



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

Project Specification

Document Version: Draft 0.9
Document Date: 03 November 2014
Prepared by: Yuri Ermoline, Murrough Landon, Philippe Laurens,
Reinhard Schwienhorst

Document Change Record

Version	Issue	Date	Comment
0	0	15 August 2014	Initial document layout
0	1	15 October 2014	Contribution from Reinhard to Chapter 1
0	2	17 October 2014	Contribution from Yuri to Chapter 3 (not complete)
0	3	30 October 2014	Contribution from Yuri to Chapter 3 (completed)
0	4	31 October 2014	Contribution from Murrough to Chapter 2
0	5	03 November 2014	Contribution from Murrough to Chapter 2 (updated)
0	6	03 November 2014	Contribution from Philippe to Chapter 4 (not complete) Contribution from Reinhard to Chapter 1 (updated)
0	7	03 November 2014	Contribution from Philippe to Chapter 4 (updated)
0	8	03 November 2014	Miscellaneous minor updates
0	9	03 November 2014	Miscellaneous minor updates

15	TABLE OF CONTENTS	
16		
17	1. INTRODUCTION	5
18	1.1 CONVENTIONS	5
19	1.2 RELATED PROJECTS	5
20	1.3 L1CALO TRIGGER PHASE I UPGRADE	6
21	1.3.1 Overview of the L1Calo System in Phase I (Run 3)	6
22	1.3.2 Overview of the L1Calo System in Phase-II (Run 4)	8
23	1.4 FOX – OVERVIEW	8
24	1.5 FOX - FUNCTIONALITY	9
25	1.6 FUTURE USE CASES	10
26	1.7 SCHEDULE	10
27	2. FOX INPUT AND OUTPUT SPECIFICATION	11
28	2.1 TRANSMITTERS (FOX INPUTS)	11
29	2.1.1 LAr DPS transmitters	11
30	2.1.2 Tile transmitters	13
31	2.1.3 Summary of fiber counts	13
32	2.2 RECEIVERS (FOX OUTPUTS)	14
33	2.2.1 eFEX	14
34	2.2.2 jFEX	15
35	2.2.3 gFEX	15
36	2.3 OPEN QUESTIONS	15
37	3. COMPONENTS OF OPTICAL CHAIN	17
38	3.1 INPUT ADAPTERS FOR MPO/MPT CONNECTORS	17
39	3.2 FIBERS MAPPING	18
40	3.2.1 Mapping at the input and output	18
41	3.2.2 Mapping by connectors	18
42	3.2.3 Mapping by fusion splicing	19
43	3.2.4 Mapping by custom mapping module	20
44	3.3 FIBER PASSIVE SPLITTING	20
45	3.4 FIBER ACTIVE SPLITTING	20
46	3.4.1 Electrical signal fan out at the source	21
47	3.4.2 Optical amplification	21
48	3.5 MECHANICS	22
49	4. DEMONSTRATOR(S)	23
50	4.1 DEMONSTRATOR GOALS	23
51	4.2 DEMONSTRATOR COMPONENTS	23
52	4.2.1 Optical Demonstrator	23

53	4.2.2 <i>Mechanical Demonstrator</i>	24
54	4.3 EXPLORATIVE STUDIES	24
55	4.3.1 <i>Fiber fusing</i>	24
56	4.3.2 <i>Light amplification</i>	25
57	4.4 MEASUREMENT TOOLS	25
58	4.4.1 <i>Optical power meter</i>	25
59	4.4.2 <i>Reflectometer (OTDR)</i>	26
60	4.4.3 <i>Bit error rate tester (BERT)</i>	26
61	4.4.4 <i>Optical oscilloscope</i>	26
62	4.5 TEST PROCEDURE	26
63	4.5.1 <i>Insertion loss measurements</i>	26
64	4.5.2 <i>Bit error test</i>	27
65	4.5.3 <i>MiniPOD Light Level Monitoring</i>	27
66		

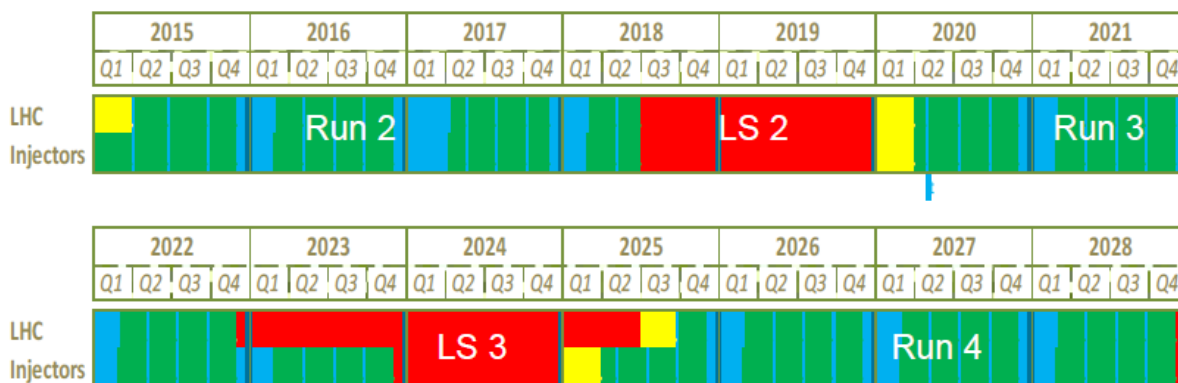
67 **1. INTRODUCTION**

68 **1.1 CONVENTIONS**

69 The following conventions are used in this document:

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

76 Figure 1 explains the timeline for Atlas running and shutdowns: Phase-I upgrades will be installed
77 before the end of long shutdown LS 2; Phase-II upgrades will be installed before the end of LS 3.



