Fibre developments at Jodrell Bank Observatory

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Objectives

- Brief summary of the ALMA and e-MERLIN projects, without covering old ground.
- Review of the practical aspects of implementing these optical systems
 - Testing
 - Component choices





Contents

- ALMA
- e-MERLIN
- Test and implementation
- Optical Components





ALMA work at JBO

- Responsible for the Optical Data Transfer System
 - Design & safety design
 - Fibre management design
 - Test and implementation of optical system design
 - Pre-production prototypes & production





ALMA Optical DTS Design

Proposed Design for the Baseline Link







Fibre Management







e-MERLIN

- Hardware design drawn from ALMA work at JBO
- Longer distance, requires additional amplification & dispersion compensation.
- Commercial networked fibre used, with some new fibre dig.
- 30 Gbps per antenna, total bandwidth 240 Gbps





Test & Implementation





mux characteristics

wavelength (nm)





Testing

• Optical & Electrical signal testing

– Agilent Infinium sampling Oscilloscope

- Wavelength testing (including multiple wavelengths simultaneously)
 - Agilent Optical Spectrum Analyser & 8 channel ILX laser diode controller
- Optical power testing (including polarisation effects)
 - ILX optical power meter & FiberControl Polarisation controller





Transmitter Module

- Multiplex Inc MTX510ie
 - EA modulated laser with integrated modulator driver.
 - Coax connection from an NRAO designed digital board, delivers digital signals @ 10 Gbps.
 - 40km span (available up to 80km span)







Mux and over power monitor

- 200GHz channel spacing allows relaxed wavelength stability criteria.
- Safety incorporated into the design. An over power prevents a hazard condition occurring at the output of the MUX.







Optical Receiver Board

- Multiplex MTRX192L with integrated transimpedance and limiting amplifier.
- •Sensitivities of ~-20dBm @BER 10⁻¹⁰
- •Connects to the digital NRAO receiver board via coax.







10 Gbps Transponder Components



10 Gbps transponder with Mux and deMux functions integrated into the package.







Erbium Doped Fibre Amplifier



Conclusions

- ALMA and e-MERLIN will both have custom built optical transmission equipment developed at JBO
- Testing facilities essential for the development of this equipment
- Integrated components available that make this task easier



