibers with its installation in USA15.

532 These two aspects are largely independent and, to a large extent, can be studied separately.

533

534 **4.2 DEMONSTRATOR COMPONENTS**

535 **4.2.1 Optical Demonstrator**

536 This is the test setup used to study the light path between transmitting and receiving miniPODs. The
537 input side is defined as a 48-fiber MTP/MPO connector (detector side) and the output side as a 48-
538 fiber (eFEX side) or 72-fiber MPO/MTP connector (jFEX and gFEX side).

539 It is expected that all the source, sink and intermediate components located upstream, downstream and
540 within the FOX system all follow the convention that fiber patch cables have female MPO/MTP
541 connector on both ends and that modules (Front-Ends, FEXs, FOX) have MPO/MTP connectors
542 equipped with male alignment pins.

543 The type of fiber to be used in FOX is defined by two things: the miniPOD laser transmitters which
544 are operating at 850 nm and the “pigtail” cables used on the source and sink modules (trademarked as
545 “VersaBeam” or “PRIZM Light Turn”). The demonstrator and the FOX system are thus defined to
546 use multimode OM3 (or better) fibers with a 50 micron core and 125 micron cladding.

547 The optical demonstrator for the FOX system forms a model of the light path between the detector
548 front-ends and the FEXs, including the patch cables connecting the FOX mapping modules to the
549 upstream and downstream modules. The optical demonstrator includes patch cables of a
550 representative length, barrel connectors identical to what can be used at the inputs and outputs to the
551 FOX modules, and several “octopus” cables appropriate for arbitrary mapping.

552 This test environment forms a convenient setup where optical components from different
553 manufacturers, different types of internal connectors, different passive splitters, and fixed attenuators
554 can be inserted, tested and measured. The mechanical assembly of this optical test environment does
555 not try to follow the mechanical choices pursued for the final FOX system. Any mechanical
556 components used in this setup are chosen mainly for ease of testing and the portability of the setup.

557 The optical demonstrator is usable in isolation, i.e. with hand-held test equipment using continuous or
558 pulsed light sources and light meters to measure and compare the insertion loss of different
559 configurations. It can also be connected to a modulated light transmitter and a light detector
560 (preferably miniPODs) to simulate a Hcalo data stream at 6.4 Gbps (or other speed) and provide a
561 measurement of the connection quality that is representative of that link and these source and sink.

562 The optical demonstrator must be transportable and usable with other prototypes as they become
563 available at their home institution or at CERN when appropriate.

564

565 **4.2.2 Mechanical Demonstrator**

566 This is the set of test assemblies used to evaluate and choose the combination of commercial (or
567 custom made where necessary) mechanical components appropriate to build the full FOX system. An
568 important and pressing outcome from the demonstrator phase of the FOX system is to determine the
569 physical size of the FOX module so that the required space in USA15 can be properly understood and
570 planned in advance.

571 As shown in Figure 5 the FOX system is designed to be modular. The input and output sides of the
572 FOX system need to provide the MPO/MTP connectors for the patch cables connections to the
573 upstream and downstream modules. The FOX sub-modules need to support the required fiber
574 mapping and light splitting where necessary.

575 The existing infrastructure in USA15 expects the FOX sub-modules to be mounted in a 19-inch rack
576 rail environment. Mounting some passive FOX module(s) outside of the rack enclosures can be
577 explored if rack space in USA15 becomes a limitation but such measure will hopefully not be
578 necessary.

579 The criteria to be used in searching for and evaluating solutions are:

- 580 • Compactness to minimize the rack space required in USA15
- 581 • Modularity with separate sub-modules for each input and output types to help with
582 construction, installation and future upgrades
- 583 • Component accessibility to ease construction, diagnostics and any repair

584 Several options may be found sufficiently attractive to be explored during this phase of the FOX
585 design. At least one option will be pushed to become a physical demonstrator. This mechanical
586 prototype must represent a coverage deemed sufficient to demonstrate and support the mechanical
587 design of the full system. This mechanical demonstrator may be tested for a “dry fit” in USA15
588 during a shutdown period even if no suitable inputs and outputs are available at the time.

589 A few channels of this final form of the mechanical demonstrator will be equipped with a
590 representative set of the optical components that were separately qualified with the optical
591 demonstrator for a demonstration of their mechanical integration.

592

593 **4.3 EXPLORATIVE STUDIES**

594 Two additional technologies are also explored and evaluated as options or backup solutions, especially
595 for the case simple passive splitters are determined not to be sufficient.

