
The GBT – SerDes ASIC

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TWEPP

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<http://cern.ch/proj-gbt>

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Outline

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- *GBTX – To – Frontend*
- *The GBT – SerDes*
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 - Hardening
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 - Measurements
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 - Measurements
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Radiation Hard Optical Link Architecture

Defined in the "DG White Paper"

■ "Work Package 3-1"

- Objective:
 - Development of an high speed bidirectional radiation hard optical link
- Deliverable:
 - Tested and qualified radiation hard optical link
- Duration:
 - 4 years (2008 – 2011)

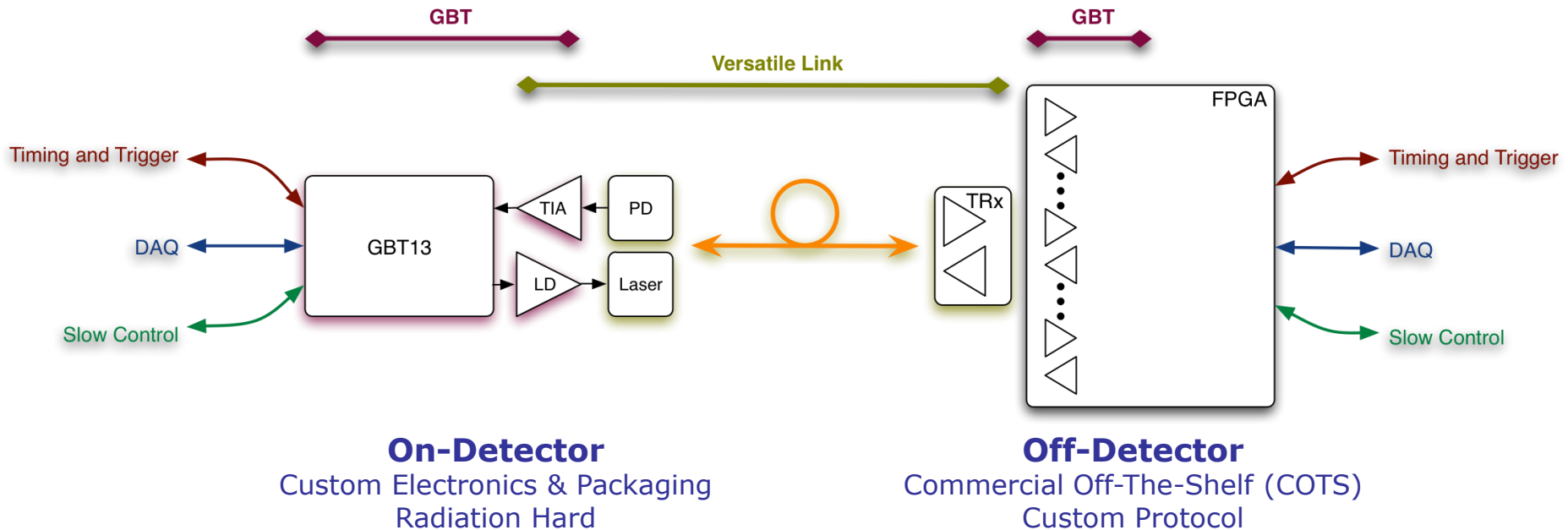
■ Radiation Hard Optical Link:

■ Versatile link project:

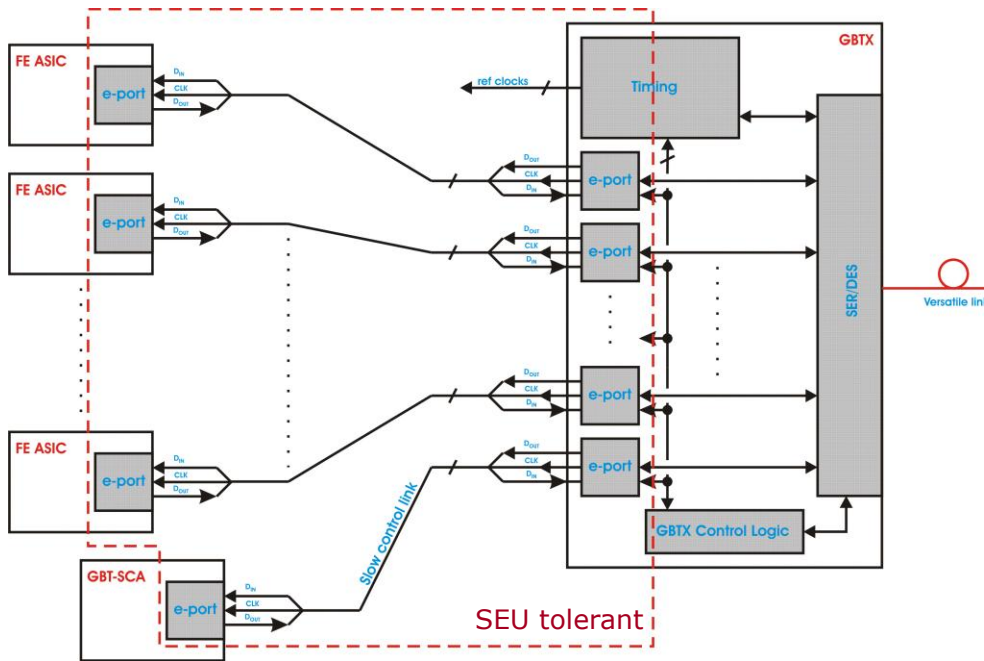
- Opto-electronics
- Radiation hardness
- Functionality testing
- Packaging

■ GBT project:

- ASIC design
- Verification
- Functionality testing
- Packaging



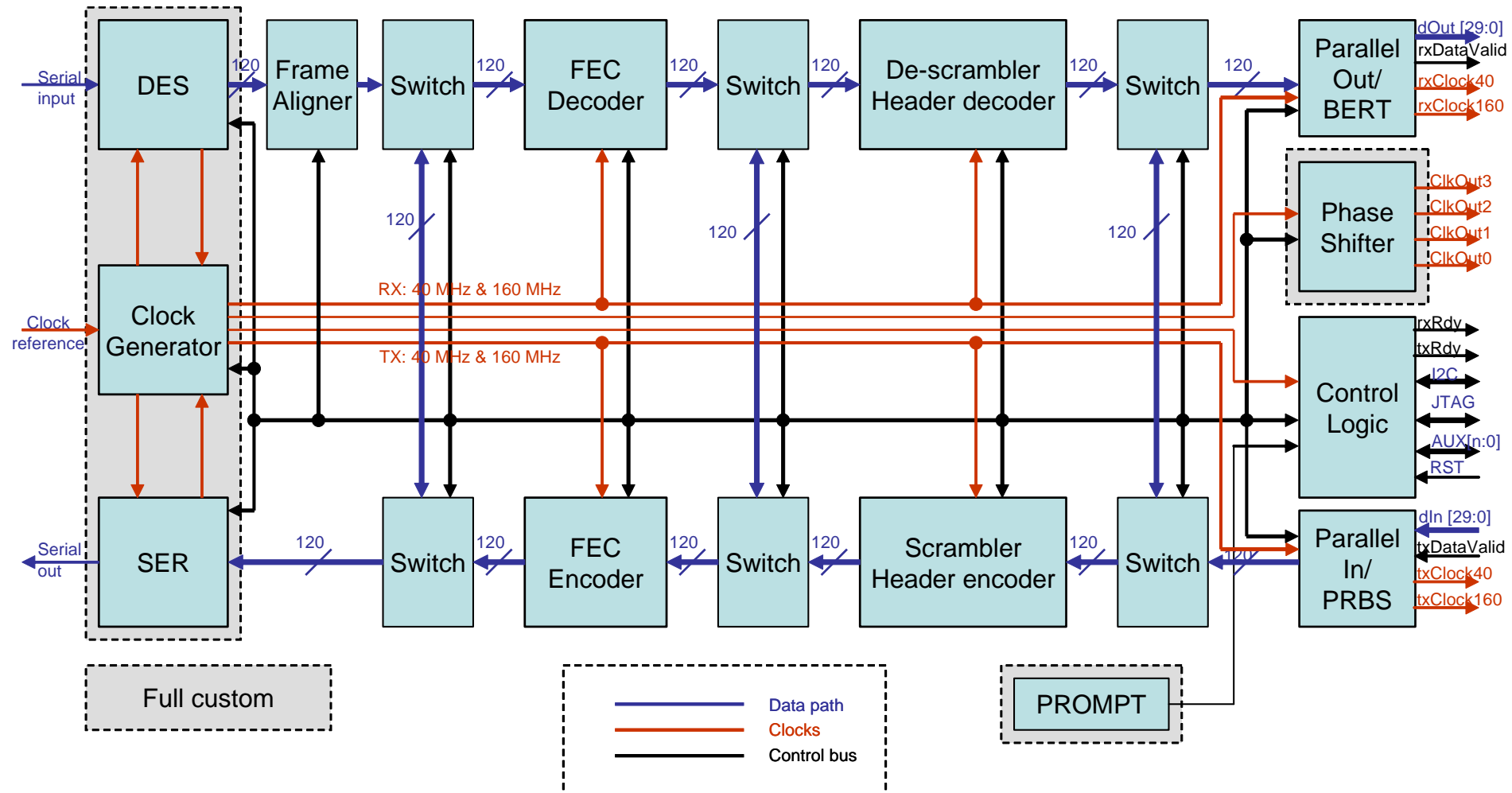
GBTX-TO-FRONTEND: E - Link Modes



Mode	Type	Data Rate	Notes
OFF	Power off	-	
P-Bus	parallel	80 MW/s	One 40-bit word (DDR)
B-Bus	parallel	80 MB/s	Up to 5 Bytes (DDR)
N-Bus	parallel	160 MN/s	Up to 5 Nibbles (DDR)
2 ×	serial	80 Mb/s	Up to 40 serial links
4 ×	serial	160 Mb/s	Up to 20 serial links
8 ×	serial	320 Mb/s	Up to 10 serial links
8 ×	serial-lanes	> 320 Mb/s	See " Error! Reference source not found. "

- *GBT/Frontend interface:*
 - Electrical links (e-link)
 - Serial
 - Bidirectional
 - Up to 40 links
- *Programmable data rate:*
 - Independently in five groups
 - Independently for up/down links
 - 80 Mb/s, 160 Mb/s and 320 Mb/s
- *Lanes:*
 - To achieve > 320 Mb/s
 - Two or more e-links can be grouped forming a "lane"
- *Slow control channel:*
 - 80 Mb/s
- *E-Link:*
 - Three pairs: $D_{OUT}/D_{IN}/CLK$
 - SLVS
- *E-Links will be handled by E-ports:*
 - Electrically
 - "Protocol"
- *Package (preliminary):*
 - BGA: 361 – PINS
 - 16 mm x 16 mm, 0.8 mm pitch

GBT – SerDes: Architecture



Serializer: Architecture

Serializer:

- 4.8 Gb/s
- 120-bit shift register
 - 3 × 40-bit shift register (f=1.6 GHz)
 - 3-to-1 fast multiplexer (f=4.8 GHz)

Data path:

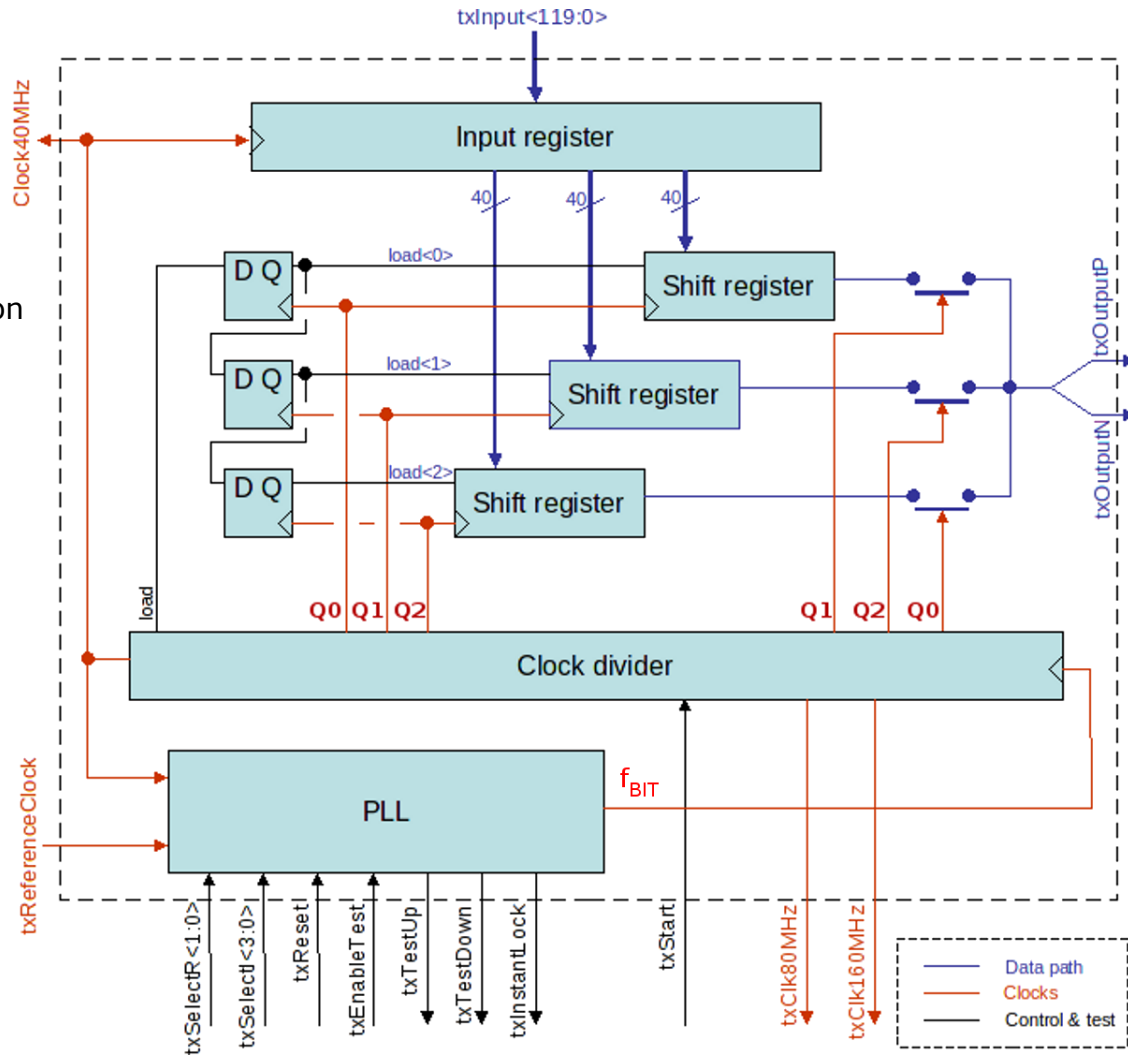
- No SEU protection
- SEUs handled by the Reed-Solomon CODEC