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

80 **1.2 RELATED PROJECTS**

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

1.3 L1CALO TRIGGER PHASE I UPGRADE

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

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

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

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

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

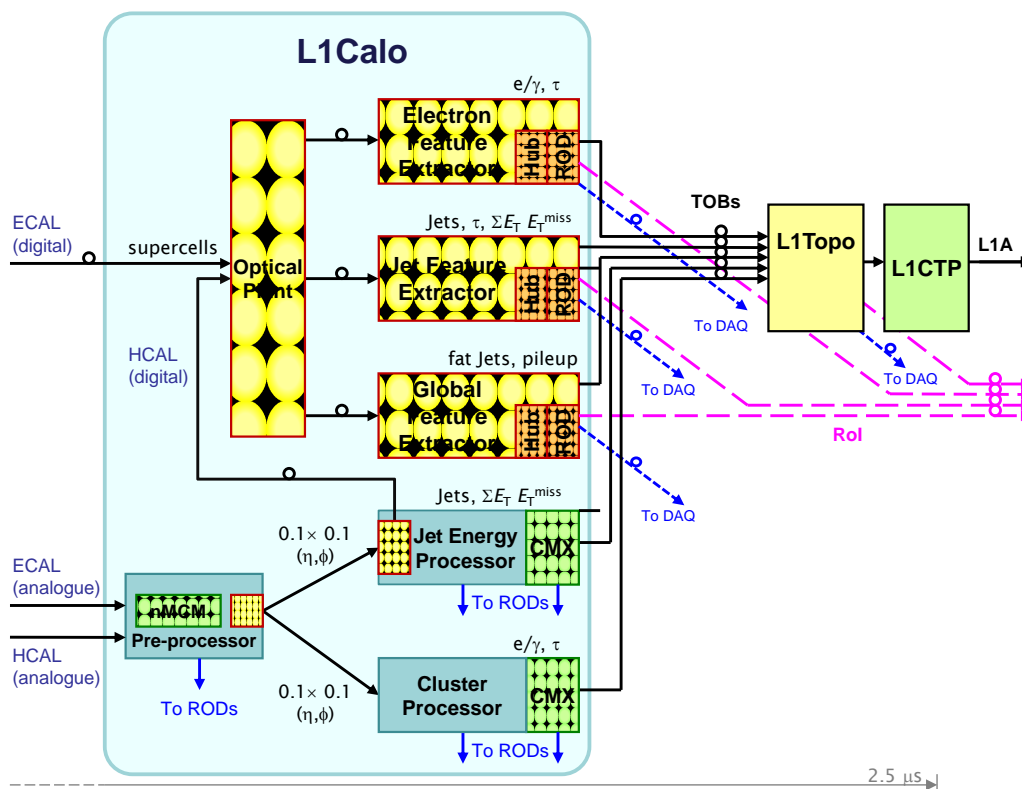


Figure 2: The L1Calo system in Run 3. Components installed during LS2 are shown in yellow/orange

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

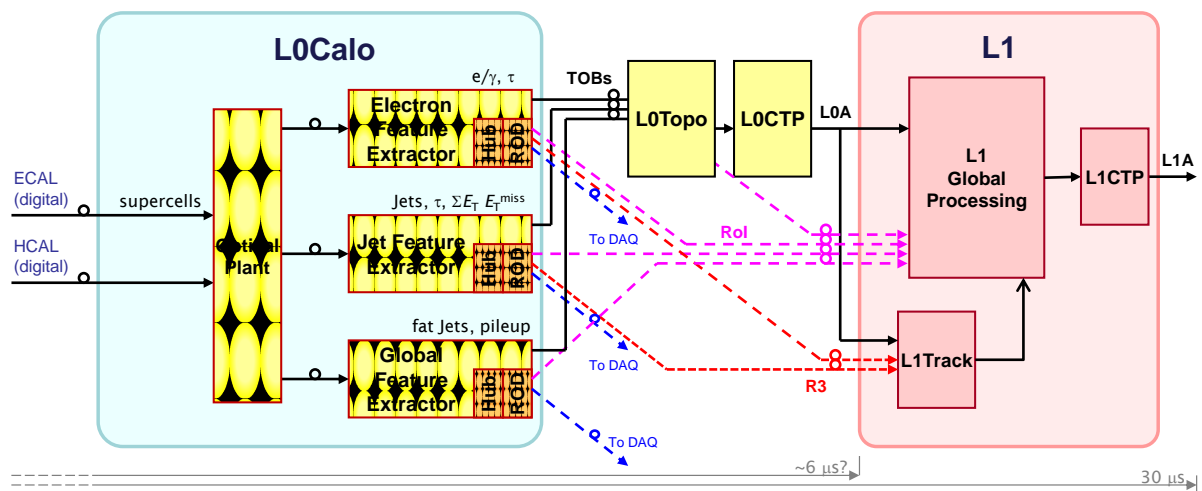
157 The outputs of the FEX subsystems (plus CP and JEP) comprise Trigger Objects (TOBs): data
158 structures which describe the location and characteristics of candidate trigger objects. The TOBs are
159 transmitted optically to the Level-1 Topological Processor (L1Topo), which merges them over the
160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