596 **4.3.1 Fiber fusing**

597 Connecting two segments of optical fibers is most simply done through optical connectors on each end
598 of the fibers (e.g. LC or SC connectors for individual fibers) and a barrel connector to mate the two
599 connectors. The amount of light lost in the connection is expected to be in the range of 0.25 to 0.5 dB,
600 with a value range depending on different expectations about what might be typical versus what
601 should be used in conservative calculations. The light power loss depends on several factors including
602 the cleanliness of the polished faces and the fine alignment of the two fiber cores, but even with
603 perfect alignment some light reflection and power loss is always present. The advantage of having
604 connectors and using modular components (e.g. for splitters) comes from the convenience of assembly
605 and maintenance of the full system.

606 Commercial equipment can also be purchased to fuse fibers end to end. With a good fuser machine
607 and a careful operator, the light loss through a fused optical connection is expected to be fairly
608 predictable at about 0.1 dB.

609 The information available about fiber fusers describes a fairly slow but straightforward process. The
610 operator must cut, strip and prepare two clean bare fiber ends. The machine presents two fine lateral

611 views to adjust the alignment of the two ends before fusing. Care must be taken while handling the
612 sharp bare fibers which can easily penetrate the skin and the operator must be attentive to the safe
613 disposal of all fiber scraps.

614 One downside in fusing fibers in the FOX system is in the loss of modularity and flexibility. How
615 desirable a saving of about one dB will be to the FOX system will be understood from the results of
616 the optical demonstrator studies.

617 The goal of this explorative study is to evaluate how easy or challenging this process really is. We will
618 also understand how long each fused connection might take in the context of building the final FOX
619 system. This study will thus determine how feasible it would be to fuse some of the connections in a
620 fraction of the FOX channels, namely those requiring the use of light splitters. This will of course also
621 depend on how many channels would need to receive this treatment (tens or hundreds versus
622 thousands). While it may be too early to predict if fiber fusing will be used, this explorative study is
623 meant to prepare for such possibility.

624 **4.3.2 Light amplification**

625 It is expected that channel splitting will be required in some channels of the FOX system. It is
626 expected that only one-to-two light splitting will be required and that passive light splitters will be
627 sufficient in all cases. There is however yet no certainty that this will be the case, and should one-to-
628 four channel splitting be required, it is already clear that passive splitting would not be sufficient. The
629 FOX system would need to use active splitting (i.e. with light amplification or signal regeneration)
630 would be required.

631 This explorative study is a continuation of the effort already started in surveying what solutions might
632 be commercially available.

633 850 nm multimode communications at 10 Gbps happens to also be one of the technologies used for
634 short range connections in Ethernet communication. Ethernet fiber link duplication also happens to be
635 important in certain Ethernet switching contexts. It is used to provide a copy of all internet traffic for
636 the purpose of flow monitoring and for intrusion detection. Commercial devices accomplishing such
637 flow duplication are called “taps”. There would be important issues related to cost and space per
638 channel, but a more fatal problem was identified after pursuing the specification details with one
639 vendor related to the encoding of the data stream, namely that 11calo uses 8b/10b encoding which
640 incompatible with the 64b/66b encoding used in the optical Ethernet protocol. Proprietary firmware
641 would need to be modified while no clear path forward was proposed from that particular vendor.

642 Discrete components for light amplification at 850 nm should also be explored and more importantly
643 tested in the context of miniPOD to miniPOD communication.

644 This study will continue to search for and evaluate commercial products in the form of pre-packaged
645 solutions and discrete components. If some viable solutions is found to be practical in the context of a
646 FOX system, it can be tested with the optical demonstrator test platform.

647

648 **4.4 MEASUREMENT TOOLS**

649 **4.4.1 Optical power meter**

650 An optical power meter is used in conjunction with a stable light source to measure the amount of light
651 transmitted through a fiber. The tester is first calibrated (zeroed) using two fixed fibers before
652 inserting the section of light path to be measured. The additional power loss detected is called the
653 insertion loss for the tested section.

654 A simple power meter measures the average light power as opposed to the modulated light power
655 which carries the information of the data stream. The quantity measured is the light power ratio or
656 power loss expressed in dB between input and output. Because it is a ratio, the power loss measured

657 for the average power is however no different than the power loss for the modulated power. This
658 insertion loss measurement is also the quantity to be used in modulated power budget calculations.

659 Insertion loss measurements are the main quantitative measurement used to compare different
660 components to be evaluated with the optical demonstrator. The power meter can also be used to
661 diagnose and locate poor connections or wiring mistakes.