Clock divider:

- Divide by 120
- f = 4.8 GHz
- Triple voted for SEU robustness

PLL:

- SEU hardened VCO
- SEU hardened Clock Divider
 - Based on "custom" dynamic flip-flop



Serializer: Hardening

■ Clock divider:

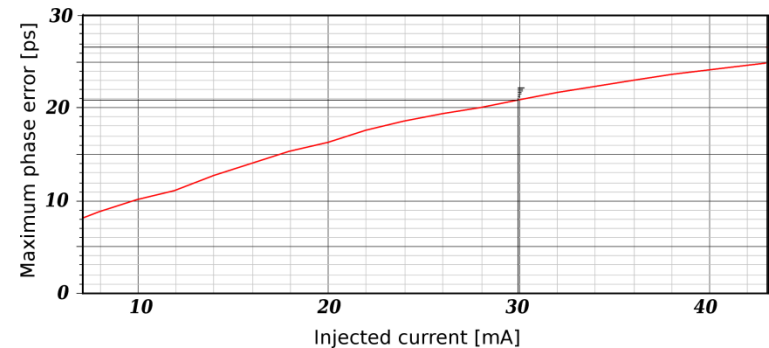
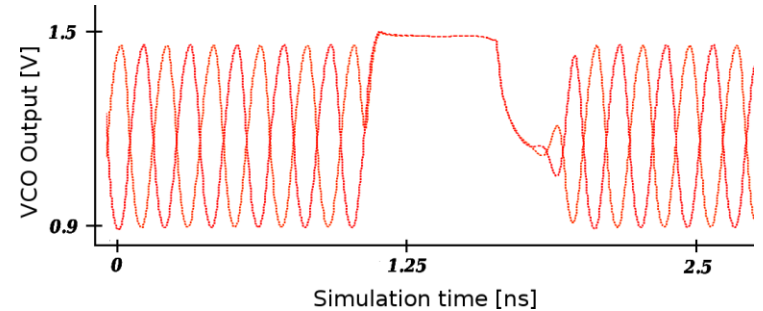
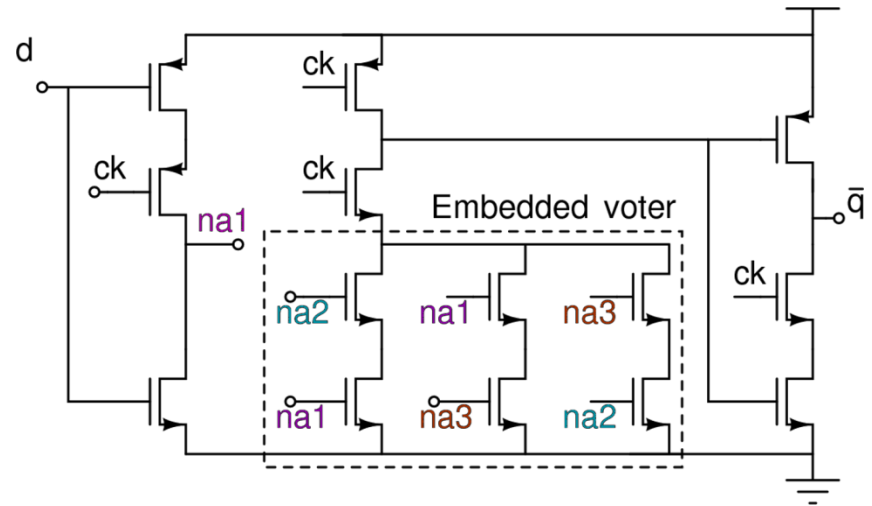
- A “missing” count on the clock divider unlocks the PLL resulting in a burst of errors lasting for “ μs ”

■ TMR in the counter mandatory:

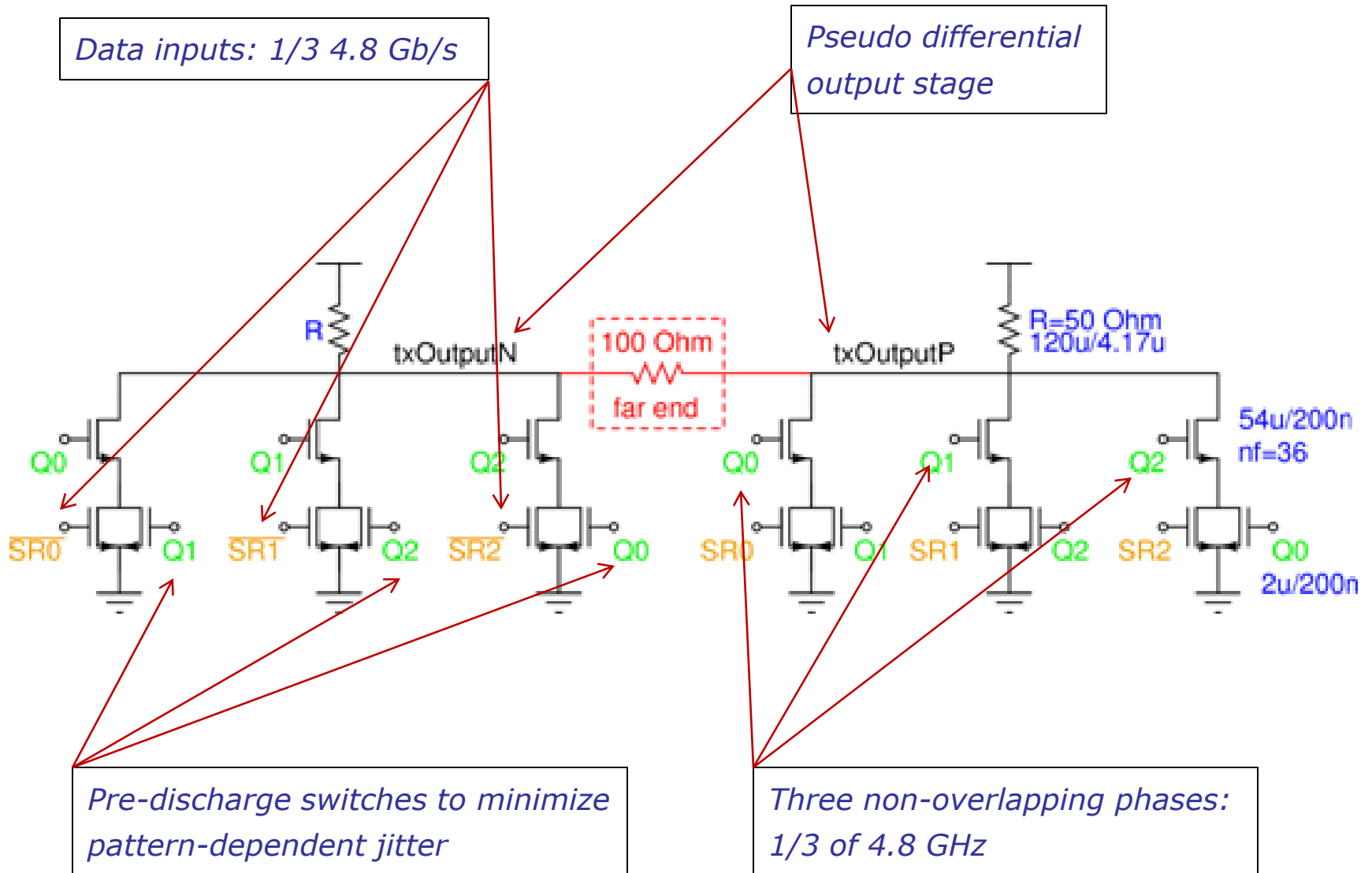
- A voter + a static DFF is far too slow!
- Even a voter + a dynamic DFF will not pass the corner simulations!
- A new “voted DFF” is proposed and used in the GBT-SERDES

■ VCO:

- Depending on the charge injected, an SEU can stop the VCO oscillations for a few cycles!
- SEUs were modeled by current pulses injecting 300 fC in 10 ps
- The VCO current is set so that an SEU event causes a phase shift which is a fraction of the bit period.
- Penalty: high power consumption.



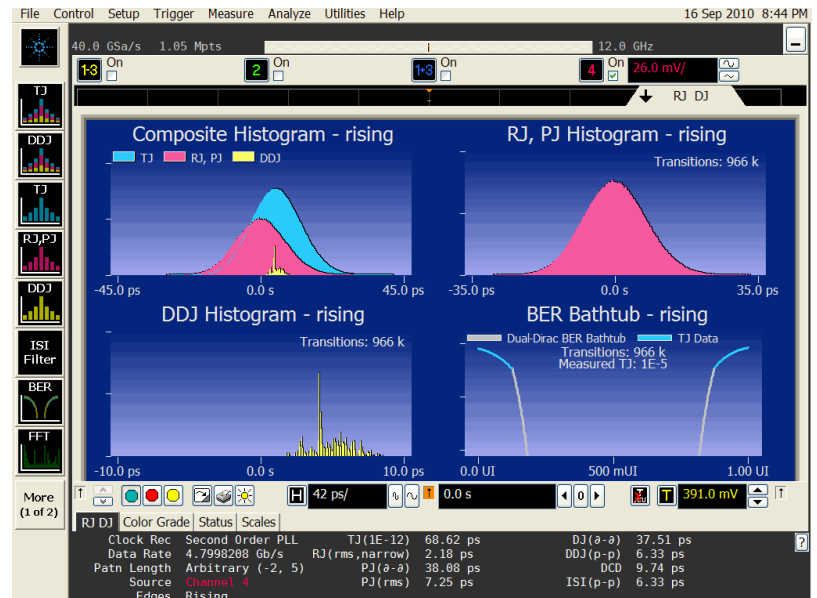
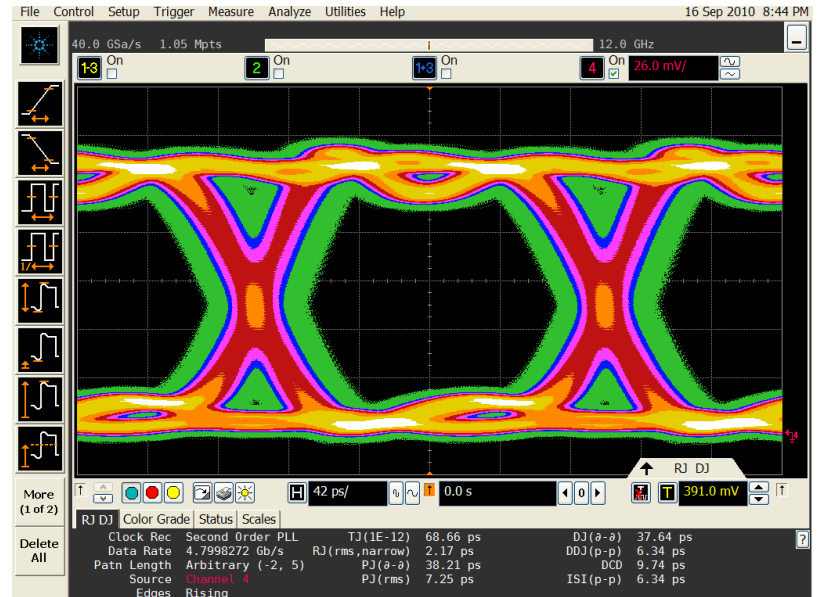
Serializer: Fast Multiplexer



Serializer: Measurements

■ Tx Jitter:

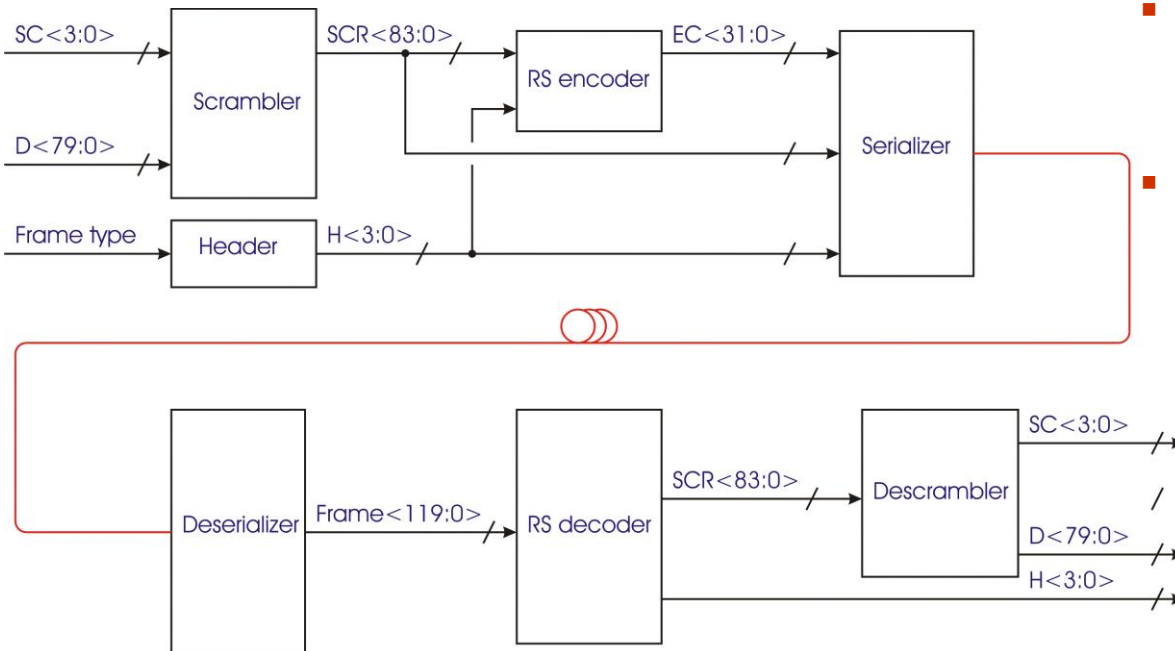
- Total jitter ($1e^{-12}$): 68.7 ps
- Random jitter: 2.2 ps (rms)
- Deterministic jitter: 37.6 ps
 - Data dependent: 6.3 ps
 - Periodic:
 - RMS: 7.2 ps
 - PP: 38.2 ps
 - Duty-cycle-distortion: 9.7 ps
 - Inter-symbol interference: 6.3 ps



Line Coding/Decoding

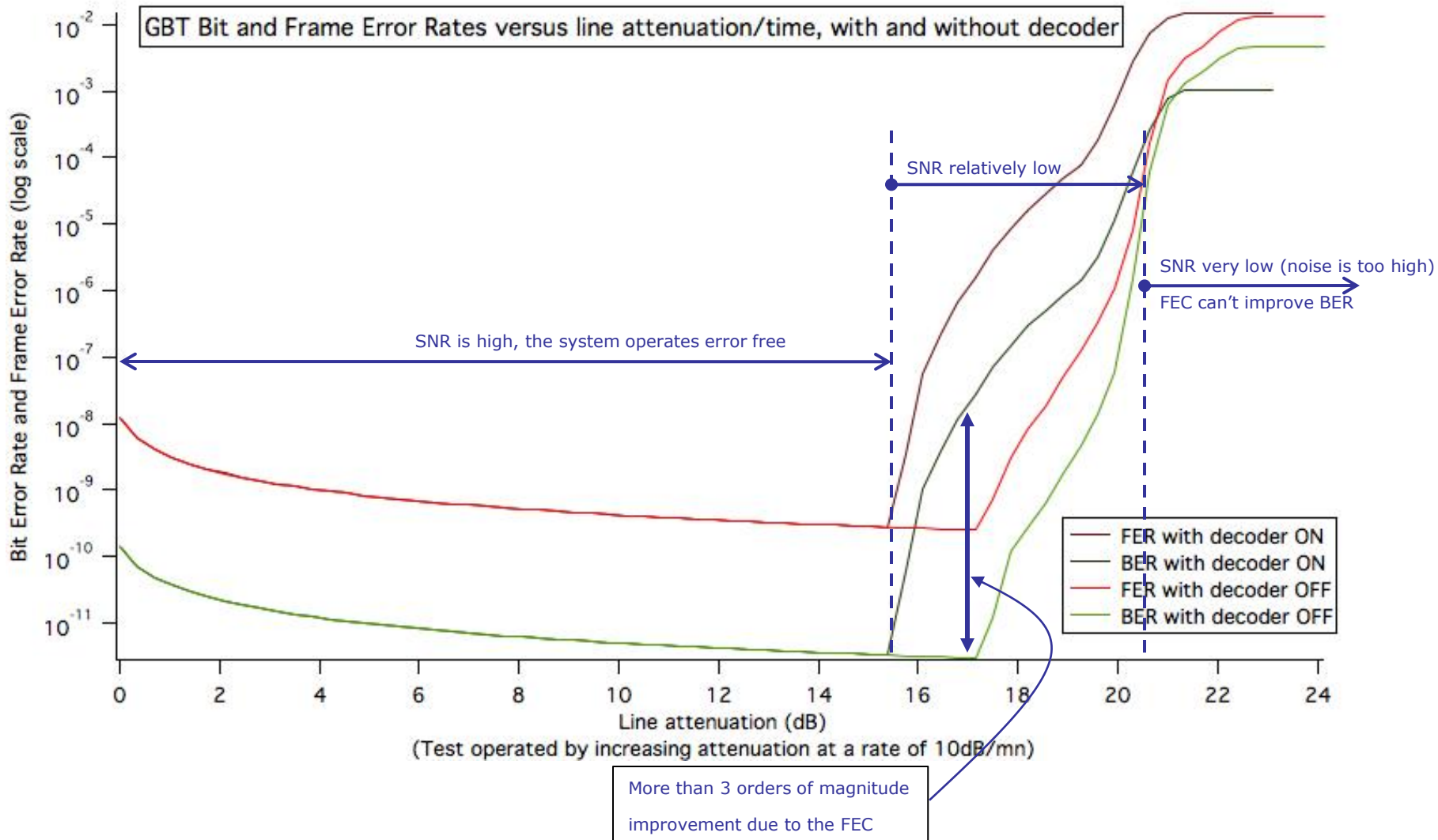
- High rates of Single Event Upsets (SEU) are expected for HL – LHC links:
 - Particle “detection” by Photodiodes used in optical receivers.
 - SEUs on PIN-receivers, Laser-drivers and SERDES circuits
- The GBT high speed data path is not SEU hardened!
- Transmitted data is however protected by a Forward Error Correction (FEC) code

- Scrambler:
 - 4 × Maximum run length 21-bit scrambler
- FEC code:
 - Interleaved Reed-Solomon double error correction
 - 4-bit symbols (RS(15,11))
 - Interleaving: 2