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

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

175 **1.3.2 Overview of the L1Calo System in Phase-II (Run 4)**

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



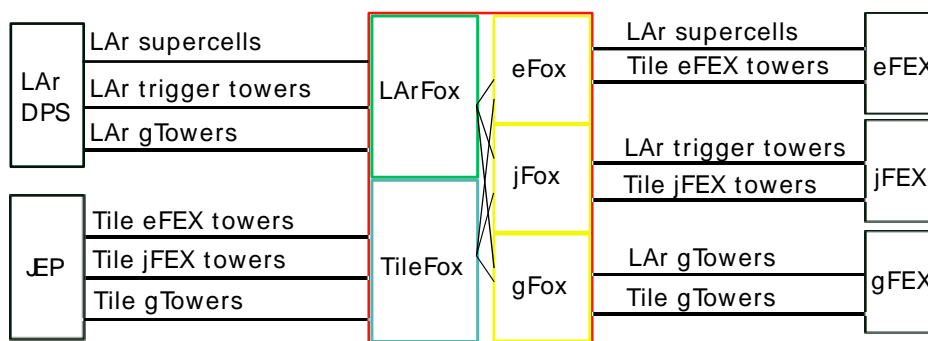
189 **Figure 4: The L0/L1Calo system in Run 4. The new Level-1 system is shown in red and pink. Other**
 190 **modules (yellow /orange) are adapted from the previous system to form the new L0Calo.**

191

192 **1.4 FOX – OVERVIEW**

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

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



203

204

Figure 5: Overview of optical plant connections.

205

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

231

232 1.5 FOX - FUNCTIONALITY

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

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

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

246

247 **1.6 FUTURE USE CASES**

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

252

253 **1.7 SCHEDULE**

254 The schedule for design and construction of the FOX centers on the integration tests at CERN and the
 255 decision on the final fiber 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

256

257

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

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

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

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

268

269 **2.1 TRANSMITTERS (FOX INPUTS)**

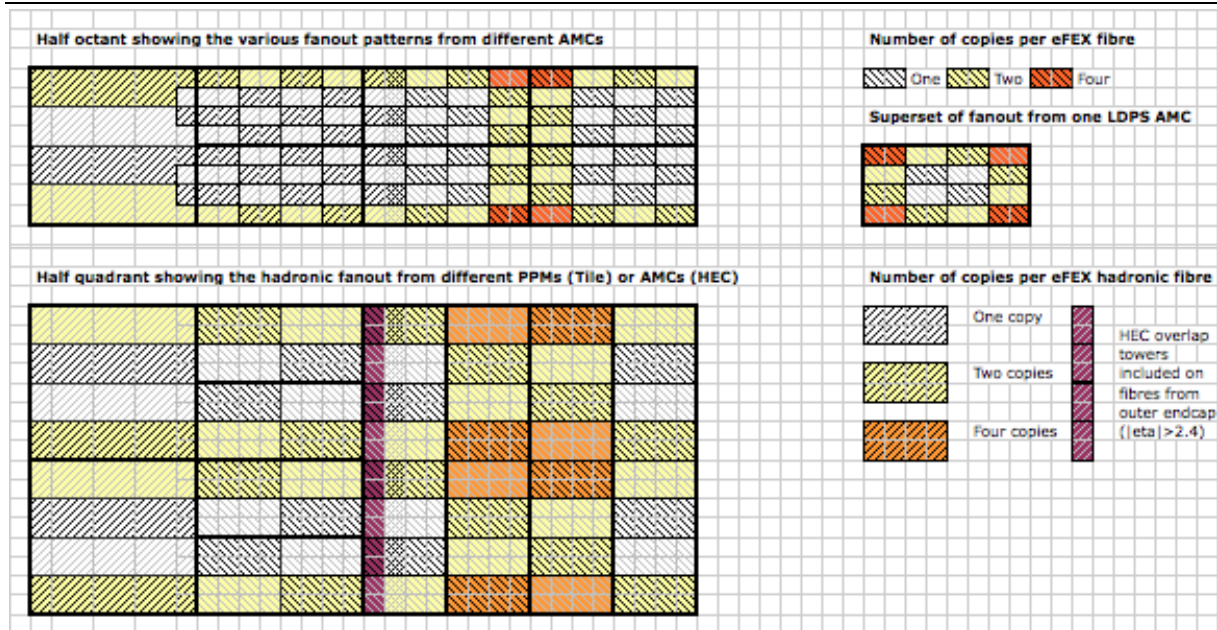
270 **2.1.1 LAr DPS transmitters**

271 The trigger information from the entire LAr calorimeter to the three FEX systems will be sent by the
272 LAr Digital Processor System (LDPS). The LDPS is a set of about 30 ATCA modules called LAr
273 Digital Processor Blades (LDPBs) housed in three ATCA shelves (crates). Each LDPB acts as a
274 carrier board for four mezzanine cards (AMCs) each of which has a single FPGA with 48 output
275 optical links providing data to the FEXes. There are therefore 192 output fibers per LDPB and over
276 5500 from the whole LDPS system.

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

280 **2.1.1.1 LAr EM**

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



286

287

288 **Figure 6: AMC fiber coverage and fanout requirements.**

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

296 For the jFEX each fiber would carry eight towers from a 0.4×0.2 area at 6.4 Gbit/s but could carry 16
 297 towers from a 0.4×0.4 area at the higher link speeds. This mapping implies four or two separate fibers
 298 with low or high speed links. However the jFEX fanout requirements may change with the link speed,
 299 needing a minimum of two copies at low links speed but three copies at the higher link speed making
 300 eight or six output fibers per AMC in total. The gFEX only needs a single fiber from the whole
 301 0.8×0.4 AMC area independent of the link speed.