662 **4.4.2 Reflectometer (OTDR)**

663 An optical time-domain reflectometer (OTDR) can also be used to characterize an optical fiber. This is
664 the optical equivalent to an electronic time domain reflectometer. An OTDR injects a series of optical
665 pulses into one end of the fiber under test and detects the light reflected by any discontinuity (a step
666 loss) or glass media scattering (a propagation loss) within the fiber. The time delay of the reflection is
667 converted and displayed as a distance into the fiber. Unlike the power meter method which needs
668 physical access to both ends of the fiber being tested, the OTDR makes its measurements from one
669 end only.

670 Another theoretical advantage of an OTDR instrument is that it should be able to display and
671 characterize each optical connector along the optical path. These instruments are mostly used in
672 diagnosing long connections (hundreds or thousands of meters or even tens of kilometers of single
673 mode fiber) and we will need to determine how well it can perform for discriminating among the
674 multiple connections likely separated by less than a meter within the FOX system.

675 **4.4.3 Bit error rate tester (BERT)**

676 A Bit Error Rate or Bit Error Ratio Test (BERT) requires a light source sending an encoded signal
677 with a known pseudo-random data pattern at one end of the fiber and a detector receiving this signal at
678 the other end of the fiber. The BERT simply consists in the bit level comparison of the recovered data
679 pattern to the known input pattern and the counting of the number of mistakes.

680 Test equipment manufacturers sell dedicated BERT source and measurement instruments, but this type
681 of equipment would not provide a meaningful qualification of the FOX system.

682 A BERT measurement is not only dependent on the quality of the light path (FOX) but also critically
683 dependent on the characteristics of the transmitter and receiver used for the test. The FOX system is
684 meant to be used with miniPOD devices and any meaningful BERT measurement should thus be using
685 these devices, and preferably those from the modules in the overall system. The firmware design
686 environment suite for the Xilinx FPGAs used in these ATLAS modules conveniently supports such
687 BERT measurements with minimal effort.

688 Xilinx BERT measurements will form the link quality measurements for the evaluation of individual
689 channels in the FOX system.

690 **4.4.4 Optical oscilloscope**

691 An optical sampling oscilloscope is a complex and expensive tool that can display the modulated light
692 power received at the end of a fiber. This type of tool could be useful for optimizing the parameters
693 available in a miniPOD transmitter and the configuration of an FPGA MGT channel. The tuning of
694 these parameters depends on the particular implementation details of the source modules and are not
695 within the control of the FOX system. Such qualitative measurements are not considered to be within
696 the scope of the FOX project.

697 The main figure of optical merit for the FOX system is understood to be in the minimization of light
698 loss. Insertion loss will be the primary channel quality measurement while bit-error tests will also be
699 used to show proper operation.

700 **4.5 TEST PROCEDURE**

701 **4.5.1 Insertion loss measurements**

702 The optical demonstrator is used to determine the insertion loss of the light path through a typical
703 channel of the FOX system, i.e. through a series of fiber patch cables and components with and
704 without a light splitter.

705 This insertion loss is measured with a power meter or OTDR instrument. This loss is then compared
706 to the power budget for a MiniPOD to MiniPOD connection calculated using their guaranteed
707 specification. This comparison will determine how much theoretical power margin is left.

708 **4.5.2 Bit error test**

709 For all initial data transmission tests the optical demonstrator will use one of the existing 11calo CMX
710 modules equipped with a “Topo FPGA”, i.e. with both transmitting and receiving miniPODs. The
711 optical demonstrator can later be used with the prototype versions of the upstream and downstream
712 modules, as they become available.

713 A CMX module and Xilinx BERT firmware plus the Xilinx ChipScope interface will be used to
714 generate and capture a 6.4 Gbps data stream for BERT measurements. These measurements provide
715 an estimate of the minimum time (if no error is detected over the observation period) or an average
716 time (if errors are detected) between transmission errors. An acceptable limit needs to be specified for
717 the overall FOX system and for individual FOX channel, while keeping in mind that channels with
718 light splitting will naturally perform differently than channels without light splitting.

719 If an insertion loss measurement and a datasheet provide a theoretical calculation of the power margin
720 available, a bit error test is an empirical verification of the existence of such margin. The size of this
721 power margin can also be probed with the optical demonstrator. In addition to checking for a zero or
722 low bit error rate with a representative light path configuration, one can also insert light attenuators of
723 known increasing power loss ratio until the bit error rate becomes significant. This empirical
724 measurement will then be compared to the calculated value.

725 One limitation of using a CMX card is that its Virtex 6 FPGAs can only test a transmission speed up to
726 6.4 Gbps. Testing MiniPOD transmission at higher speeds will need to be performed with prototypes
727 modules being built for the Phase I upgrade.