- Error correction capability:
 - 2 (Interleaving) × 2 (RS) = 4 symbols = 16-bits
- GBT frame efficiency: 70%
 - A line code is always required for DC balance and synchronization
 - For comparison, the Gigabit Ethernet frame efficiency is 80% (at the physical level)
 - At a small penalty (10%, when compared with the Gigabit Ethernet) the GBT protocol will offer the benefits of Error Detection and Correction

BER Measurements



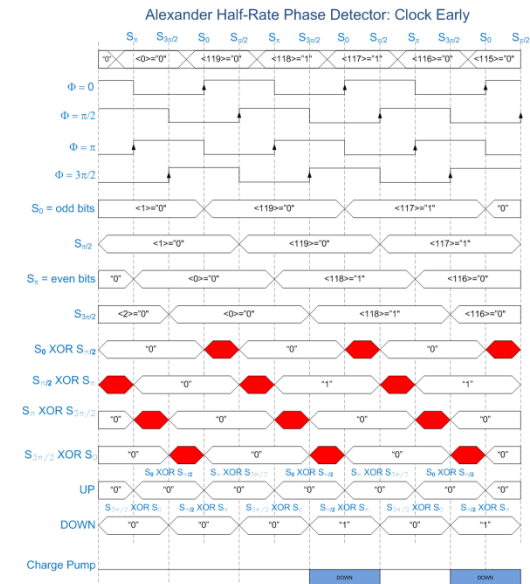
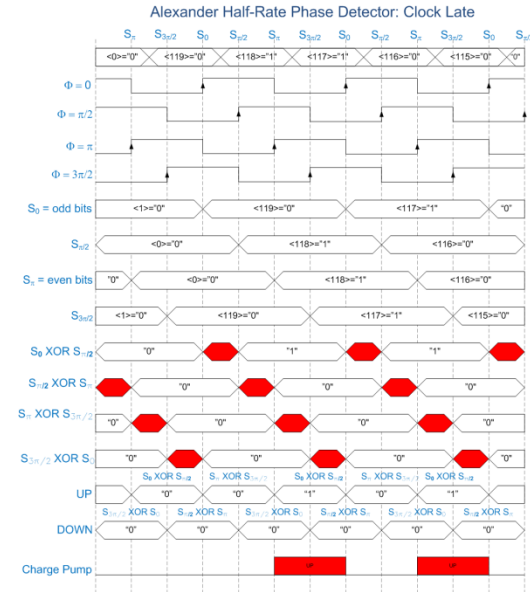
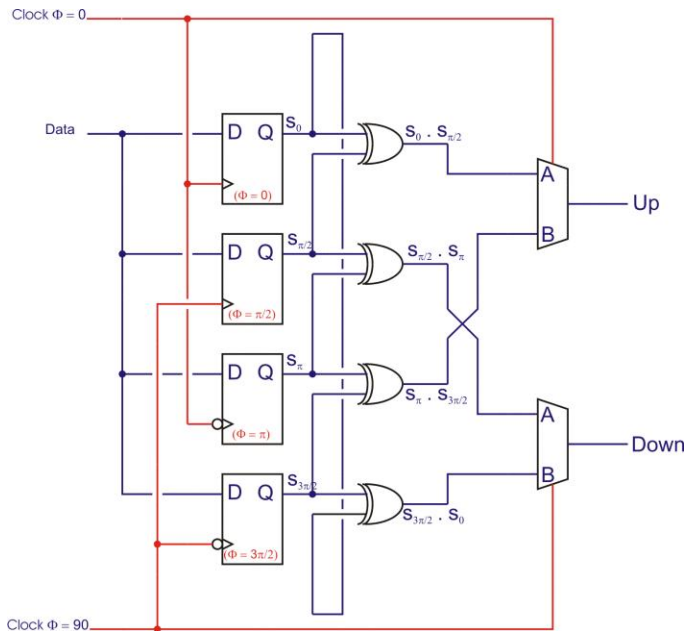
CDR: Half-Rate Phase Detector

Advantages:

- Clock runs at $f/2$
- Data is automatically retimed
- VCO design "can be" relaxed
- "Only" serial data sampling operation remains critical!

Disadvantages:

- Four well controlled clock phases are needed
- One bit period uncertainty on the clock phase:
 - Is the $\frac{1}{2}$ rate clock phase aligned with an "even" or "odd" bit?
 - Constant latency requires this phase uncertainty to be resolved latter (only important in HEP applications)



CDR: Measurements

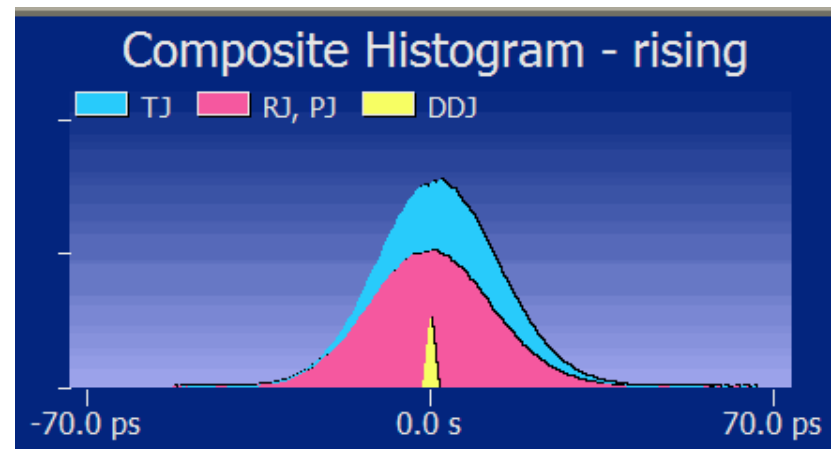
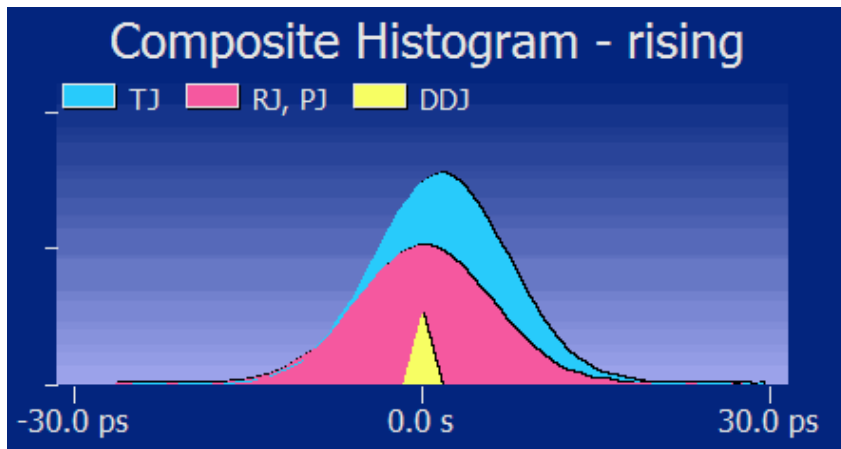
Recovered Clock: 40 MHz