302 The diagrams in Figure 6 indicate the coverage and fanout requirements (number of copies) of eFEX
 303 and jFEX fibers from each AMC and low and high link speeds. The jFEX requirements are uniform
 304 across the AMC but change with link speed whereas the eFEX requirements are independent of link
 305 speed but are more complex with additional copies required at the edges and corners. The eFEX
 306 fanout pattern also varies with the eta and phi location of the AMC both in the central region and in
 307 the outer endcaps. However there is a single superset pattern that covers all possible locations. This
 308 would allow a single firmware version in the AMC with the FOX connecting only those fibers
 309 required from each AMC.

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

312 2.1.1.2 LArHEC

313 The granularity of the HEC is much lower than the EM calorimeter. Each input channel of the DPS is
 314 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
 315 endcaps. In contrast to the EM layer, both the eFEX and jFEX receive identical information with the
 316 coverage of each fiber the same as the jFEX fibers from the EM layer. Since the jFEX needs three
 317 copies at the higher link speed, the majority of the HEC LDPS outputs will be to jFEX with fewer to
 318 eFEX. The $\eta \times \phi$ coverage of the AMCs for the HEC is larger and so the gFEX will receive four
 319 fibers from each AMC.

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

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

330 2.1.1.3 LAr FCAL

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

334 2.1.2 Tile transmitters

335 In phase 1 (Run 3) the Tile towers will be sent to the FEXes from the existing L1Calo preprocessor
 336 modules (PPMs) via new rear transition cards. Each PPM covers $0.4 * 1.6$ in $\eta * \phi$ so the geometry is
 337 different from that of the LDPS AMC in the same η region. This has no effect on the eFEX or jFEX
 338 as they receive fibers covering $0.4 * 0.2$ (at low speed) or $0.4 * 0.4$ (at high speed). However the gFEX
 339 fibers will each cover $0.4 * 0.8$ instead of $0.8 * 0.4$ from the LDPS.

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

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

344 2.1.3 Summary of fiber counts

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

354

355 **Table 1: Number of fibers from each part of the calorimeter for a baseline link speed of**
 356 **6.4Gbit/s.**

Calo Region vs N.Fibers 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

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

358

359 **2.2 RECEIVERS (FOX OUTPUTS)**

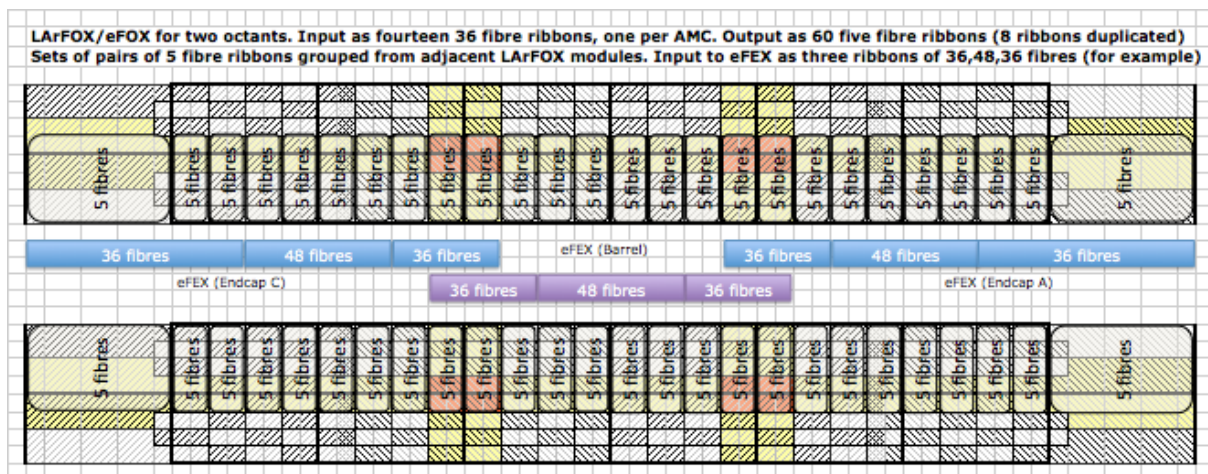
360 **2.2.1 eFEX**

361 Each eFEX module handles a core area of roughly 1.6×0.8 in $\eta \times \phi$ but the trigger algorithms require
 362 an addition ring of towers taking the total coverage to 2.0×1.0 in the centre of the EM layer and rather
 363 larger at the endcaps. The coverage of each hadronic fiber does not neatly fit the same area so the
 364 effective coverage of the hadronic layer will be 2.4×1.2 .

365 The eFEX inputs will be arranged such that a group of 12 EM fibers is used to provide each 0.2×1.0
 366 area in η with 2 unused fibers per group. In the hadronic layer each full group of 12 fibers will cover
 367 0.8×1.2 at the low link speed baseline, though the same area could in principle be covered by only six
 368 fibers in the high speed option but the alignment in ϕ may result in eight fibers being used.

