

Digital Signal Processing For Optical OFDM Based Future Optical Networks

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Abstract

Digital signal processing (DSP) is widely exploited in the modern world to enable a vast array of high performance services and devices that were unimaginable several years ago. As a highly pervasive technology, DSP considerably enhances everyday life by enabling applications ranging from anti lock breaking systems to satellite navigation and sophisticated medical imaging. DSP has also been an enabler for many of the highly successful communications technologies over the last 20 years. It is only in recent years that advanced DSP has been utilized in optical communications to realize commercial long-haul optical systems in the form of DSP-enabled coherent optical receivers, which not only offer high transmission capacities of the order of 100 Gb/s per wavelength, but achieve ultra sensitive receivers for radically increasing unrepeatable transmission distances.

Index Terms: Digital signal processing, OFDM, Passive optical networks.

I. INTRODUCTION

I have an idea about this paper is the wide use of DSP in other areas of optical communications, there is growing interest in the exploitation of DSP to solve the challenges facing the future optical access networks. The passive optical network (PON) has been widely adopted as one of the main fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) solutions capable of meeting the low-cost demands of the access networks. PON technologies are expected to deliver an aggregate capacity of 40 Gb/s in the near future and the NG-PON2 standardization work has addressed this by the decision to adopt a time-division multiplexing/wavelength-division multiplexing (TDM/WDM) approach, this maintains the use of conventional on-off keying (OOK) modulation with transmission speeds preserved at 10 Gb/s per wavelength. It is widely accepted that in the long term the future generation PON technologies must exceed the 10 Gb/s per wavelength threshold to further increase network capacity throughput. It is technically highly challenging to achieve this with the conventional binary OOK modulation. DSP-enabled PON technologies on the other hand offer far greater flexibility in signal generation and decoding allowing compensation of signal distortions and/or utilization of advanced modulation formats which are inherently more tolerant to the fiber distortion effects. DSP can also allow the use of spectrally efficient modulation techniques, which networks can thus potentially provide network administrators with on-demand adaptability down means increased network capacity can be achieved through efficient exploitation of component bandwidths, thus great commercial benefits may be attained if the established, mature optical component sources for NG-PON1 and NG-

PON2 can be exploited. DSP can also enable adaptive modulation techniques which can adapt to the varying spectral characteristics of the network due to the natural variations in optical fiber, optical component, and radio frequency (RF) component characteristics.

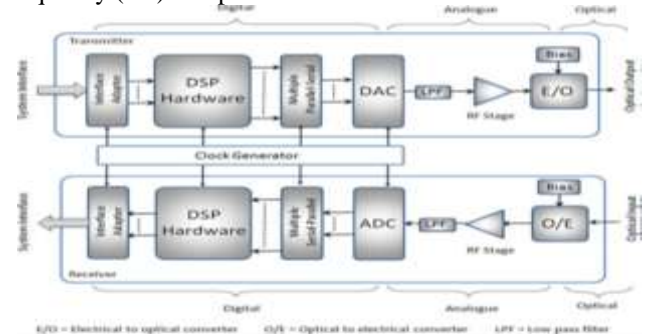


Figure 1 : System elements of optical OFDM

II. STATE OF THE ART

I Express the state of art of this paper is an increase in demand for high data rates has been an important factor in the emergence of OFDM in the optical domain, with a wide variety of solutions developed for different applications both in the core and access networks. This emergence has been facilitated by the intrinsic advantages of OFDM such as its high spectral efficiency ease of channel and phase estimation and robustness against delay. In this section, an overview of optical access networks is presented, covering state-of-the-art technologies, recent progress and different application scenarios. OFDM is also presented as an effective solution to the major problems of today's

optical access networks. The structure of this chapter is as follows: It provides an overview of next-generation broadband access networks. In this section, we highlight optical fiber as probably the most viable means of meeting the ever-increasing bandwidth demand of subscribers. The various state-of-the-art optical technologies currently being deployed for shared fiber multiple access such as time division multiple access (TDMA), wavelength division multiple access (WDMA), and orthogonal frequency division multiple access (OFDMA) are explained.

III. PROPOSED METHOD

This paper presents a tutorial on real-time DSP for optical access networks, first exploring general implementation aspects of any DSP-based optical transceiver and then providing an in-depth examination of real-time DSP for OOFDM based transceivers based on the world first real-time end-to-end OOFDM transmission systems.

