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Transmission media and optical systems characteristics – Characteristics of optical systems

Amplified multichannel DWDM applications with single channel optical interfaces

ITU-T Recommendation G.698.2

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Amplified multichannel DWDM applications with single channel optical interfaces

Summary

ITU-T Recommendation G.698.2 provides optical parameter values for physical layer interfaces of dense wavelength division multiplexing (DWDM) systems primarily intended for metro applications which include optical amplifiers. Applications are defined using optical interface parameters at the single-channel connection points between optical transmitters and the optical multiplexer, as well as between optical receivers and the optical demultiplexer in the DWDM system. This Recommendation uses a methodology which does not specify the details of the optical link, e.g., the maximum fibre length, explicitly. This version of this Recommendation includes unidirectional DWDM applications at 2.5 and 10 Gbit/s with 100 GHz channel frequency spacing.

FOREWORD

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ITU-T Recommendation G.698.2

Amplified multichannel DWDM applications with single channel optical interfaces

1   Scope

The purpose of this Recommendation is to provide optical interface specifications towards the realization of transversely compatible dense wavelength division multiplexing (DWDM) systems primarily intended for metro applications which include optical amplifiers.

This Recommendation defines and provides values for single-channel optical interface parameters of physical point-to-point and ring DWDM applications on single-mode optical fibres through the use of the "black-link" approach. The blacklinks covered by this Recommendation may contain optical amplifiers.

The use of these single channel optical interfaces for DWDM systems enables the elimination of transponders which would otherwise be needed in multivendor DWDM optical transmission networks. Further details can be found in Appendix II.

This Recommendation describes single channel interfaces to DWDM systems that include the following features:

–   channel frequency spacing: 100 GHz and above (defined in [ITU-T G.694.1]);

–   bit rate of signal channel: up to 10 Gbit/s.

Future revisions of this Recommendation are expected to include application codes for 50 GHz channel spacing and bit rates up to 40 Gbit/s.

Specifications are organized according to application codes.

2   References

The following ITU-T Recommendations and other references contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this Recommendation. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All Recommendations and other references are subject to revision; users of this Recommendation are therefore encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent edition of the Recommendations and other references listed below. A list of the currently valid ITU-T Recommendations is regularly published. The reference to a document within this Recommendation does not give it, as a stand-alone document, the status of a Recommendation.

[ITU-T G.652]   ITU-T Recommendation G.652 (2005), *Characteristics of a single-mode optical fibre and cable*.

[ITU-T G.653]   ITU-T Recommendation G.653 (2006), *Characteristics of a dispersion-shifted single-mode optical fibre and cable*.

[ITU-T G.655]   ITU-T Recommendation G.655 (2006), *Characteristics of a non-zero dispersion-shifted single-mode optical fibre and cable*.

[ITU-T G.664]   ITU-T Recommendation G.664 (2006), *Optical safety procedures and requirements for optical transport systems*.

[ITU-T G.671]   ITU-T Recommendation G.671 (2005), *Transmission characteristics of optical components and subsystems*.

[ITU-T G.691]   ITU-T Recommendation G.691 (2006), *Optical interfaces for single channel STM-64 and other SDH systems with optical amplifiers*.

[ITU-T G.692]	ITU-T Recommendation G.692 (1998), *Optical interfaces for multichannel systems with optical amplifiers*.
[ITU-T G.694.1]	ITU-T Recommendation G.694.1 (2002), *Spectral grids for WDM applications: DWDM frequency grid*.
[ITU-T G.709]	ITU-T Recommendation G.709/Y.1331 (2003), *Interfaces for the Optical Transport Network (OTN)*.
[ITU-T G.957]	ITU-T Recommendation G.957 (2006), *Optical interfaces for equipments and systems relating to the synchronous digital hierarchy*.
[ITU-T G.959.1]	ITU-T Recommendation G.959.1 (2006), *Optical transport network physical layer interfaces*.
[IEC 60825-1]	IEC 60825-1 (2007), *Safety of laser products – Part 1: Equipment classification and requirements*.
[IEC 60825-2]	IEC 60825-2 (2007), *Safety of laser products – Part 2: Safety of optical fibre communication systems (OFCS)*.

3   Definitions

3.1   Terms defined elsewhere

This Recommendation uses the following terms defined elsewhere:

3.1.1   Terms defined in [ITU-T G.671]:

−   dense wavelength division multiplexing (DWDM);

−   channel insertion loss;

−   reflectance;

−   ripple;

−   channel spacing;

−   differential group delay;

−   reflectance.

3.1.2   Term defined in [ITU-T G.691]:

−   (optical) transponder.

3.1.3   Term defined in [ITU-T G.694.1]:

−   Frequency grid.

3.1.4   Term defined in [ITU-T G.709]:

−   completely standardized OTUk (OTUk).

3.1.5   Terms defined in [ITU-T G.957]:

−   joint engineering;

−   transverse compatibility.

3.1.6   Terms defined in [ITU-T G.959.1]:

−   optical tributary signal;

−   optical tributary signal class NRZ 2.5G;

−   optical tributary signal class NRZ 10G.

4   Abbreviations

This Recommendation uses the following abbreviations:

ASE   Amplified Spontaneous Emission

BER   Bit Error Ratio

DGD   Differential Group Delay

EX   Extinction Ratio

FEC   Forward Error Correction

NA   Not Applicable

NE   Network Element

NRZ   Non-Return to Zero

OA   Optical Amplifier

OADM   Optical Add-Drop Multiplexer

OD   Optical Demultiplexer

OM   Optical Multiplexer

ONE   Optical Network Element

OTUk   Completely standardized optical channel transport unit – k

PDL   Polarization Dependent Loss

PMD   Polarization Mode Dispersion

R_S Single-channel reference point at the DWDM network element tributary output

SOP   State of Polarization

S_S Single-channel reference point at the DWDM network element tributary input

WDM   Wavelength Division Multiplexing

5   Classification of optical interfaces

5.1   Applications

This Recommendation provides the physical layer parameters and values for single-channel interfaces of DWDM multichannel optical systems in physical point-to-point and ring applications.

The specification method in this Recommendation uses a "black-link" approach which means that optical interface parameters for only (single-channel) optical tributary signals are specified. Additional specifications are provided for the black-link parameters such as residual chromatic dispersion, ripple and polarization mode dispersion. This approach enables transverse compatibility at the single-channel point using a direct wavelength-multiplexing configuration. However, it does not enable transverse compatibility at the multichannel points.

This Recommendation considers DWDM applications where the blacklink may contain optical amplifiers.

5.2 Reference points

5.2.1 Unidirectional applications

Figure 5-1 shows a set of reference points, for the linear "black-link" approach, for single-channel connection (S_S and R_S) between transmitters (Tx) and receivers (Rx). Here the DWDM network elements include an OM and an OD (which are used as a pair with the opposing element), one or more optical amplifiers and may also include one or more OADMs.