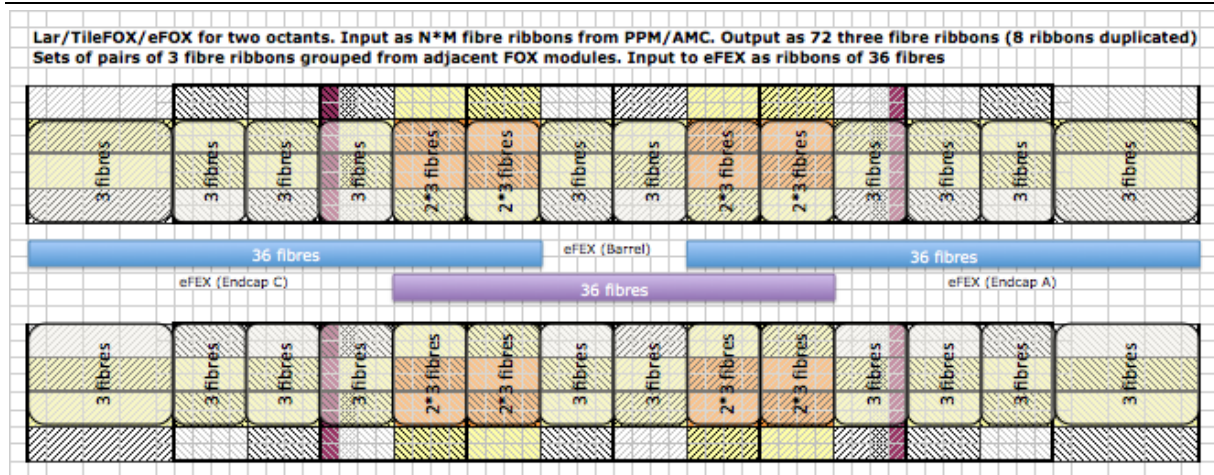
369 Realigning the system to optimise the high speed hadronic inputs would imply a ϕ shift of 0.2 of the
 370 EM fanout pattern.

371



372

373 **Figure 7: LArFOX fiber mapping to eFEX.**



374

375 **Figure 8: LArFOX and TileFOX fiber mapping.**

376

377 **2.2.2 jFEX**

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

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

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

389 ****FIXME** LAYOUT OF FIBERS TO BE DONE**

390 **2.2.3 gFEX**

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

394 ****FIXME** LAYOUT OF FIBERS TO BE DONE**

395

396 **2.3 OPEN QUESTIONS**

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

400 The main unknown is the link speed to be used. This choice has a large impact on the number of
401 hadronic fibers and their mapping and also affects the EM mapping due to a reoptimisation of the
402 layout.

403 Another question to be resolved is how and where to handle the different mappings on A and C sides.
404 In the detector the mappings are either rotated (EM, Tile) or reflected (HEC?) between the two sides.
405 The trigger algorithms expect to operate on an eta phi space with translational symmetry – at least
406 within a given FPGA. In the original L1Calo system all input towers were remapped into a single eta

407 phi space at the PPM inputs. However the FEXes have separate modules or FPGAs for A and C sides
408 and it might be useful to keep the rotational symmetry to minimise the number of remappings.
409

410 **3. COMPONENTS OF OPTICAL CHAIN**

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

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

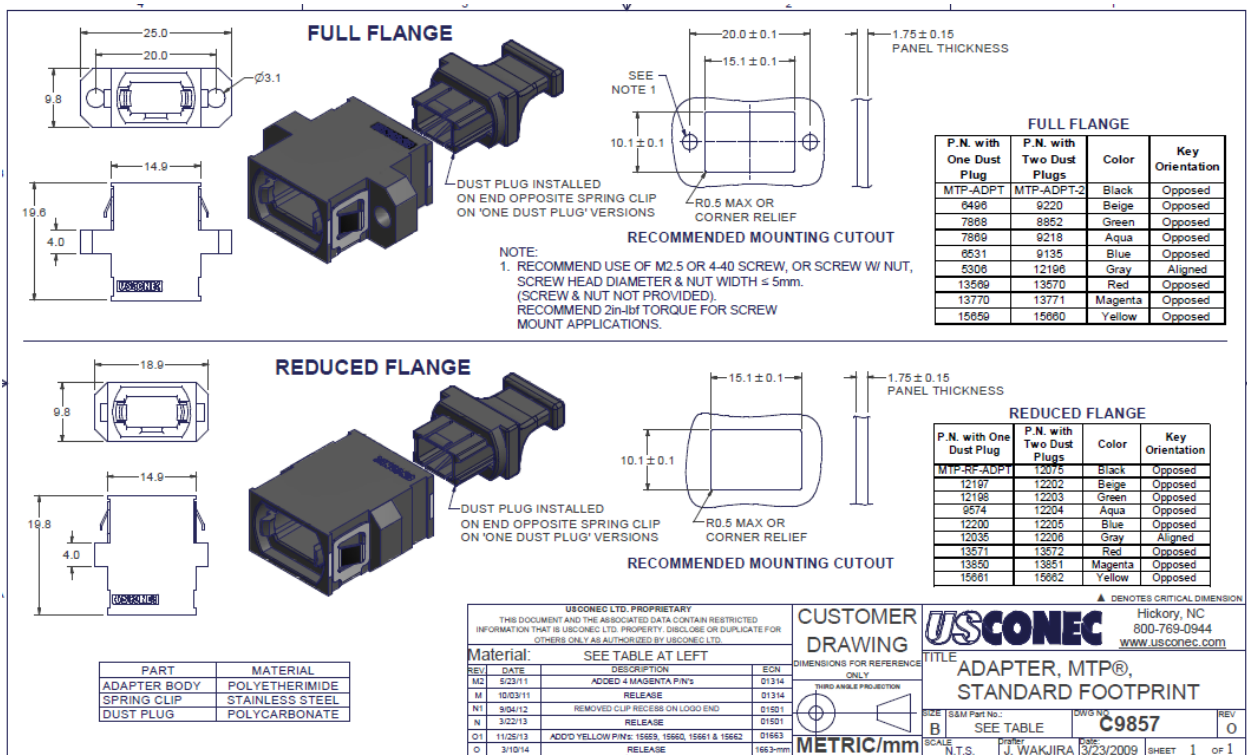
418 The outputs of the FOX are also 12 fibers MPO connectors. The eFEX module uses 48 fibers MPO
419 connectors and the jFEX and the gFEX modules use 72 fibers MPO connectors. Therefore there may
420 be the break-out cables (48 to 4x12 and 72 to 6x12 fibers) between the FOX output 12 fibers MPO
421 connectors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

