Ultrafast Optical Logics

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Ueno Laboratory, since March 2002

Communication Speed^{*)} has been doubled or trippled every 2-3 years!

Trunk Networks today are driven, and being pushed up by the up-to-date Optoelectronics technology!!

*) the fastest speed in digital TDM communications per fiber, per WDM channel.

In our laboratory at UEC, we are exploring the ultrafast optical logics in the 100 GHz-1 THz range.



What's Ultrafast Optoelectronics?

Optical Communications Today: Transmitting/Receiving signals with electronic controls (Optical-Electric conversion is mandatory, everywhere)

Ultrafast Optoelectronics: Optical signals contol Optical signals, directly (= 'all-optical')



Consequently...

(A) Much faster than the OE-conversion systems

Industry: core components for <u>Ultrabroadband communications networks</u> (100 GHz- 1 THz transmitters, receivers, node functions, etc.) Engineering backgrounds:

semiconductor electronics, e-m lightwaves, nonlinear/linear optics

(B) Direct, straightforward signal processings, without massive O-E conversions

Ultrafast Optical Logic --previous works--

works at NEC, Tsukuba, until Feb. 2002 (supported by Femtosecond Technol. Poject/ FESTA/ NEDO)



Optical Logics results (1)

Advantages:

Y. Ueno et al., IEEE PTL 2001, etc.

Optical signals canbe Ultrafast (the optical frequency≈ 200 THz) All-optical gating canbe Ultrafast (faster than 1 ps) Power consumptions are relatively small (100-100 fJ/bit) (Costs: optical-logic's unit size, 100 µm- 1 mm, is larger than that of Si LSI's.)



Optical Logics results (2)

S. Nakamura et al., IEEE PTL 2000 Y. Ueno et al., J. Opt. Soc. Am. 2002





Rise and fall times < 2 ps

dashed curve: 160-GHz input signal solid curve: 10-GHz demultiplexed output signal This response time= 30-to-100 times faster than *Pentium 4*.

Power consumption is 1-2 Watts (relatively small).



Fundamental Mechanisms: time vs. frequency domains



Optimization of the MZI's phase bias (42 GHz, 7 ps)
Measured (solid curves) vs. calculated (dashed curves) data.
(a), (c): output waveforms, (b), (d): optical spectra
(a), (b): biased to +1.00π, (c), (d): optimized (biased to +1.10π)
The proposal of this control scheme was based on our successful modeling of the electron-photon dynamics in SOAs at such ultrahigh repetition rates.

Optoelectronics Group, UEC

Y. Ueno et al., Opt. Lett. 1998



0.5 Carrier density (a.u.) (b) 0.4 0.3 0.2 0.1 -40 -20 0 Time (ps) +20+40Δn_r (a.u.) +2.0(c) Refractive index change, +1.0+0.0-20 +0+20-40 +40Time (ps) 100 (d) 80 Gain (a.u.) 60 40 -20 +0+20+40Time (ps)

Modeling at ultrahigh frequencies

Bases of the model:

stimulated-emission-induced carrier recombination and the nonlinear change in refractive index

- (a): photon-electron interaction in the SOA
- (b): carrier-density oscillation in the SOA
- (c): nonlinear change in the effective refractive index
- (d): gain modulation

Wavelength-Chirpless output pulses



Planning, FY 2002

• Ultrafast-and-Ultrabroadband Optical Logic Gatings

Enhancing the fundamental photon-electron mechanisms that we have built for demux-type gatings (i.e. narrowband), for more functional logic gatings (mustbe broadband & flat).

- For pioneering the 21st-century technology with 'all in the optical domain' such as wavelength conversion, regeneration, synchronization, and memories.
- Reliable Optical Clock Generation and its Lightwave Controls
 Ultrahigh-frequency (10-40 GHz) and ultrashort (1-5 ps) pulse generation
 without the mode-locking mechanism (our original scheme).
 Potentials: low power consumption, long-term stability, optical integration.
 Studying its ring cavity in the three-dimensional domains coherently
 (i.e.: time [ps], optical frequency [THz], and electronic frequency [GHz] domains).

1st half of FY 2002: numerical simulation, 2nd half: kicks of experimental works.