The arrangement of elements within the blacklink shown in Figures 5-1 to 5-4 is not intended to place constraints on the construction of the blacklink, but simply to define the location of the single channel interfaces.
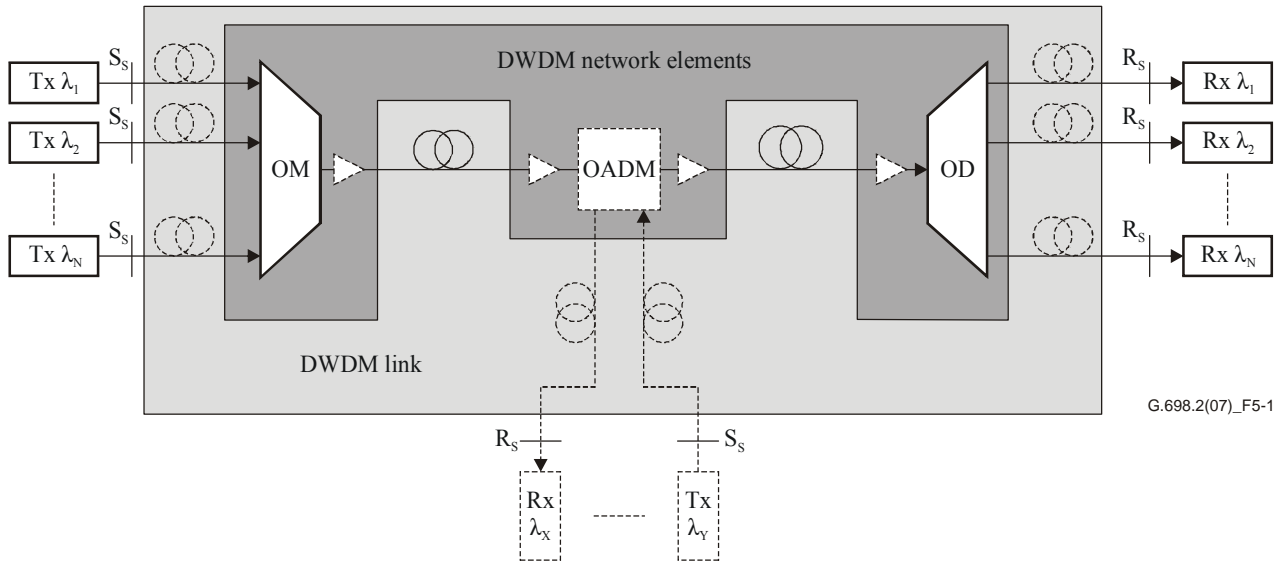
Figure 5-1 – Linear "black-link" approach

As indicated in Figure 5-1, in cases where the transmitter or receiver is some distance from the OM, OD or OADM, the fibre between point S_S or R_S and the DWDM network element is considered to be part of the black link.

Figure 5-2 shows a corresponding set of reference points for the ring "black-link" approach, for single-channel connection (S_S and R_S) between transmitters (Tx) and receivers (Rx). Here the DWDM network elements include one or more amplifiers and two or more OADMs connected in a ring.
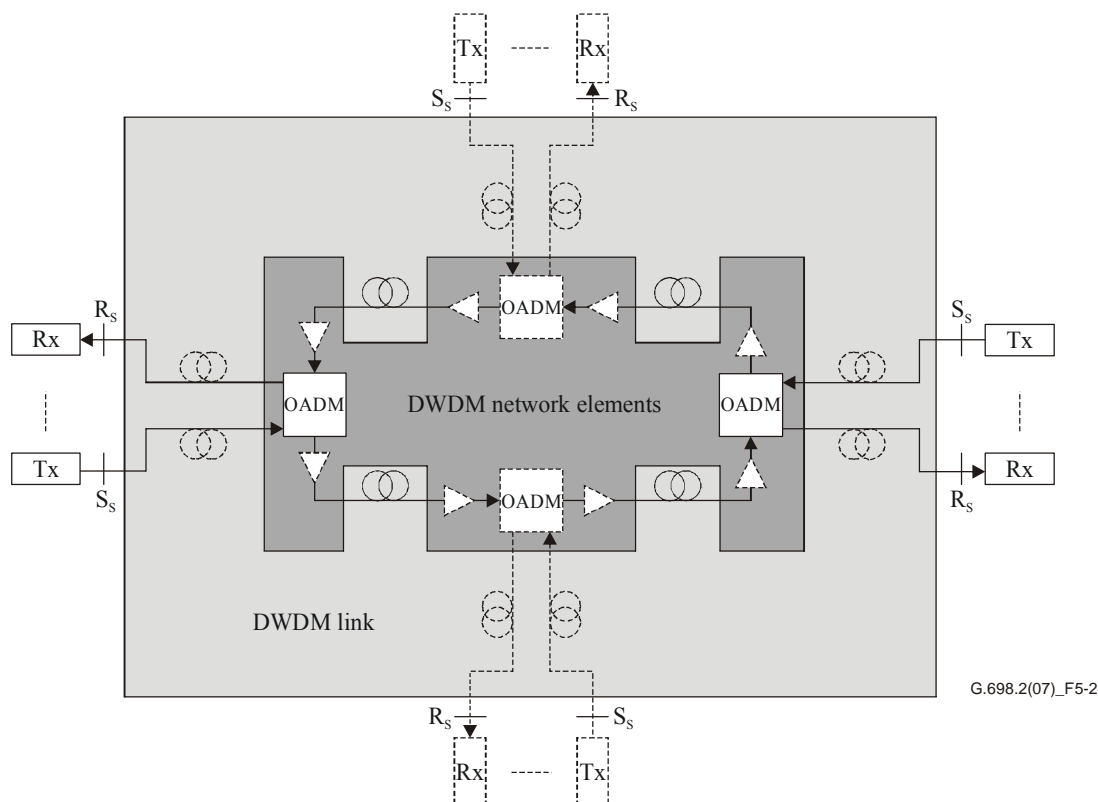
Figure 5-2 – Ring "black-link" approach

The reference points in Figures 5-1 and 5-2 are defined as follows:

− S_S is a single-channel reference point at the DWDM network element tributary input;

− R_S is a single-channel reference point at the DWDM network element tributary output.

Here, single-channel reference points S_S and R_S are applied to systems for the (linear or ring) "black-link" approach where every path from S_S to its corresponding R_S must comply with the parameter values of the application code.

5.2.2   Bidirectional applications

While this Recommendation does not currently contain any bidirectional applications, it is expected that they will be added in a future revision. Figure 5-3 shows a set of reference points, for the single-fibre bidirectional linear "black-link" approach, for single-channel connection (S_S and R_S) between transmitters (Tx) and receivers (Rx). Here the DWDM network elements include an OM/OD (which is used as a pair with the opposing element), one or more optical amplifiers and may also include one or more OADMs.
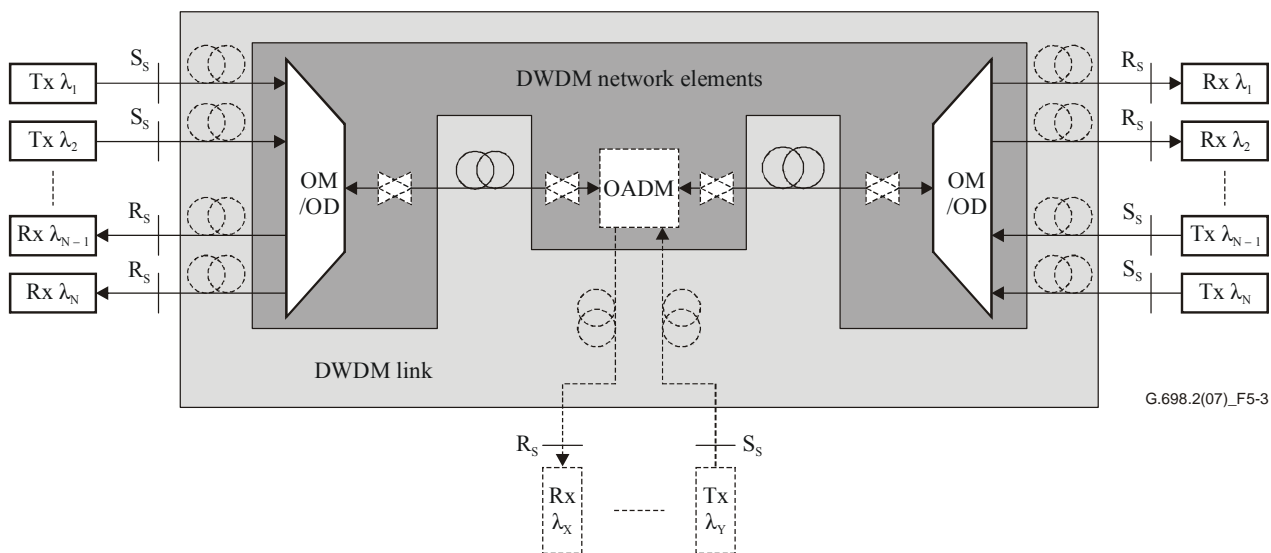
Figure 5-3 – Linear "black-link" approach for bidirectional applications

Figure 5-4 shows a corresponding set of reference points for the single-fibre bidirectional ring "black-link" approach, for single-channel connection (S_S and R_S) between transmitters (Tx) and receivers (Rx). Here the DWDM network elements include one or more amplifiers and two or more OADMs connected in a ring.