Architecture

Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing

FFT and IFFT

Coder and Decoder

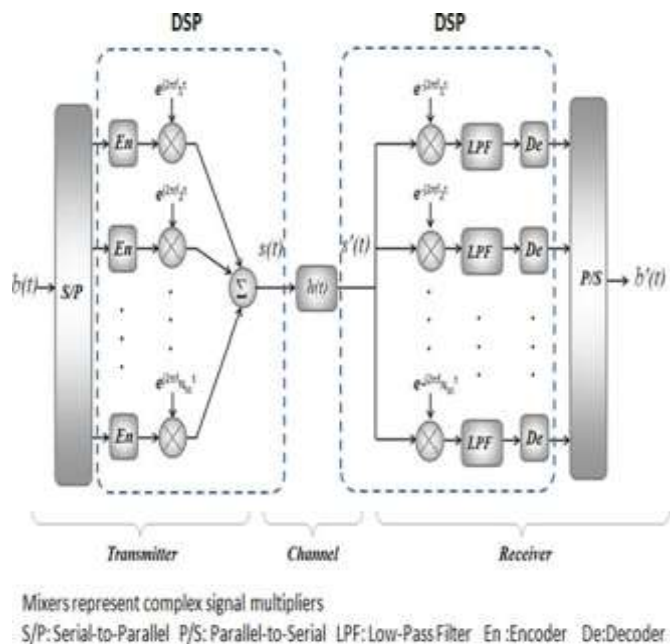


FIG 2: BLOCK DIAGRAM OF GENERIC MULTICARRIER SYSTEM

OFDM is a multicarrier modulation (MCM) technique first proposed in the 1960s but at that time its implementation was impractical. Salz and Weinstein first proposed the use of the discrete Fourier transform (DFT) for

the generation of OFDM signals in 1969. It was not until semiconductor electronics achieved sufficient processing power, however, that implementation of OFDM with the DFT was feasible. Today the OFDM modulation technique is widely adopted in numerous communication standards such as digital subscriber line (DSL) and its many variants, wireless local area networks (WLAN) and digital audio and video broadcast (DAB, DVB). OFDM is now widely recognized as a potential modulation technique for application in future optical access networks. Authors provide an extensive coverage of OFDM in optical communications. The following sections, of this paper, provide an overview of the key principles of OFDM and adaptive OFDM, pertinent to the real-time OOFDM implementation presented in this paper.

The spreading effect associated with a dispersive channel causes adjacent received symbols to overlap, a phenomenon known as inter symbol-interference (ISI).

IV. FFT AND IFFT

To explicitly compute x_n and X from the definitions of an N -point IDFT and DFT, as given in (5) and (6) respectively, would require $N^2 k$ complex multiplications and $N^2 - N$ complex additions. For a hardware-based implementation of the transforms, it is highly advantageous to minimize computational complexity in order to minimize design complexity. Furthermore, the extremely high IDFT/DFT real-time computational throughput inherent to OOFDM implies that a highly parallel and pipelined architecture is necessary. This makes it difficult to reuse complex functions for more than one calculation during one transform cycle. Therefore, minimizing the number of discrete instances of complex functions in the algorithm is vitally important if chip cost and power consumption targets are to be met.

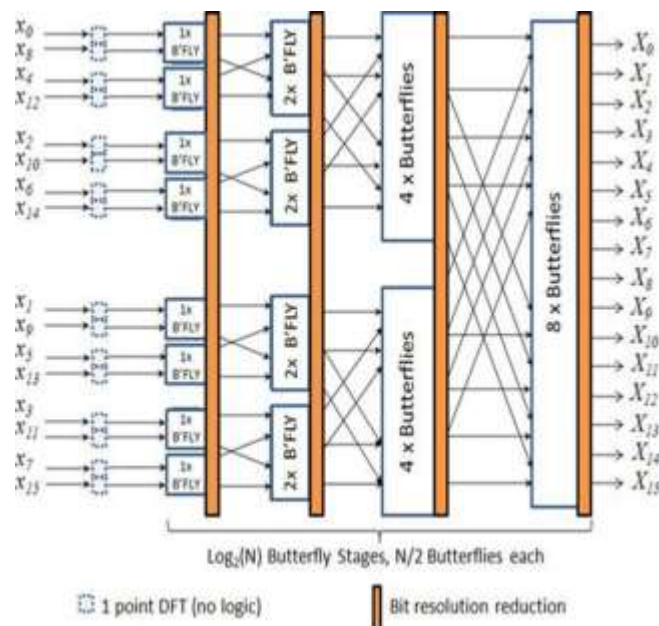


FIG 3: FFT AND IFFT PROCESS

The fast Fourier transform (FFT) and inverse FFT (IFFT) are highly computationally efficient algorithms for computing the DFT and IDFT, respectively. The FFT was first introduced by Tukey and Cooley in 1965 in their seminal paper "An algorithm for the Machine Calculation of Complex Fourier Series". The drastic reduction in computational complexity offered by the FFT and IFFT makes them highly appropriate for implementation in physical hardware and thus ideal for use in real-time OFDM transceivers. The IFFT can be created from an FFT by simple modification. Therefore, the following discussions will concentrate on the FFT although they are equally applicable to the IFFT.

