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# QUALITY OF TRANSMISSION ESTIMATOR ENABLING TRANSPARENCY PARADIGM IN LEGACY IMDD NETWORKS

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S. ABRATE<sup>(2)</sup>, V. CURRI<sup>(1)</sup>

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- Motivations
- Structure of a 10G Dispersion Managed Quality of Transmission Estimator (QoT-E)
- QoT-E Validation
- An example of QoT-E enabled performance estimation

# MOTIVATIONS



## PHYSICAL LAYER AWARE AUTOMATION ON 10G DM LINKS

# WHY?

- Operators Interest in exploit possibilities of deployed fiber and infrastructure
- Ancient (but still deployed) pre-WDM technology would see substantial capacity gains by upgrading to cheap IMDD links on metro networks



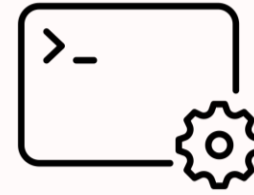
- QoT-E for legacy DM links enables:
  - Real-time management by physical layer aware SDN controller
  - Network design and disaggregation

# TWO MAIN OPTIONS



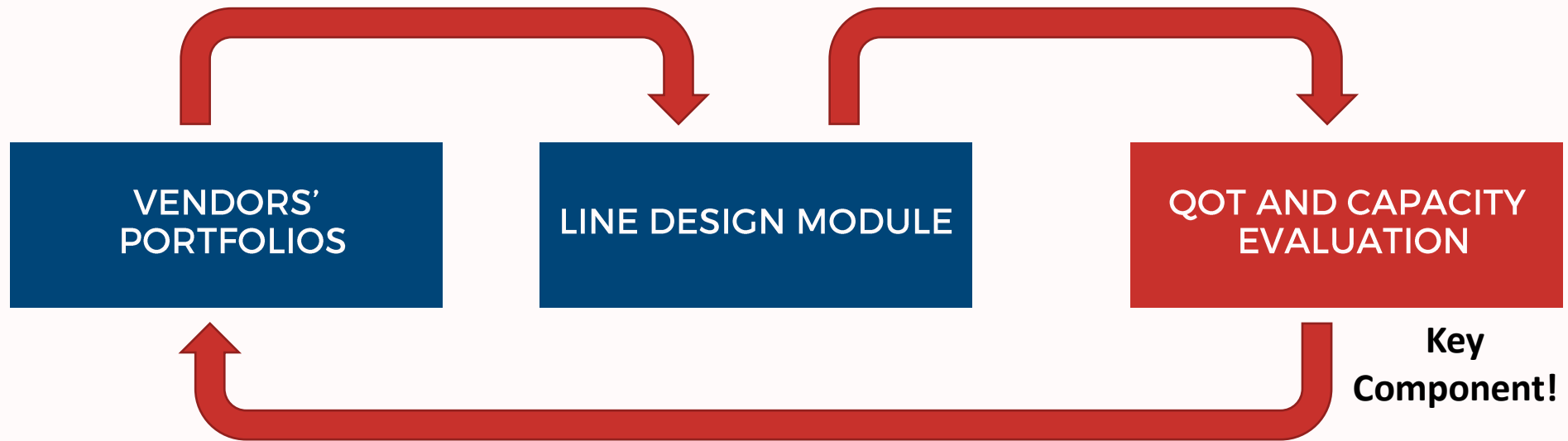
## Network Design

- Selecting network elements from vendors' portfolios to optimize network performance