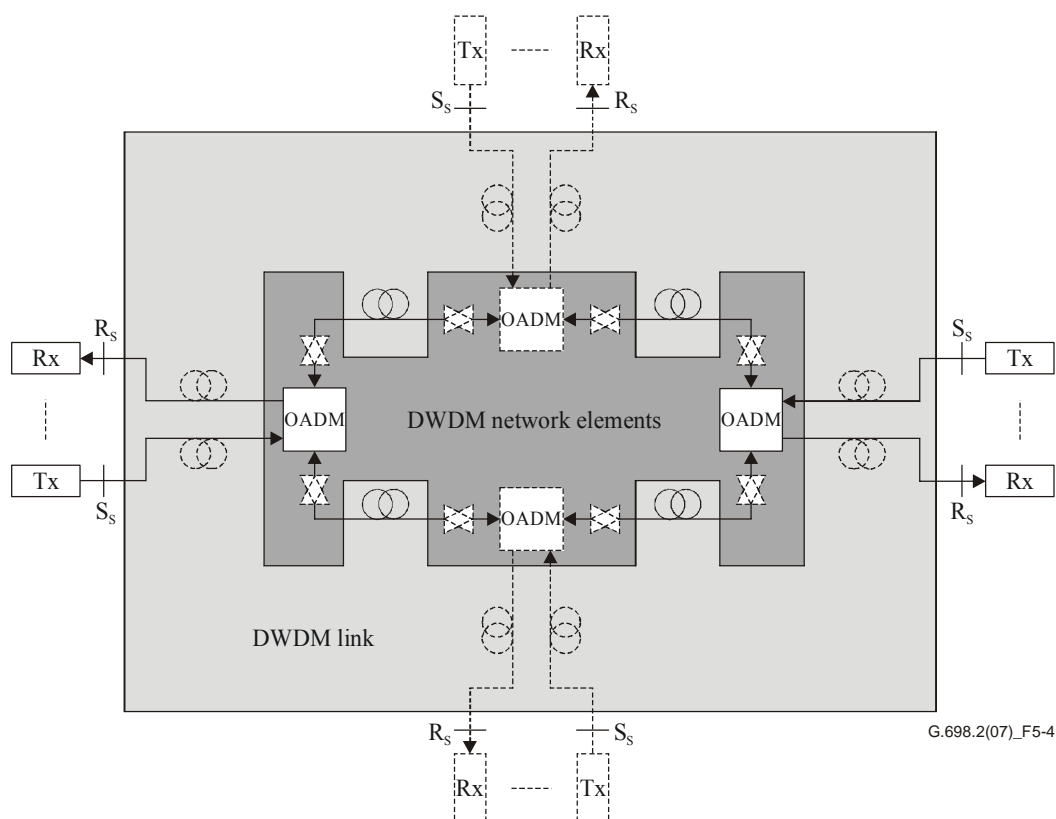**Figure 5-4 – Ring "black-link" approach for bidirectional applications**

The reference points in Figures 5-3 and 5-4 are as defined in clause 5.2.1.

5.3 Nomenclature

The application code notation is constructed as follows:

$$DScW\text{-}ytz(v)$$

where,

D is the indicator of DWDM applications.

S indicates options of maximum spectral excursion such as:

– **N** indicating Narrow spectral excursion;

– **W** indicating Wide spectral excursion.

c is the channel spacing in GHz.

W indicates the black-link dispersion compensation regime as follows:

– **C** indicating that the chromatic dispersion values are appropriate to a blacklink that is dispersion compensated;

– **U** indicating that the chromatic dispersion values are appropriate to a blacklink that is dispersion uncompensated.

NOTE 1 – This letter is used to indicate the dispersion tolerance of the transmitters and receivers and not to constrain the construction of the black link. While application codes that include "C" have transmitters and receivers that have dispersion tolerance appropriate to DWDM links including dispersion compensation, they may be used with black links that do not contain dispersion compensators provided that the application code parameters are met. Likewise, while application codes that include "U" have transmitters and receivers that have dispersion tolerance appropriate to DWDM links without dispersion compensation, they may be used with black links that contain dispersion compensators provided that the application code parameters are met.

y indicates the highest class of optical tributary signal supported:

– **1** indicating NRZ 2.5G;

– **2** indicating NRZ 10G.

t is a letter indicating the configuration supported by the application code. In the current version of this Recommendation, the only value used is:

– **A** indicating that the blacklink may contain optical amplifiers.

z indicates the fibre types, as follows;

– **2** indicating G.652 fibre;

– **3** indicating G.653 fibre;

– **5** indicating G.655 fibre.

v indicates the operating wavelength range in terms of spectral bands (see [b-ITU-T G-Sup.39]):

V	Descriptor	Nominal wavelength range (nm)
S	Short wavelength	1460 to 1530
C	Conventional	1530 to 1565
L	Long wavelength	1565 to 1625

If more than one spectral band is used, then **v** becomes the band letters separated by "+" e.g., for an application requiring the use of both of the C and L bands, **v** would be "C+L".

NOTE 2 – The nominal wavelength ranges given here are for classification and not specification. The actual minimum and maximum wavelength for each application should be calculated from the maximum and minimum channel frequencies for that application.

A bidirectional system is indicated by the addition of the letter **B** at the front of the application code. For DWDM application codes this will be:

$$\text{B-DScW-ytz(v)}$$

For some application codes, a suffix is added to the end of the code. The only suffix currently defined is:

– **F** to indicate that this application requires FEC bytes as specified in [ITU-T G.709] to be transmitted.

5.4 Single-channel interfaces at the reference points S_S and R_S

The single-channel interfaces described in this Recommendation are intended to enable transverse compatibility at the single-channel interfaces at either end of the DWDM black-link as shown in Figures 5-1 to 5-4.

Further requirements related to transverse compatibility can be found in clause 6.

Table 5-1 summarizes the single-channel application codes, which are structured according to the nomenclature in clause 5.3.

Table 5-1 – Classification of applications

	Dispersion compensated	Dispersion uncompensated
Optical tributary signal class NRZ 2.5G	DN100C-1A2(C) DW100C-1A2(C) DN100C-1A3(L) DW100C-1A3(L) DN100C-1A5(C) DW100C-1A5(C)	DN100U-1A2(C) DN100U-1A3(L) DN100U-1A5(C)
OTU1 with FEC enabled	DW100C-1A2(C)F DW100C-1A3(L)F DW100C-1A5(C)F	
Optical tributary signal class NRZ 10G	DN100C-2A2(C) DW100C-2A2(C) DN100C-2A3(L) DW100C-2A3(L) DN100C-2A5(C) DW100C-2A5(C)	
OTU2 with FEC enabled	DN100C-2A2(C)F DW100C-2A2(C)F DN100C-2A3(L)F DW100C-2A3(L)F DN100C-2A5(C)F DW100C-2A5(C)F	DN100U-2A2(C)F DN100U-2A3(L)F DN100U-2A5(C)F

The amplified multichannel systems with single-channel interfaces in this Recommendation are specified in Tables 8-1 to 8-4.

6 Transverse compatibility

This Recommendation specifies parameters in order to enable transverse (i.e., multivendor) compatibility at single-channel reference points S_S and R_S of the "black-link" approach DWDM NEs.

The single-channel reference points S_S and R_S are intended to make multiple tributary interfaces of DWDM NEs transversely compatible. In this case, multiple tributary signal transmitters (Tx λ_i) and receivers (Rx λ_i) may be from different vendors.

Transverse (multivendor) compatibility is enabled for all single-channel reference points S_S and R_S of "black-link" approach DWDM NEs having exactly the same application code.

Coexistence of tributary interfaces with different application codes over the same black link is a matter of joint engineering. Care must be taken, particularly with respect to critical parameters that must be consistent, e.g., S_S output power and R_S input power, S_S bit rate/line coding and R_S bit rate/line coding, etc.