422

423 **3.1 INPUT ADAPTERS FOR MPO/MPT CONNECTORS**

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

428



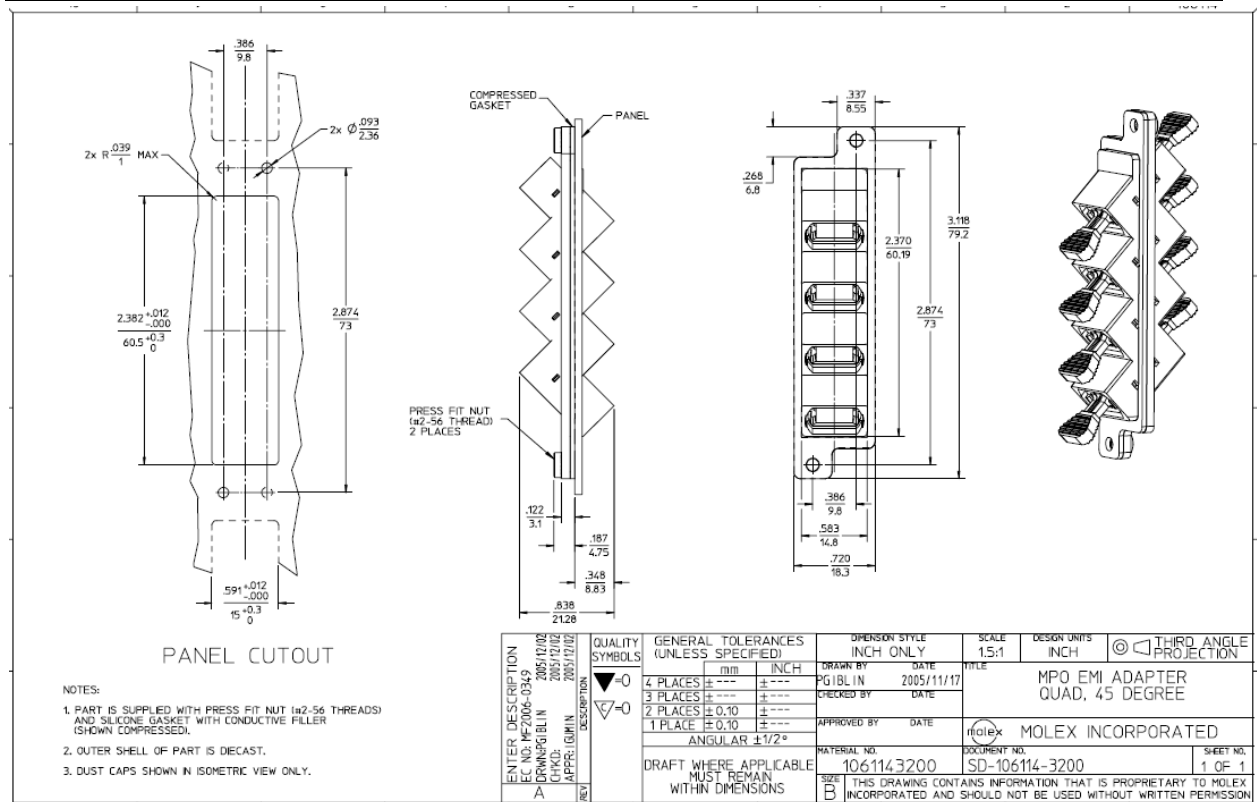
429

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

431

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

434 Input MPO connectors of the FOX will be male version (with guide pins). The parallel fiber ribbons of
435 12 fibers will have female version of the MPO connector.



436

437

Figure x: Quad MPO/MPT adapters.