■ *Fixed pattern:*

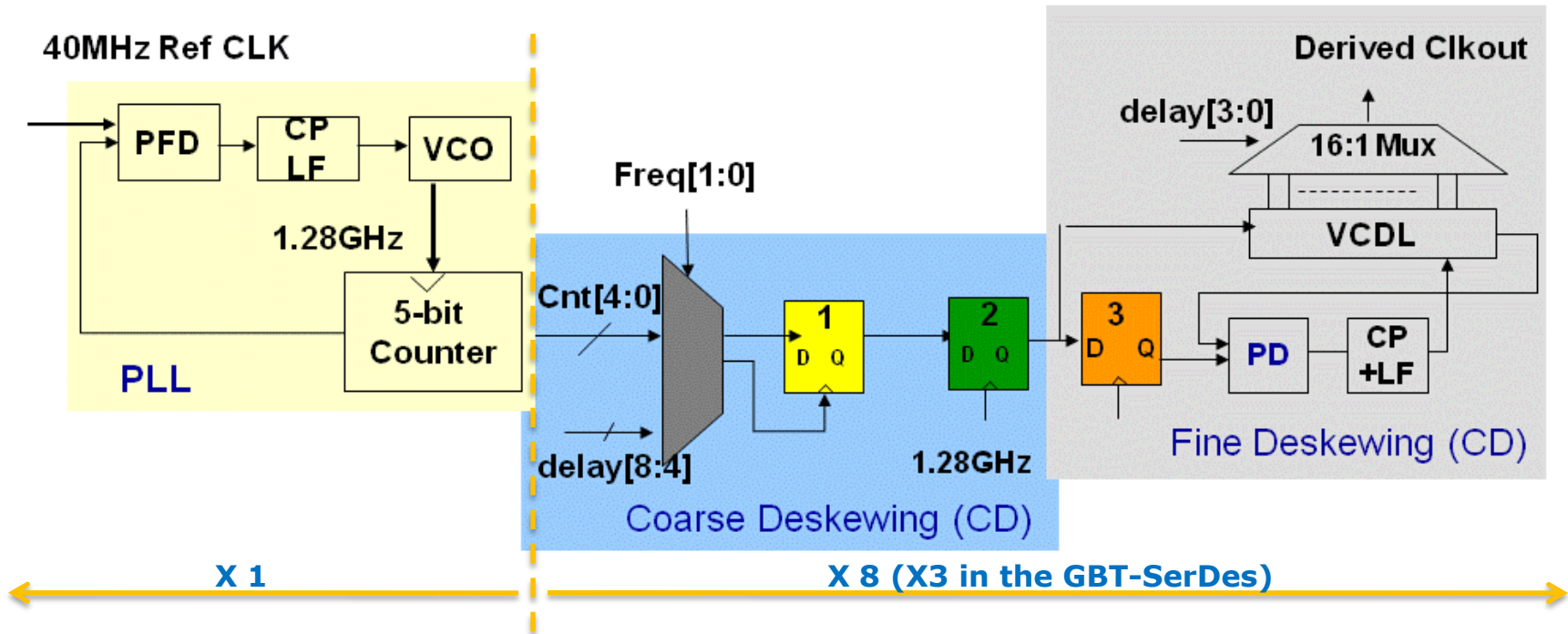
- Total jitter ($1e^{-12}$): 60 ps
- Random jitter: 2.2 ps (rms)
- Deterministic jitter: 27.5 ps (pp)
 - Periodic:
 - RMS: 5.6 ps
 - PP: 28 ps

■ *PRBS:*

- Total jitter ($1e^{-12}$): 159 ps
- Random jitter: 9.5 ps (rms)
- Deterministic jitter: 24 ps (pp)
 - Periodic:
 - RMS: 7.8 ps
 - PP: 24 ps



Phase – Shifter: Architecture



Main features:

- 3 channels in the GBT – SerDes
 - 1 PLL + Counter generates the three frequencies: 40 / 80 and 160 MHz
 - 1 DLL per channel: 48.83 ps resolution
 - Mixed digital/analogue phase shifting technique:
 - Coarse deskewing – Digital: $\Delta t(\text{coarse}) = 781.25 \text{ ps}$
 - Fine deskewing – Analogue: $\Delta t(\text{fine}) = 48.83 \text{ ps}$
 - Power consumption: 5.6 mW/channel (simulated)
 - Differential non-linearity: DNL <6.7% LSB
 - Integral non-linearity: INL <6.5% LSB
- } Predicted by simulation

Phase – Shifter: Measurements

Resolution: $\Delta t = 48.83$ ps

Jitter: $\sigma = 5$ ps (pp = 30 ps)

Differential Non-Linearity:

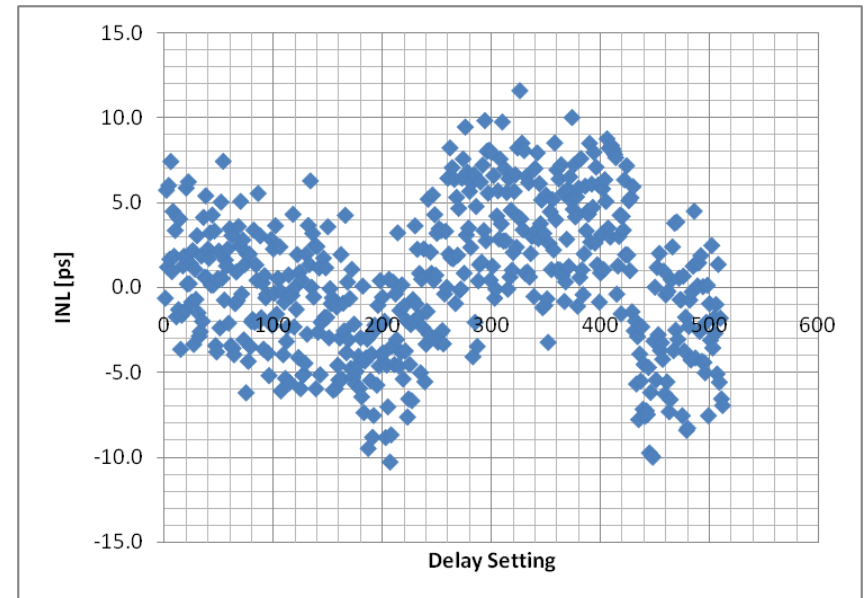
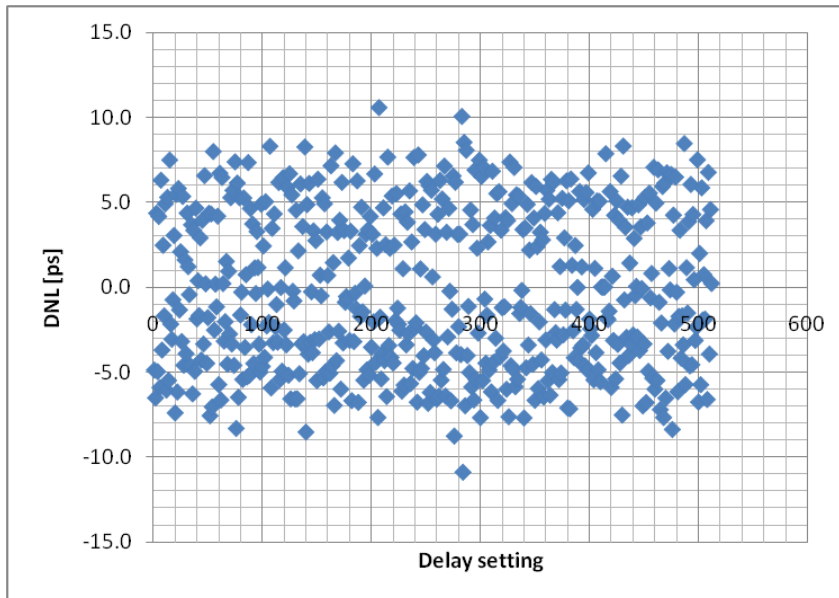
Integral Non-Linearity:

$\sigma = 4.7$ ps (9.6% of Δt)

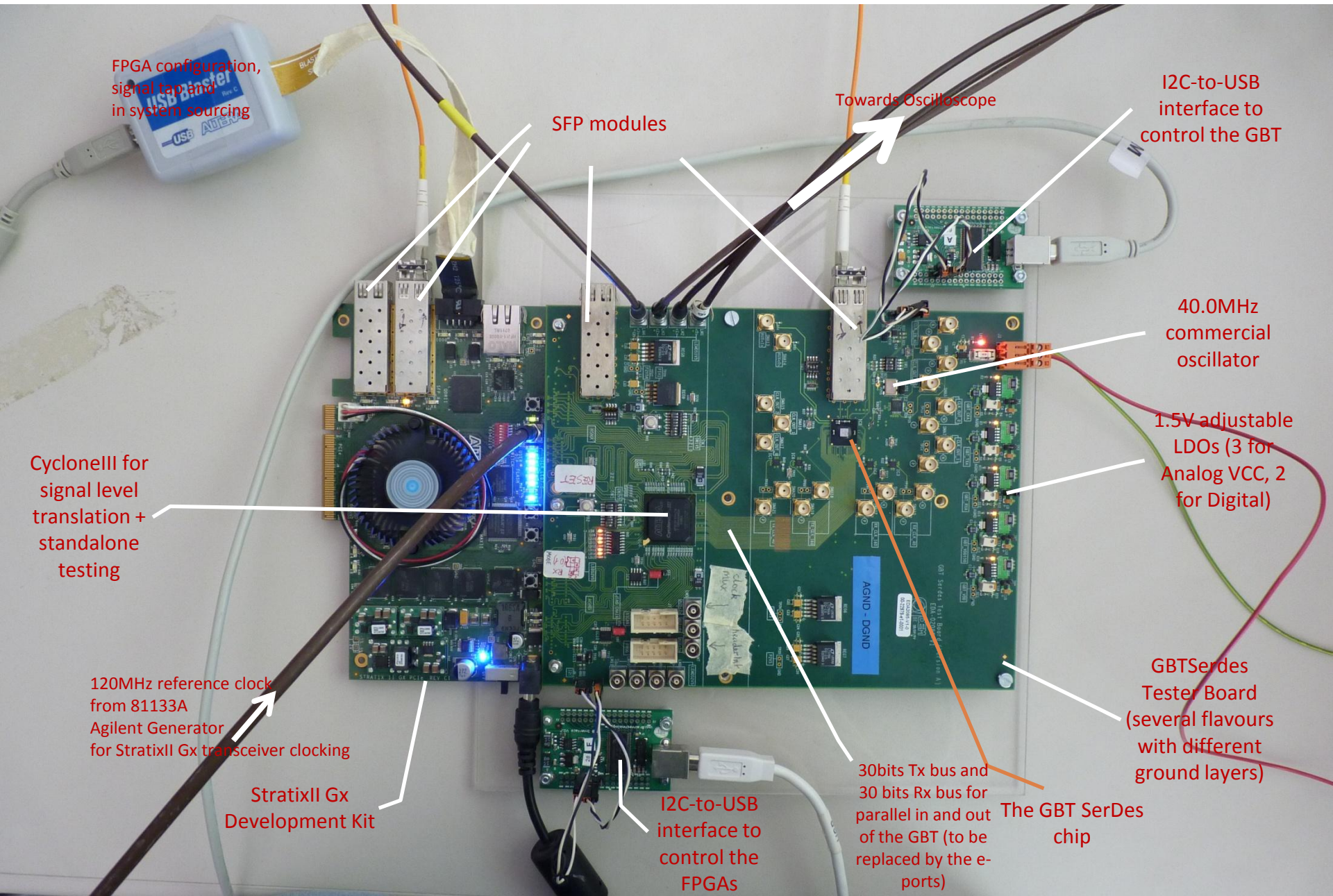
$\sigma = 4.3$ ps (8.7% of Δt)

pp = 21.5 ps (44% of Δt)

pp = 21.9 ps (48.7% of Δt)



Test Setup



FPGA configuration,
signal tap and
in system sourcing

SFP modules

Towards Oscilloscope

I2C-to-USB
interface to
control the GBT

40.0MHz
commercial
oscillator

1.5V adjustable
LDOs (3 for
Analog VCC, 2
for Digital)

CycloneIII for
signal level
translation +
standalone
testing

120MHz reference clock
from 81133A
Agilent Generator
for StratixII Gx transceiver clocking

StratixII Gx
Development Kit

I2C-to-USB
interface to
control the
FPGAs

30bits Tx bus and
30 bits Rx bus for
parallel in and out
of the GBT (to be
replaced by the e-
ports)

GBT SerDes
Tester Board
(several flavours
with different
ground layers)

The GBT SerDes
chip

Summary

- *The GBT – SerDes:*
 - Fabricated in 130 nm CMOS technology
 - Packaged in a custom 13 × 13 bump-pad C4 package (168 pin)
- *A test bench was developed based on:*
 - StratixII Gx Development Kit
 - Test board with different ground options
- *Almost all of the functions proved 100% functional:*
 - Serializer
 - Frame-Aligner
 - Constant-latency “barrel-shifter”
 - Encoder/Decoder
 - Scrambler/Descrambler
 - Phase-shifter
 - Logic
 - Parallel I/O interface
- *For the De-serializer*
 - The clock recovery function works fine over the full range
 - However, error free data reception at 4.8 Gb/s has not (yet?) been achieved!
 - OK up to 2.4 Gb/s