For the element of the application code, referring to the maximum spectral excursion (indicator **S** in the application code; see clause 5.3), a mismatch between the indicator of the transmitter and that of the link will cause incompatibility when the transmitter has a code containing W (wide spectral excursion) and the link contains N (narrow spectral excursion). All other combinations are transversely compatible.

7 Parameter definitions

The parameters in Table 7-1 are defined at the interface points, and the definitions are provided in the clauses below.

Table 7-1 – Parameters for DWDM applications using the "black-link" approach with amplifiers

Parameter	Units	Defined in
General information		
Minimum channel spacing	GHz	7.1.1
Bit rate/line coding of optical tributary signals	–	7.1.2
Maximum bit error ratio	–	7.1.3
Fibre type	–	7.1.4
Interface at point S_S		
Maximum mean channel output power	dBm	7.2.1
Minimum mean channel output power	dBm	7.2.1
Minimum central frequency	THz	7.2.2
Maximum central frequency	THz	7.2.2
Maximum spectral excursion	GHz	7.2.3
Minimum side mode suppression ratio	dB	7.2.4
Minimum channel extinction ratio	dB	7.2.5
Eye mask	–	7.2.6
Maximum transmitter (residual) dispersion OSNR penalty	dB	7.2.7
Optical path from point S_S to R_S		
Maximum ripple	dB	7.3.1
Maximum (residual) chromatic dispersion	ps/nm	7.3.2
Minimum (residual) chromatic dispersion	ps/nm	7.3.2
Minimum optical return loss at S_S	dB	7.3.3
Maximum discrete reflectance between S_S and R_S	dB	7.3.4
Maximum differential group delay	ps	7.3.5

Table 7-1 – Parameters for DWDM applications using the "black-link" approach with amplifiers

Parameter	Units	Defined in
Optical path from point S_S to R_S		
Maximum polarization dependent loss	dB	7.3.6
Maximum inter-channel crosstalk at R_S	dB	7.3.7
Maximum interferometric crosstalk at R_S	dB	7.3.8
Maximum optical path OSNR penalty	dB	7.3.9
Interface at point R_S		
Maximum mean input power	dBm	7.4.1
Minimum mean input power	dBm	7.4.1
Minimum OSNR	dB (0.1 nm)	7.4.2
Receiver OSNR tolerance	dB (0.1 nm)	7.4.3
Maximum reflectance of receiver	dB	7.4.4

7.1 General information

7.1.1 Minimum channel spacing

This is the minimum nominal difference in frequency between two adjacent channels. All possible tolerances of actual frequencies are considered in clause 7.2.3.

7.1.2 Bit rate/line coding of optical tributary signals

Optical tributary signal class NRZ 2.5G applies to continuous digital signals with non-return to zero line coding, from nominally 622 Mbit/s to nominally 2.67 Gbit/s. Optical tributary signal class NRZ 10G applies to continuous digital signals with non-return to zero line coding, from nominally 2.4 Gbit/s to nominally 10.71 Gbit/s.

For an application that does not have a suffix of **F**, the parameter values are the same for any bit rate within the range of the applicable optical tributary signal class. When an optical system uses one of these codes, therefore, it is necessary to specify both the application code and also the exact bit rate of the system. In other words, there is no requirement for equipment compliant with one of these codes to operate over the complete range of bit rates specified for its optical tributary signal class.

7.1.3 Maximum bit error ratio

The parameters are specified relative to an optical section design objective of a bit error ratio (BER) not worse than the value specified by the application code. This value applies to each optical channel under the extreme case of optical path attenuation and dispersion conditions in each application. In the case of application codes requiring FEC bytes to be transmitted (i.e., having a code with a suffix of **F**), the BER is required to be met only after the correction (if used) has been applied. For all other application codes, the BER is required to be met without the use of FEC.

7.1.4 Fibre type

Single mode optical fibre types are chosen from those defined in [ITU-T G.652], [ITU-T G.653] and [ITU-T G.655].

7.2 Interface at point S_S

7.2.1 Maximum and minimum mean channel output power

The mean launched power of each optical channel at reference point S_S is the average power of a pseudo-random data sequence coupled into the DWDM link. It is given as a range (maximum and minimum) to allow for some cost optimization and to cover allowances for operation under the standard operating conditions, connector degradations, measurement tolerances and ageing effects.

Note that it is not required for any implementation to provide a mean channel output power that is as high as the maximum mean channel output power or as low as the minimum mean channel output power. Furthermore, the actual mean channel output power of a particular interface device must not exceed the limits defined for the maximum and minimum mean channel output power but can be somewhere between those limits.

7.2.2 Minimum and maximum central frequency

The central frequency is the nominal single-channel frequency on which the digital coded information of the particular optical channel is modulated by use of the NRZ line code.

The central frequencies of all channels within an application lie on the frequency grid for the minimum channel spacing of the application given in [ITU-T G.694.1].

While the specific central frequencies used within each application are not specified in this Recommendation, the nominal central frequencies of all channels within an application should be greater than or equal to the minimum central frequency and less than or equal to the maximum central frequency.

Note that the value of "c" (speed of light in vacuum) that should be used for converting between frequency and wavelength is 2.99792458×10^8 m/s.

7.2.3 Maximum spectral excursion

This is the maximum acceptable difference between the nominal central frequency of the channel and the –15 dB points of the transmitter spectrum furthest from the nominal central frequency measured at point S_S. This is illustrated in Figure 7-1.

NOTE – The measurement of the –15 dB points of the transmitter spectrum should be performed with a nominal resolution bandwidth of 0.01 nm.
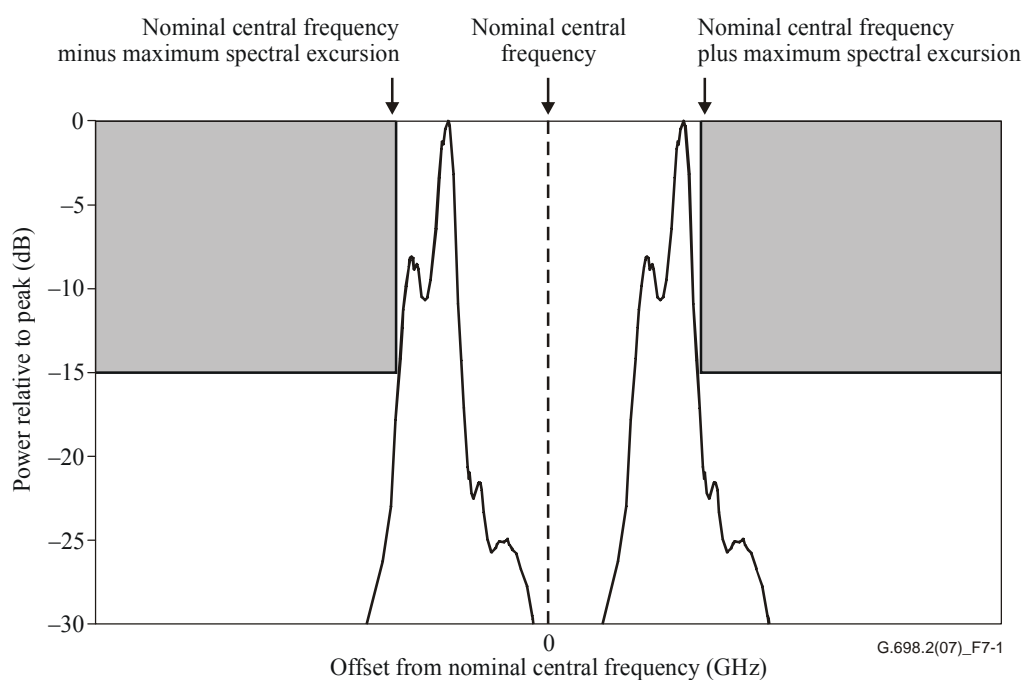
Figure 7-1 – Illustration of maximum spectral excursion

This parameter also defines the range of frequencies over which the ripple specifications must be met.