438

439 3.2 FIBERS MAPPING

440 3.2.1 Mapping at the input and output

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



445

446

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

447 3.2.2 Mapping by connectors

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

451



452



453

454

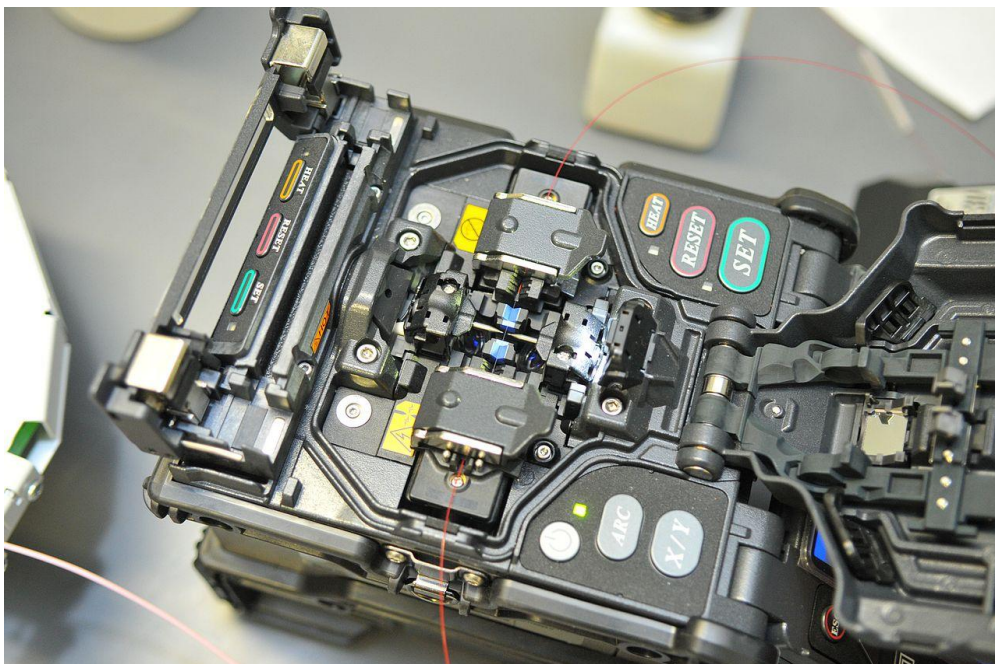
Figure x: MPO harness and connector couplers (LC, ST, SC).

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

457 **3.2.3 Mapping by fusion splicing**

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

463



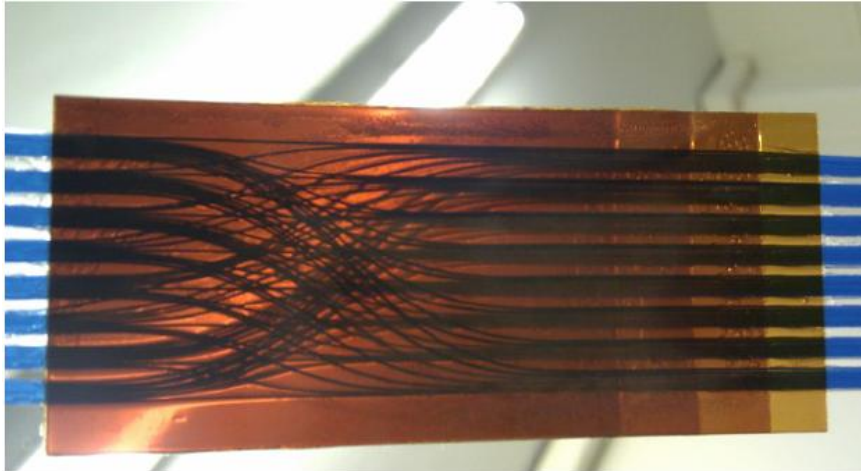
464

465

Figure x: Fusion splicing.

466 **3.2.4 Mapping by custom mapping module**

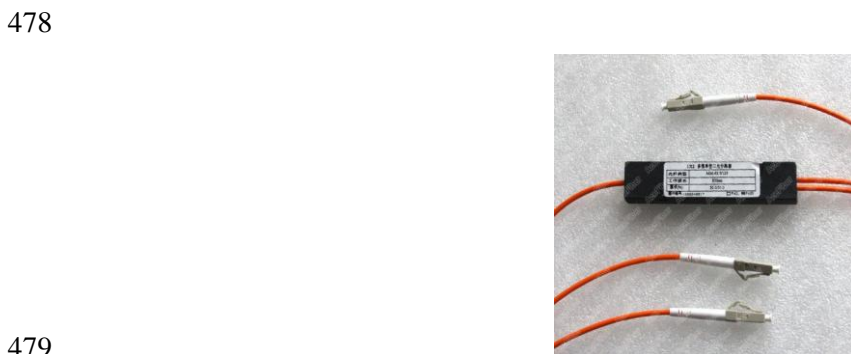
467 In a case the mapping is defined a priori and will not change, a custom build commercial mapping
468 module, which redistributes the input signals to output connectors, can be manufactured. This way of
469 mapping is however is not flexible and doesn't allow for further modifications.



470
471 **Figure x: Fiber mapping.**

472
473 **3.3 FIBER PASSIVE SPLITTING**

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



479
480 **Figure x: Fiber passive splitter.**

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

482 1x2 LC to LC Splitter 50/125 Multimode 850 2.0mm - 1x2 LC/PC to LC/PC Splitter/Fiber
483 Splitter/FBT Splitter/Coupler 50/125 Multimode Even split ratio, 2.0mm 1 m input, 1 m output,
484 wavelength: 850 nm.