728 **4.5.3 MiniPOD Light Level Monitoring**

729 Transmitter and receiver miniPODs host a number of internal registers accessible through a Two Wire
730 Serial interface (TWS). These control and status registers include monitoring information about the
731 amount of light measured by the device itself to be either transmitted or received. These internal
732 measurements are specified with a rather fine granularity of 0.1microW (-30 dBm) but with a
733 tolerance of only +/- 3 dB. This coarse tolerance prevents using these monitoring values as a direct
734 quantitative measurement. During CMX production module testing the values returned have been
735 found to be stable over repeating queries (an example of the data currently retrieved is shown in
736 Figure 6 below). These measurements will thus be included in the testing of the FOX optical
737 demonstrator and will be compared to and calibrated against the insertion loss measurements obtained
738 with other test equipment.

739 Such measurements could also prove to be valuable if they could become part of the ATLAS
740 monitoring information continuously recorded over a long period of time. Any short term degradation
741 could help diagnose and locate channel transmission problems. The aging characteristics of
742 MiniPOD devices are not currently understood. Any long term trend could help predict and plan for
743 the replacement of MiniPOD components during extended shutdown periods, should aging become a
744 problem.

745 More than optical power could be tracked by querying the miniPODs, including manufacturing date,
746 serial number and operating time. Case temperature and electrical measurements are also available.
747 Faults and Alarms on optical, electrical or temperature measurements can also be monitored.

748 How much a systematic and system-wide collection of such monitoring information would be valuable
749 over time to ATLAS is not clear. Access to the information from all MiniPODs would first need to be

750 designed into the hardware and firmware of all the Phase I modules installed in USA15 and the DCS
751 system would need to plan for the collection and low rate recording of this data.

```
*****  
MiniPod 1 Internal Monitors (CMX0)  
Thu Jan 1 01:00:00 1970  
*****  
MiniPod Vendor Date (YYYY/MM/DD): 2013/11/18  
MiniPod Vendor Serial Number: A134631Dj  
Elapsed (Power On) Operating Time [hr (days)]: 34 (1.4)  
Fault Status: 0  
Channel 0 TX Bias Current [mA]: 5.832 (within normal operating range)  
Channel 1 TX Bias Current [mA]: 5.950 (within normal operating range)  
Channel 2 TX Bias Current [mA]: 5.900 (within normal operating range)  
Channel 3 TX Bias Current [mA]: 5.808 (within normal operating range)  
Channel 4 TX Bias Current [mA]: 5.820 (within normal operating range)  
Channel 5 TX Bias Current [mA]: 5.732 (within normal operating range)  
Channel 6 TX Bias Current [mA]: 5.730 (within normal operating range)  
Channel 7 TX Bias Current [mA]: 5.660 (within normal operating range)  
Channel 8 TX Bias Current [mA]: 5.716 (within normal operating range)  
Channel 9 TX Bias Current [mA]: 5.708 (within normal operating range)  
Channel 10 TX Bias Current [mA]: 5.676 (within normal operating range)  
Channel 11 TX Bias Current [mA]: 5.658 (within normal operating range)  
Channel 0 TX Light Output [μW (dBm)]: 858.7 (-0.662) (within normal operating range)  
Channel 1 TX Light Output [μW (dBm)]: 857.3 (-0.669) (within normal operating range)  
Channel 2 TX Light Output [μW (dBm)]: 861.1 (-0.649) (within normal operating range)  
Channel 3 TX Light Output [μW (dBm)]: 760.7 (-1.188) (within normal operating range)  
Channel 4 TX Light Output [μW (dBm)]: 869.2 (-0.609) (within normal operating range)  
Channel 5 TX Light Output [μW (dBm)]: 910.5 (-0.407) (within normal operating range)  
Channel 6 TX Light Output [μW (dBm)]: 1037.2 (0.159) (within normal operating range)  
Channel 7 TX Light Output [μW (dBm)]: 960.6 (-0.175) (within normal operating range)  
Channel 8 TX Light Output [μW (dBm)]: 882.6 (-0.542) (within normal operating range)  
Channel 9 TX Light Output [μW (dBm)]: 937.5 (-0.280) (within normal operating range)  
Channel 10 TX Light output [μW (dBm)]: 970.5 (-0.130) (within normal operating range)  
Channel 11 TX Light output [μW (dBm)]: 824.2 (-0.840) (within normal operating range)  
Internal 3.3 Vcc [V]: 3.2749 (within normal operating range)  
Internal 2.5 Vcc [V]: 2.4710 (within normal operating range)  
Internal Temperature [deg C]: 38.2 (within normal operating range)
```

752

753 **Figure 6: example of MiniPOD information captured by current CMX software and firmware.**