7.2.4 Minimum side mode suppression ratio

The minimum side mode suppression ratio is the minimum value of the ratio of the largest peak of the total transmitter spectrum to the second largest peak. The spectral resolution of the measurement shall be better than the maximum spectral width of the peak, as defined in [ITU-T G.691]. The second largest peak may be next to the main peak, or far removed from it.

NOTE – Within this definition, spectral peaks that are separated from the largest peak by the clock frequency are not considered to be side modes.

7.2.5 Minimum channel extinction ratio

The extinction ratio (EX) is defined as:

$$EX = 10\log_{10}(A/B)$$

In the above definition of EX, A is the average optical power level at the centre of a logical "1" and B is the average optical power level at the centre of a logical "0". The convention adopted for optical logic levels is:

– emission of light for a logical "1";

– no emission for a logical "0".

7.2.6 Eye mask

The definition and limits for this parameter are found in [ITU-T G.959.1].

7.2.7 Maximum transmitter (residual) dispersion OSNR penalty

The transmitter (residual) dispersion OSNR penalty is defined as:

Lowest OSNR at S_S with worst case (residual) dispersion – Lowest OSNR at S_S with no dispersion

where:

> Lowest OSNR at S_S with no dispersion is the lowest OSNR that meets the maximum BER of the application from a reference receiver as defined in clause B.3 of [ITU-T G.959.1] at point S_S.

> Lowest OSNR at S_S with worst case (residual) dispersion is the lowest OSNR that meets the maximum BER of the application from a reference receiver as defined in clause B.3 of [ITU-T G.959.1] at point S_S with the chromatic dispersion (within the range specified for the application code) applied which gives the highest OSNR penalty.

NOTE – The measurement of the transmitter (residual) dispersion OSNR penalty therefore requires filtered ASE noise to be added to the signal at point S_S. This subject is further discussed in Appendix I.

This penalty is not part of the system budget directly (since it is included as part of the optical path OSNR penalty defined in clause 7.3.9) but rather provides an upper bound on the OSNR penalty due to dispersion alone, thereby ensuring that some of the optical path OSNR penalty is available to cover the other impairments listed.

7.3 Optical path parameters from S_S to R_S

7.3.1 Maximum ripple

The ripple (of a DWDM device) is defined in [ITU-T G.671]. In this Recommendation, it is applied to the entire black link from reference point S_S to the corresponding R_S. For any optical channel, it is the peak-to-peak difference in insertion loss between the input and output ports of the blacklink for that channel in the frequency range of the central frequency of the channel ± the maximum spectral excursion. This is illustrated in Figure 7-2.
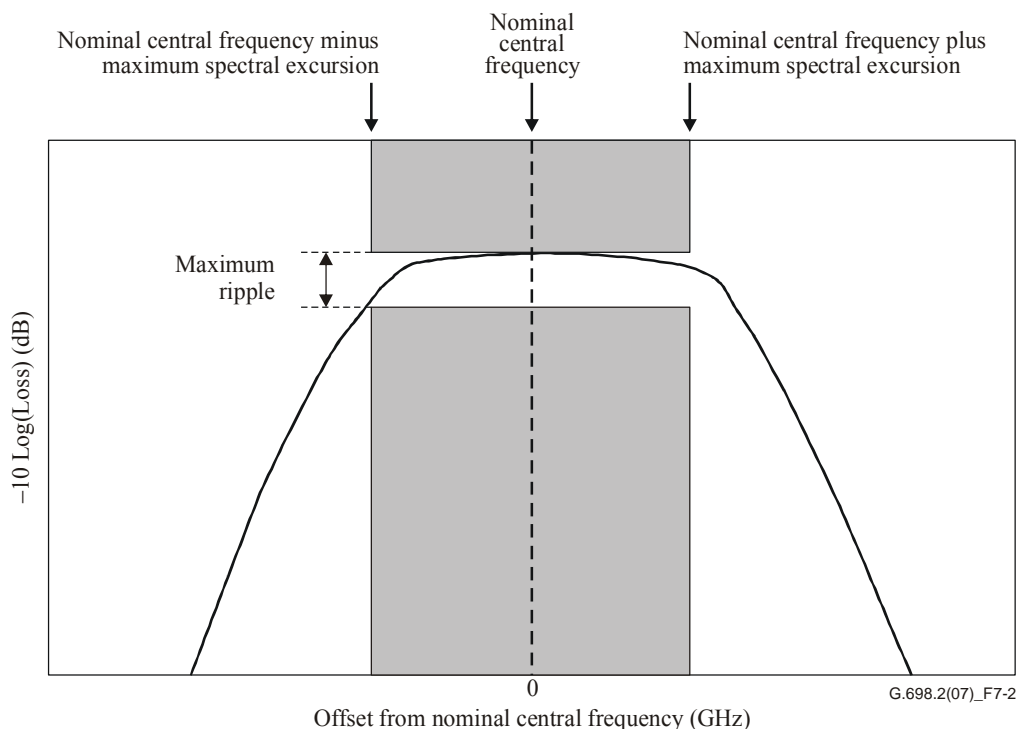

Figure 7-2 – Illustration of maximum ripple

7.3.2 Maximum and minimum (residual) chromatic dispersion

These parameters define the maximum and minimum value of the optical path end-to-end chromatic dispersion that the system shall be able to tolerate. These are the worst-case dispersion values of the optical path from point S_S to the corresponding receive reference point R_S. In the case that the blacklink contains dispersion compensation between these two points, its effect is included.

These parameters contain the word "residual" in brackets because, in the case of links which include dispersion compensators, these are the maximum and minimum residual chromatic dispersion, and in the case of links that do not include any dispersion compensators, these parameters are simply the maximum and minimum chromatic dispersion.

7.3.3 Minimum optical return loss at S_S

Reflections are caused by refractive index discontinuities along the optical path. If not controlled, they can degrade system performance through their disturbing effect on the operation of the optical source, or through multiple reflections which lead to interferometric noise at the receiver. Reflections from the optical path are controlled by specifying the:

– minimum optical return loss of the cable plant at the source reference point (S_S), including any connectors; and

– maximum discrete reflectance between source reference point (S_S) and receive reference point (R_S).

Reflectance denotes the reflection from any single discrete reflection point, whereas the optical return loss is the ratio of the incident optical power to the total returned optical power from the entire fibre including both discrete reflections and distributed backscattering such as Rayleigh scattering.

Measurement methods for reflections are described in Appendix I of [ITU-T G.957]. For the purpose of reflectance and return loss measurements, points S_S and R_S are assumed to coincide with the endface of each connector plug. It is recognized that this does not include the actual reflection performance of the respective connectors in the operational system. These reflections are assumed to have the nominal value of reflection for the specific type of connectors used.

7.3.4 Maximum discrete reflectance between S_S and R_S

Optical reflectance is defined to be the ratio of the reflected optical power present at a point, to the optical power incident to that point. Control of reflections is discussed extensively in [ITU-T G.957]. The maximum number of connectors or other discrete reflection points which may be included in the optical path (e.g., for distribution frames, or WDM components), must be such as to allow the specified overall optical return loss to be achieved. If this cannot be done using connectors meeting the maximum discrete reflections cited in the tables of clause 8, then connectors having better reflection performance must be employed. Alternatively, the number of connectors must be reduced. It also may be necessary to limit the number of connectors or to use connectors having improved reflectance performance in order to avoid unacceptable impairments due to multiple reflections.

In the tables of clause 8, the value of maximum discrete reflectance between source reference points and receive reference points is intended to minimize the effects of multiple reflections (e.g., interferometric noise). The value for maximum receiver reflectance is chosen to ensure acceptable penalties due to multiple reflections for all likely system configurations involving multiple connectors, etc. Systems employing fewer or higher performance connectors produce fewer multiple reflections and consequently are able to tolerate receivers exhibiting higher reflectance.

7.3.5 Maximum differential group delay

Differential group delay (DGD) is the time difference between the fractions of a pulse that are transmitted in the two principal states of polarization of an optical signal. For distances greater than several kilometres, and assuming random (strong) polarization mode coupling, DGD in a fibre can be statistically modelled as having a Maxwellian distribution.

In this Recommendation, the maximum differential group delay is defined to be the value of DGD that the system must tolerate with a maximum OSNR penalty of 2 dB.