485
486 **3.4 FIBER ACTIVE SPLITTING**

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

490 **3.4.1 Electrical signal fan out at the source**

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

494 **3.4.2 Optical amplification**

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

- 499 • SUPERLUM Diodes
- 500 • Traveling-wave MQW design
- 501 • CW or pulsed operation
- 502 • PM or SM pigtailed
- 503 • Low chip-to-fiber coupling loss
- 504 • Built-in thermistor and TEC
- 505 • Hermetic butterfly package or DIL package
- 506 • Optional FC/APC connectors



Features:

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

Package: butterfly (DBUT)

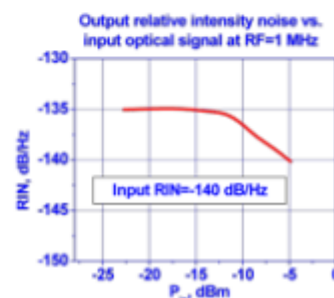
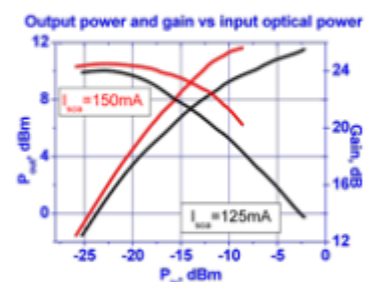
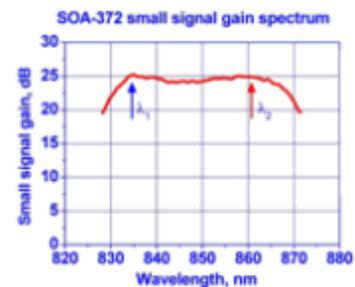
Additional and customized:

- 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



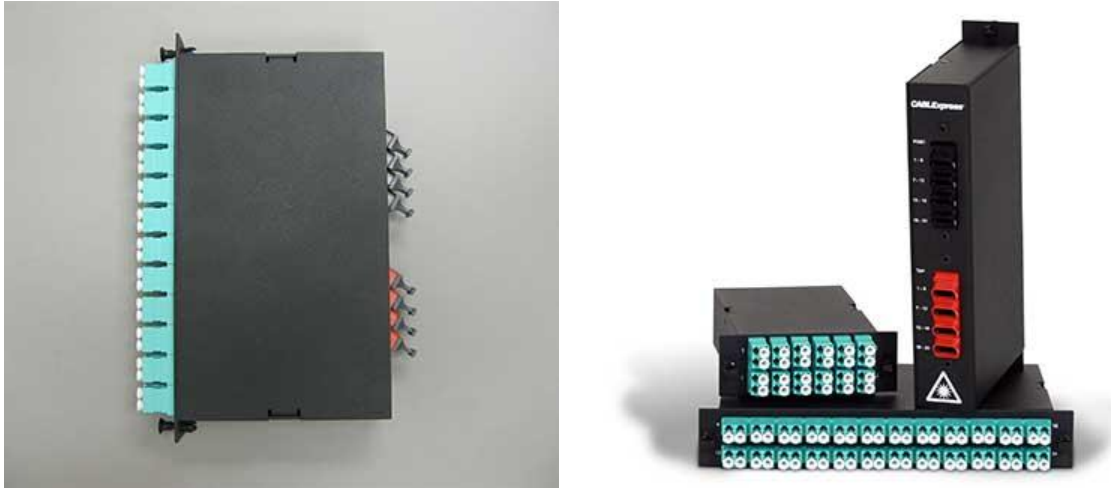
507
508 The SOA has a fiber-to-fiber optical gain of more than 20dB, which is, however, much more than
509 needed (something on the order of 6dB for a 1:3 split plus insertion losses). So an extra passive splitter
510 or an attenuator is needed to work with it. Also SOA needs a simple PCB and power.

511 **3.5 MECHANICS**

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

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

517



518

519

Figure x: LC to MTP Modules.

520



521

522

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

523

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

526

527 **4. DEMONSTRATOR(S)**

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

531

532 **4.1 DEMONSTRATOR GOALS**

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

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

539

540 **4.2 DEMONSTRATOR COMPONENTS**

541 **4.2.1 Optical Demonstrator**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

570

571 **4.2.2 Mechanical Demonstrator**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

598

599 **4.3 EXPLORATIVE STUDIES**

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

602 **4.3.1 Fiber fusing**

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

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

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

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

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

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

630 **4.3.2 Light amplification**

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

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

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

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

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

653

654 **4.4 MEASUREMENT TOOLS**

655 **4.4.1 Optical power meter**

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

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

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

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

668 **4.4.2 Reflectometer (OTDR)**

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

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

681 **4.4.3 Bit error rate tester (BERT)**

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

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

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

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

696 **4.4.4 Optical oscilloscope**

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

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

706 **4.5 TEST PROCEDURE**

707 **4.5.1 Insertion loss measurements**

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

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

714 **4.5.2 Bit error test**

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

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

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

731 One limitation of using a CMX card is that its Virtex 6 FPGAs can only test a transmission speed up to
732 6.4 Gbps. Testing MiniPOD transmission at higher speeds will need to be performed with prototypes
733 modules being built for the Phase I upgrade.

734 **4.5.3 MiniPOD Light Level Monitoring**

735 Transmitter and receiver miniPODs host a number of internal registers accessible through a Two Wire
736 Serial interface (TWS). These control and status registers include monitoring information about the
737 amount of light measured by the device itself to be either transmitted or received. These internal
738 measurements are specified with a rather fine granularity of 0.1microW (-30 dBm) but with a
739 tolerance of only +/- 3 dB. This coarse tolerance prevents using these monitoring values as a direct
740 quantitative measurement. During CMX production module testing the values returned have been
741 found to be stable over repeating queries (an example of the data currently retrieved is shown in
742 Figure 9 below). These measurements will thus be included in the testing of the FOX optical
743 demonstrator and will be compared to and calibrated against the insertion loss measurements obtained
744 with other test equipment.

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

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

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

756
757

designed into the hardware and firmware of all the Phase I modules installed in USA15 and the DCS 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)
```

758

759

Figure 9: example of MiniPOD information captured by current CMX software and firmware.