1. Pilot Detection, Channel Estimation, and Equalization

The frequency response of the transmission channel introduces subcarrier amplitude and phase changes during transmission. The received signal is therefore no longer a direct representation of the transmitted signal.

2. Symbol Synchronization

Symbol timing offset (STO) is the difference between the correct symbol start position and the estimated symbol start position. Symbol synchronization is necessary to minimize STO, which is ideally zero, as non-zero STO leads to degraded BER performance if the processed samples do not all originate from the same symbol. It should be noted, however, that if the CP length exceeds the ISI length by y samples, an STO of up to y samples can be tolerated without performance degradation. STO tolerance can thus be improved by increasing CP length. A DSP-based symbol synchronization method has been experimentally demonstrated that is highly suitable for application in OFDM multiple access-based passive optical networks (OFDMA-PONs). This is because the technique can achieve symbol, timeslot, and frame alignment of an optical network unit's (ONU's) upstream and downstream signals without the need to interrupt existing ONU traffic.

3. Clock Synchronization

Accurate synchronization of the OFDM receiver and transmitter sampling clocks is essential to minimize their sampling frequency offset (SFO) [6]. SFO induces inter channel interference (ICI) which produces increasing received signal distortion with increasing SFO. ICI results from the loss of subcarrier orthogonality due to the mismatch between the discrete subcarrier frequencies in the receiver compared to those in the transmitter. SFO also induces a drift in symbol alignment necessitating periodic symbol re-alignment. Due to the noise-like nature of the OFDM signal clock recovery is not straightforward

V. CODER AND DECODER

The IFFT algorithm then takes the OFDM symbol frame to the time domain, and the CP is added, just before DAC and anti-aliasing filtering. A training symbol insertion that is known OFDM symbol frames can be sent before each data packet for receiver synchronization. In general case, two signals corresponding to the real and the imaginary parts of the OFDM symbol are obtained from the baseband OFDM coding, which are fed to the optical modulation

stage. At the baseband decoder module, the reverse process is taken place in order to post-process and recover data sent.

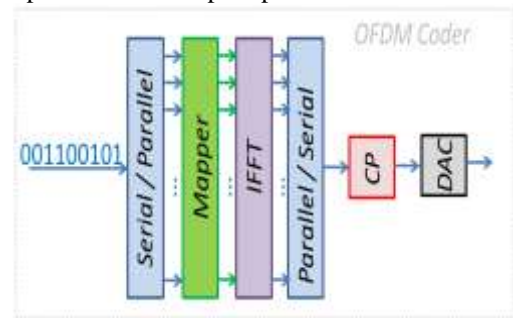


FIG4. OFDM CODER

The real and imaginary parts, of the received baseband OFDM signal provided by the optical demodulation stage at the receiver are firstly low filter to avoid the alias at high frequencies and sent to a pair of ADCs in order to be digitalized. The complex valued electrical signal is then synchronized with the preamble added in the transmitter and CP extraction takes place. The sequence is then converted from serial to parallel and demodulated with a fast Fourier transform (FFT). Afterwards, zero-padded subcarriers and pilot tones are extracted. The channel estimation using pilot tones and training sequence is taken place whose output is equalizer coefficients. Each subcarrier is then demodulated according to the corresponding modulation Format and, finally the restored bit sequences are serialized to recover the information sequence sent.

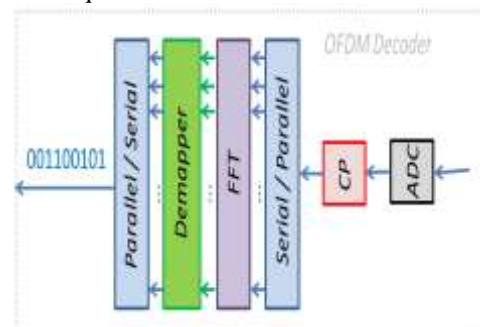


FIG5. OFDM DECODER

VI. APPLICATIONS

- In tele communications
- Military
- In Speech Processing
- In Image Processing

VII. CONCLUSION & FUTURE WORK

An overview of the implementation aspects associated with DSP-based optical transceivers for future access networks by examining the optical transceiver structure and the key transceiver constituent elements. This

paper focuses on DSP functionality and architecture of OOFDM-based optical transceivers. The high equipment volumes associated with optical access networks can inevitably lead to cost-effective electronics. OOFDM is one of the leading DSP-based optical access technologies which is perceived by many as one of the main contenders for future optical access networks due to its potential for high cost-effectiveness, data capacity per wavelength far beyond 10 Gb/s, adaptiveness to varying network characteristics, and flexibility in terms of bandwidth allocation. Given the exponentially growing demand for data capacity and the operators' need for flexible cost-efficient access networks, it is believed that DSP-based optical access networks will emerge in the future.

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