Due to the statistical nature of polarization mode dispersion (PMD), the relationship between maximum DGD and mean DGD can only be defined probabilistically. The probability of the instantaneous DGD exceeding any given value can be inferred from its Maxwellian statistics. Therefore, if we know the maximum DGD that the system can tolerate, we can derive the equivalent mean DGD by dividing by the ratio of maximum to mean that corresponds to an acceptable probability. Some example ratios are given in Table 7-2.

Table 7-2 – DGD means and probabilities

Ratio of maximum to mean	Probability of exceeding maximum
3.0	4.2×10^{-5}
3.5	7.7×10^{-7}
4.0	7.4×10^{-9}

7.3.6 Maximum polarization dependent loss

The polarization dependent loss (PDL) is the difference (in dB) between the maximum and minimum values of the channel insertion loss (or gain) of the blacklink from point S_S to R_S due to a variation of the state of polarization (SOP) over all SOPs.

NOTE – This definition does not take the speed of polarization rotation into account. A modified version that does this is for further study.

7.3.7 Maximum inter-channel crosstalk

This parameter places a requirement on the isolation of a link conforming to the "black-link" approach such that under the worst-case operating conditions the inter-channel crosstalk at any reference point R_S is less than the maximum inter-channel crosstalk value.

Inter-channel crosstalk is defined as the ratio of total power in all of the disturbing channels to that in the wanted channel, where the wanted and disturbing channels are at different wavelengths.

Specifically, the isolation of the link shall be greater than the amount required to ensure that when any channel is operating at the minimum mean output power at point S_S and all of the others are at the maximum mean output power, then the inter-channel crosstalk at the corresponding point R_S is less than the maximum inter-channel crosstalk value.

7.3.8 Maximum interferometric crosstalk

This parameter places a requirement on the isolation of a link conforming to the "black-link" approach such that under the worst-case operating conditions, the interferometric crosstalk at any reference point R_S is less than the maximum interferometric crosstalk value.

Interferometric crosstalk is defined as the ratio of the disturbing power to the wanted power within a single channel, where the disturbing power is the power (not including ASE) within the optical channel that would remain if the wanted signal were removed from the link while leaving all of the other link conditions the same.

Specifically, the isolation of the link shall be greater than the amount required to ensure that when any channel is operating at the minimum mean output power at point S_S and all of the others are at the maximum mean output power, then the interferometric crosstalk at the corresponding point R_S is less than the maximum interferometric crosstalk value.

7.3.9 Maximum optical path OSNR penalty

The optical path OSNR penalty is defined as:

$$\text{Lowest OSNR at } R_S - \text{Lowest OSNR at } S_S$$

Where:

Lowest OSNR at S_S is the lowest OSNR that meets the maximum BER of the application from a reference receiver as defined in clause B.3 of [ITU-T G.959.1] at point S_S i.e., *before* transmission through the blacklink.

Lowest OSNR at R_S is the lowest OSNR that meets the maximum BER of the application from a reference receiver as defined in clause B.3 of [ITU-T G.959.1] at point R_S i.e., *after* transmission through the blacklink.

NOTE – The measurement of the optical path OSNR penalty therefore requires filtered ASE noise to be added to the signal at points S_S and R_S. This subject is further discussed in Appendix I.

In the future, systems employing dispersion accommodation techniques based on pre-distortion of the signal at the transmitter may be introduced. In this case, the path penalty, in the above sense, can only be defined between points with undistorted signals. These points, however, do not coincide with the main path interfaces, and may thus not even be accessible. The definition of path penalty for this case is for further study.

The effects that contribute to the optical path OSNR penalty include:
–   transmitter (residual) dispersion penalty;
–   non-linear effects within the blacklink;
–   inter-channel crosstalk;
–   interferometric crosstalk;
–   reflections from the optical path;
–   polarization dependent loss.

The average value of the random dispersion penalties due to PMD is included in the allowed path OSNR penalty. In this respect, the transmitter/receiver combination is required to tolerate an actual DGD of 0.3-bit period with a maximum optical path OSNR penalty of 2 dB (with 50% of optical power in each principal state of polarization). For a well-designed receiver, this corresponds to an OSNR penalty of 0.2 – 0.4 dB for a DGD of 0.1-bit period. The actual DGD that may be encountered in operation is a randomly varying fibre/cable property, and cannot be specified in this Recommendation. This subject is further discussed in Appendix I of [ITU-T G.691].

7.4 Interface at point R_S

7.4.1 Maximum and minimum mean input power

The maximum and minimum values of the average received power at point R_S.

For any optical power level at point R_S that is between these two values and while all of the other parameters are within their limiting values, the receiver is required to achieve the specified maximum BER of the application code.

This means that the receiver must meet the specified maximum BER for a transmitter with worst-case values of:

–   transmitter eye mask;

–   extinction ratio;

–   optical return loss at point S_S,

and a link with worst-case values of:

–   (residual) dispersion;

–   OSNR;

–   optical path OSNR penalty.

Ageing effects are not specified separately. Worst-case, end-of-life values are specified.

This parameter (together with the maximum and minimum mean channel output power) also places a requirement on the maximum and minimum channel insertion loss (or gain) of the blacklink.

The requirement is that while the mean channel output power at point S_S is within the specified limits, the channel insertion loss (or gain) of the blacklink for that channel must be such that the power level at point R_S is within the maximum and minimum mean input power limits.

Channel insertion loss is defined in [ITU-T G.671]. For any optical channel, it is the minimum (or maximum) reduction or gain in optical power between the input and output ports of the blacklink for that channel in the frequency range of the central frequency of the channel ± the maximum spectral excursion.

Insertion loss specifications are assumed to be worst-case values including losses due to the OM/OD pair, splices, connectors, optical amplifiers and optical attenuators (if used) or other optical devices, and any additional margin to cover allowances for:

–   future modifications to the cable configuration (additional splices, increased cable lengths, etc.);

–   performance variations due to environmental factors;

–   degradation of any connectors, optical amplifiers, optical attenuators or other optical devices between points S_S and R_S, if used.

7.4.2   Minimum optical signal-to-noise ratio (OSNR)

The minimum optical signal-to-noise ratio (OSNR) is the minimum value of the ratio of the signal power in the wanted channel to the highest noise power density (referred to 0.1 nm) in the range of the central frequency plus and minus the maximum spectral excursion. For the purposes of this definition, the noise is defined to be that which would be present if the signal in the wanted channel were removed from the blacklink while keeping all other black-link conditions the same (e.g., the gain and noise figure of all amplifiers).

This parameter places a requirement on the characteristics of the blacklink that the OSNR at any reference point R_S must be greater than the minimum OSNR.

7.4.3   Receiver OSNR tolerance

The receiver OSNR tolerance is defined as the minimum value of OSNR at point R_S that can be tolerated while maintaining the maximum BER of the application. This must be met for all powers between the maximum and minimum mean input power with a transmitter with worst-case values of transmitter eye mask, extinction ratio, optical return loss at point S_S, receiver connector degradations and measurement tolerances. The receiver OSNR tolerance does not have to be met in the presence of chromatic dispersion, non-linear effects, reflections from the optical path, PMD,

PDL or optical crosstalk; these effects are specified separately in the allocation of maximum optical path OSNR penalty.

NOTE 1 – The receiver OSNR tolerance is equal to the minimum OSNR at point R_S minus the maximum optical path OSNR penalty.

NOTE 2 – The receiver OSNR tolerance does not have to be met in the presence of transmitter jitter in excess of the appropriate jitter generation limit (e.g., [b-ITU-T G.8251] for OTN optical tributary signals).

Ageing effects are not specified separately. Worst-case, end-of-life values are specified.

7.4.4 Maximum reflectance of receiver

Reflections from the receiver back into the DWDM link are specified by the maximum permissible reflectance of the receiver measured at reference point R_S. Optical reflectance is defined in [ITU-T G.671].

8 Parameter values

The physical layer parameters and values are given in Tables 8-1 to 8-4.

**Table 8-1 – Physical layer parameters and values for class NRZ 2.5G
without FEC, 100-GHz-spaced applications**

Parameter	Units	DN100C-1A2(C) DN100C-1A3(L) DN100C-1A5(C)	DW100C-1A2(C) DW100C-1A3(L) DW100C-1A5(C)	DN100U-1A2(C) DN100U-1A3(L) DN100U-1A5(C)
General information				
Minimum channel spacing	GHz	100		100
Bit rate/line coding of optical tributary signals	–	NRZ 2.5G		NRZ 2.5G
Maximum bit error ratio	–	10^{-12}		10^{-12}
Fibre type	–	G.652, G.653, G.655		G.652, G.653, G.655
Interface at point S_S				
Maximum mean channel output power	dBm	+6		+6
Minimum mean channel output power	dBm	–3		–3
Minimum central frequency	THz	191.5 for (C) 186.0 for (L)		191.5 for (C) 186.0 for (L)
Maximum central frequency	THz	196.2 for (C) 191.5 for (L)		196.2 for (C) 191.5 for (L)
Maximum spectral excursion	GHz	±12.5	±20	±12.5
Minimum side mode suppression ratio	dB	30		30
Minimum channel extinction ratio	dB	8.2		8.2
Eye mask	–	NRZ 2.5G per G.959.1		NRZ 2.5G per G.959.1
Maximum transmitter (residual) dispersion OSNR penalty	dB	2		2

**Table 8-1 – Physical layer parameters and values for class NRZ 2.5G
without FEC, 100-GHz-spaced applications**

Parameter	Units	DN100C-1A2(C) DN100C-1A3(L) DN100C-1A5(C)	DW100C-1A2(C) DW100C-1A3(L) DW100C-1A5(C)	DN100U-1A2(C) DN100U-1A3(L) DN100U-1A5(C)
Optical path from point S_S to R_S				
Maximum ripple	dB	2		2
Maximum (residual) chromatic dispersion	ps/nm	+2200		+9600
Minimum (residual) chromatic dispersion	ps/nm	–600		0
Minimum optical return loss at S_S	dB	24		24
Maximum discrete reflectance between S_S and R_S	dB	–27		–27
Maximum differential group delay	ps	120		120
Maximum polarization dependent loss	dB	ffs		ffs
Maximum inter-channel crosstalk	dB	–16		–16
Maximum interferometric crosstalk	dB	–40		–40
Maximum optical path OSNR penalty	dB	5		5
Interface at point R_S				
Maximum mean input power	dBm	–9		–9
Minimum mean input power	dBm	–24		–24
Minimum OSNR	dB (0.1 nm)	21	23	21
Receiver OSNR tolerance	dB (0.1 nm)	16	18	16
Maximum reflectance of receiver	dB	–27		–27

**Table 8-2 – Physical layer parameters and values for class NRZ 2.5G
with FEC enabled, 100-GHz-spaced applications**

Parameter	Units	DW100C-1A2(C)F DW100C-1A3(L)F DW100C-1A5(C)F
General information		
Minimum channel spacing	GHz	100
Bit rate/line coding of optical tributary signals	–	NRZ OTU1 FEC enabled
Maximum bit error ratio	–	10^{-12} (Note)
Fibre type	–	G.652, G.653, G.655

**Table 8-2 – Physical layer parameters and values for class NRZ 2.5G
with FEC enabled, 100-GHz-spaced applications**

Parameter	Units	DW100C-1A2(C)F DW100C-1A3(L)F DW100C-1A5(C)F
Interface at point S_S		
Maximum mean channel output power	dBm	+6
Minimum mean channel output power	dBm	–3
Minimum central frequency	THz	191.5 for (C) 186.0 for (L)
Maximum central frequency	THz	196.2 for (C) 191.5 for (L)
Maximum spectral excursion	GHz	±20
Minimum side mode suppression ratio	dB	30
Minimum channel extinction ratio	dB	8.2
Eye mask	–	NRZ 2.5G per G.959.1
Maximum transmitter (residual) dispersion OSNR penalty	dB	2
Optical path from point S_S to R_S		
Maximum ripple	dB	2
Maximum (residual) chromatic dispersion	ps/nm	+2200
Minimum (residual) chromatic dispersion	ps/nm	–600
Minimum optical return loss at S_S	dB	24
Maximum discrete reflectance between S_S and R_S	dB	–27
Maximum differential group delay	ps	120
Maximum polarization dependent loss	dB	ffs
Maximum inter-channel crosstalk	dB	–16
Maximum interferometric crosstalk	dB	–40
Maximum optical path OSNR penalty	dB	5
Interface at point R_S		
Maximum mean input power	dBm	–9
Minimum mean input power	dBm	–26
Minimum OSNR	dB (0.1 nm)	15
Receiver OSNR tolerance	dB (0.1 nm)	10
Maximum reflectance of receiver	dB	–27
NOTE – The BER for these application codes is required to be met only after the error correction (if used) has been applied. The BER at the input of the FEC decoder can, therefore, be significantly higher than 10^{-12}.		

Table 8-3 – Physical layer parameters and values for class NRZ 10G without FEC, 100-GHz-spaced applications

Parameter	Units	DN100C-2A2(C) DN100C-2A3(L) DN100C-2A5(C)	DW100C-2A2(C) DW100C-2A3(L) DW100C-2A5(C)
General information			
Minimum channel spacing	GHz	100	
Bit rate/line coding of optical tributary signals	–	NRZ 10G	
Maximum bit error ratio	–	10^{-12}	
Fibre type	–	G.652, G.653, G.655	
Interface at point S_S			
Maximum mean channel output power	dBm	+6	
Minimum mean channel output power	dBm	–3	
Minimum central frequency	THz	191.5 for (C) 186.0 for (L)	
Maximum central frequency	THz	196.2 for (C) 191.5 for (L)	
Maximum spectral excursion	GHz	±12.5	±20
Minimum side mode suppression ratio	dB	30	
Minimum channel extinction ratio	dB	8.2	
Eye mask	–	NRZ 10G 1550 nm region per G.959.1	
Maximum transmitter (residual) dispersion OSNR penalty	dB	2	
Optical path from point S_S to R_S			
Maximum ripple	dB	2	
Maximum (residual) chromatic dispersion	ps/nm	+800	
Minimum (residual) chromatic dispersion	ps/nm	–300	
Minimum optical return loss at S_S	dB	24	
Maximum discrete reflectance between S_S and R_S	dB	–27	
Maximum differential group delay	ps	30	
Maximum polarization dependent loss	dB	ffs	
Maximum inter-channel crosstalk	dB	–16	
Maximum interferometric crosstalk	dB	–40	
Maximum optical path OSNR penalty	dB	5	
Interface at point R_S			
Maximum mean input power	dBm	0	–8
Minimum mean input power	dBm	–11	–17
Minimum OSNR	dB (0.1 nm)	27	
Receiver OSNR tolerance	dB (0.1 nm)	22	
Maximum reflectance of receiver	dB	–27	

**Table 8-4 – Physical layer parameters and values for class NRZ 10G
with FEC enabled, 100-GHz-spaced applications**

Parameter	Units	DN100C-2A2(C)F DN100C-2A3(L)F DN100C-2A5(C)F	DW100C-2A2(C)F DW100C-2A3(L)F DW100C-2A5(C)F	DN100U-2A2(C)F DN100U-2A3(L)F DN100U-2A5(C)F
General information				
Minimum channel spacing	GHz	100		100
Bit rate/line coding of optical tributary signals	–	NRZ OTU2 FEC enabled		NRZ OTU2 FEC enabled
Maximum bit error ratio	–	10^{-12} (Note 1)		10^{-12} (Note 1)
Fibre type	–	G.652, G.653, G.655		G.652, G.653, G.655
Interface at point S_S				
Maximum mean channel output power	dBm	+6		+6
Minimum mean channel output power	dBm	–3		–3
Minimum central frequency	THz	191.5 for (C) 186.0 for (L)		191.5 for (C) 186.0 for (L)
Maximum central frequency	THz	196.2 for (C) 191.5 for (L)		196.2 for (C) 191.5 for (L)
Maximum spectral excursion	GHz	±12.5	±20	±12.5
Minimum side mode suppression ratio	dB	30		30
Minimum channel extinction ratio	dB	8.2		8.2 (Note 2)
Eye mask	–	NRZ 10G 1550 nm region per G.959.1		NRZ 10G amplified
Maximum transmitter (residual) dispersion OSNR penalty	dB	2		2
Optical path from point S_S to R_S				
Maximum ripple	dB	2		2
Maximum (residual) chromatic dispersion	ps/nm	+800		+3200
Minimum (residual) chromatic dispersion	ps/nm	–300		0
Minimum optical return loss at S_S	dB	24		24
Maximum discrete reflectance between S_S and R_S	dB	–27		–27
Maximum differential group delay	ps	30		30
Maximum polarization dependent loss	dB	ffs		ffs
Maximum inter-channel crosstalk	dB	–16		–16
Maximum interferometric crosstalk	dB	–40		–40
Maximum optical path OSNR penalty	dB	5		5

**Table 8-4 – Physical layer parameters and values for class NRZ 10G
with FEC enabled, 100-GHz-spaced applications**

Parameter	Units	DN100C-2A2(C)F DN100C-2A3(L)F DN100C-2A5(C)F	DW100C-2A2(C)F DW100C-2A3(L)F DW100C-2A5(C)F	DN100U-2A2(C)F DN100U-2A3(L)F DN100U-2A5(C)F
Interface at point R$_S$				
Maximum mean input power	dBm	0	–8	0
Minimum mean input power	dBm	–14	–20	–14
Minimum OSNR	dB (0.1 nm)	21		21
Receiver OSNR tolerance	dB (0.1 nm)	16		16
Maximum reflectance of receiver	dB	–27		–27

NOTE 1 – The BER for these application codes is required to be met only after the error correction (if used) has been applied. The BER at the input of the FEC decoder can, therefore, be significantly higher than 10^{-12}.

NOTE 2 – The extinction ratio of these application codes is not required to be met in the presence of a 4th-order Bessel-Thompson filter.

9   Optical safety considerations

See [ITU-T G.664], [IEC 60825-1] and [IEC 60825-2] for optical safety considerations.

Appendix I

Measurement of transmitter (residual) dispersion OSNR penalty and optical path OSNR penalty

(This appendix does not form an integral part of this Recommendation)

For further study.

Appendix II

Transponder elimination via single channel DWDM interfaces

(This appendix does not form an integral part of this Recommendation)

The transport network of most operators is based on the use of equipment from a variety of different vendors.

Previously, for those parts of the network involving DWDM optical transmission, this has been achieved via the use of optical transponders as shown in Figure II.1. The optical interfaces labelled "Single channel non-DWDM interfaces from other vendor(s)" can then be any short reach standardized optical interface that both vendors support, such as those found in [ITU-T G.957] [ITU-T G.691], [ITU-T G.693], [ITU-T G.959.1], etc. This arrangement allows the direct connection of a wide variety of equipment to the DWDM line system for example:

– a digital cross-connect with multiple optical interfaces supplied by a different vendor from the line system;

– multiple optical client devices each from a different vendor supplying one channel each;

– a combination of the above.

Through the use of the single channel DWDM interfaces found in this Recommendation, however, this interconnection can also be achieved while removing the need for one short reach transmitter and receiver pair per channel (eliminating the transponders) with obvious associated cost savings.

This is shown in Figure II.2.
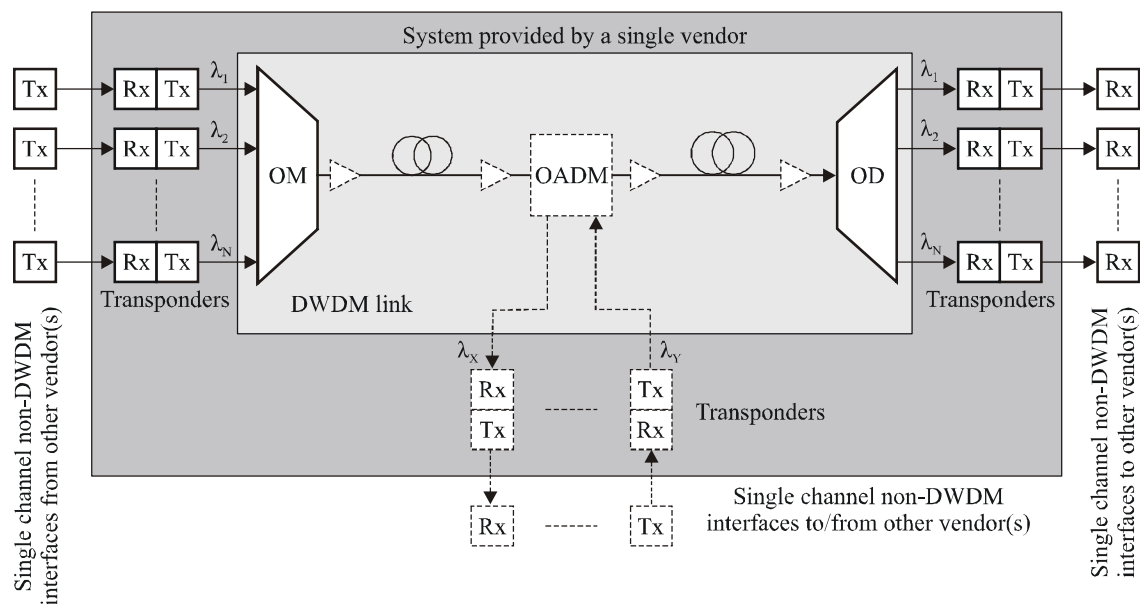
Figure II.1 – Multivendor DWDM line system with transponders
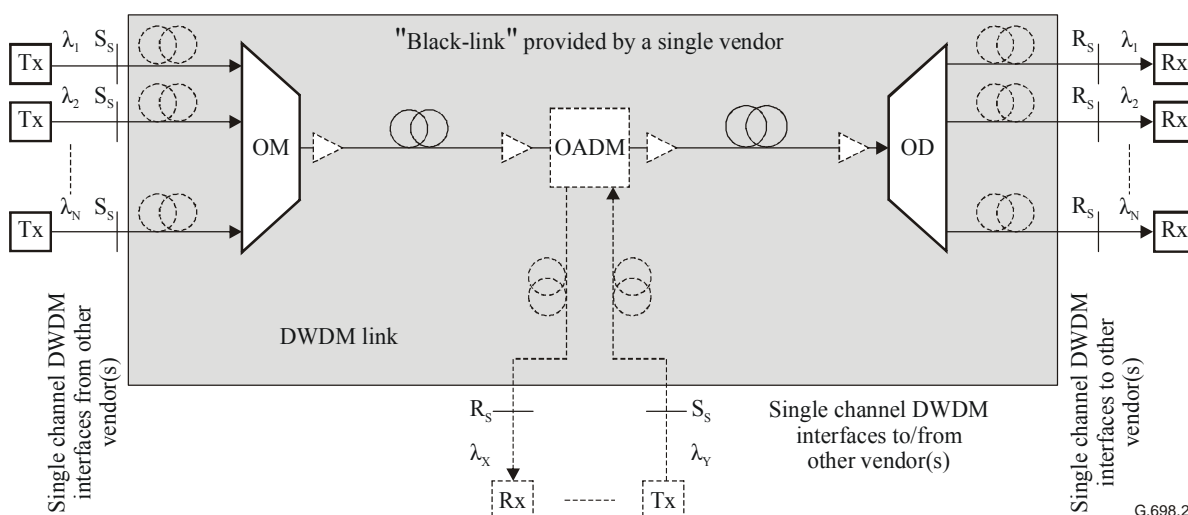
Figure II.2 – Multivendor DWDM line system with transponders removed

Bibliography

[b-ITU-T G-Sup.39]   ITU-T G-series Recommendations – Supplement 39 (2006), *Optical system design and engineering considerations*.

[b-ITU-T G.8251]   ITU-T Recommendation G.8251 (2001), *The control of jitter and wander within the optical transport network (OTN)*.

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