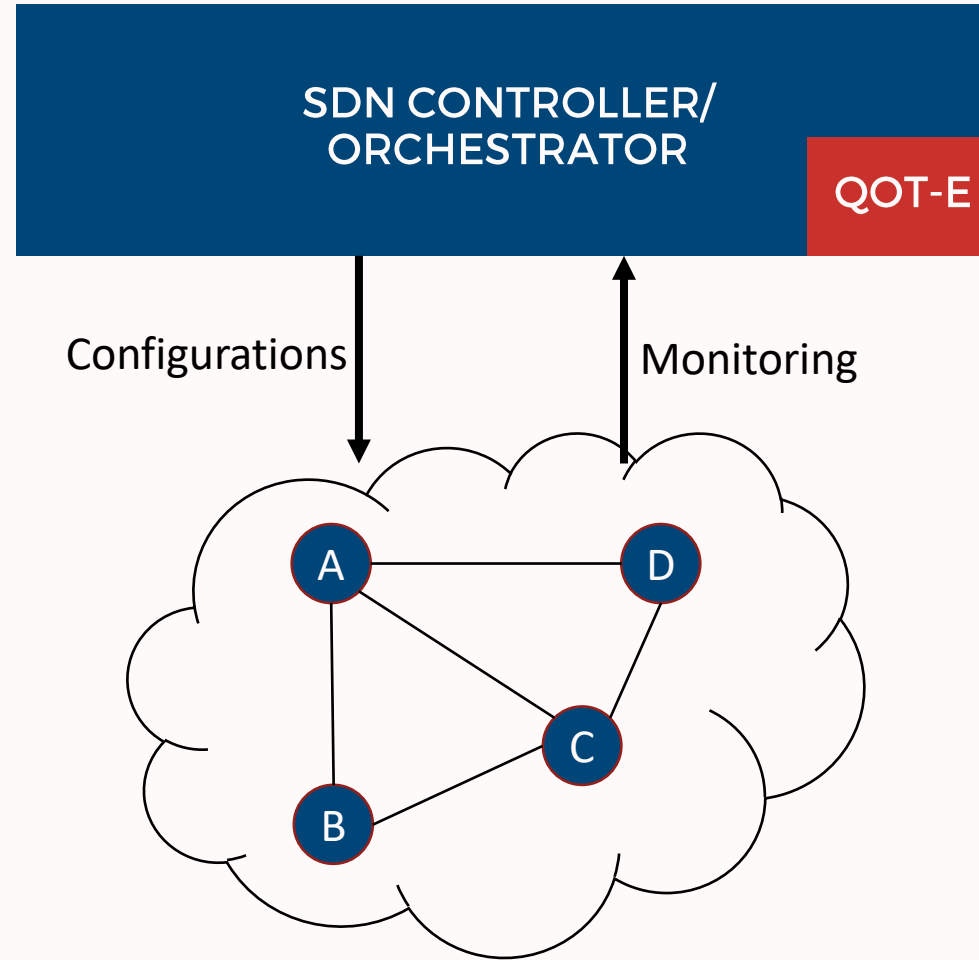


## Network Management & Orchestration

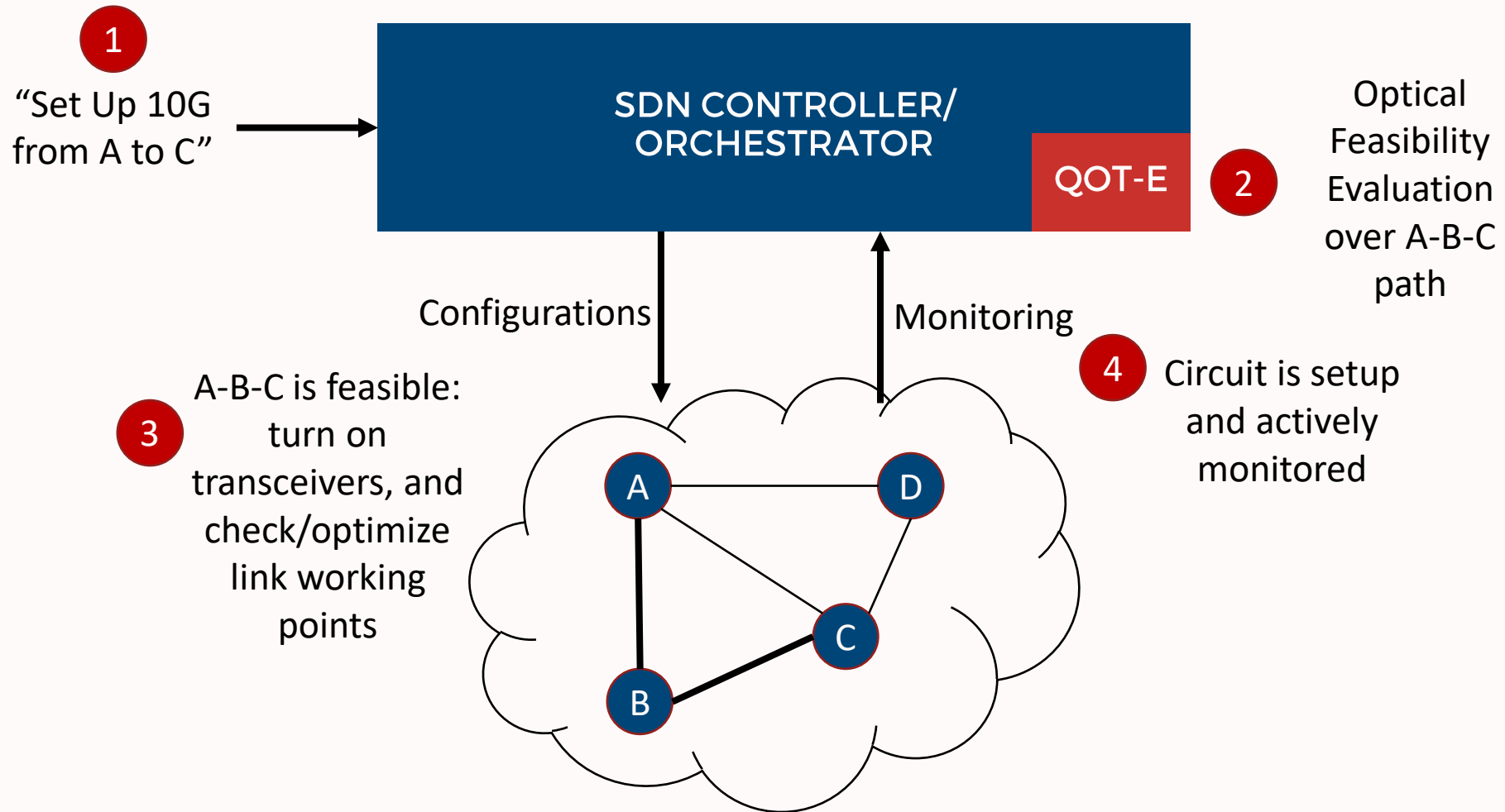
- Make optical feasibility evaluation and select hardware working points to optimize capacity, flexibility and resiliency of the optical network infrastructure
  - Network element setup for lightpath turn up
  - Fast rerouting against failures



# NETWORK CONTROL AND ORCHESTRATION

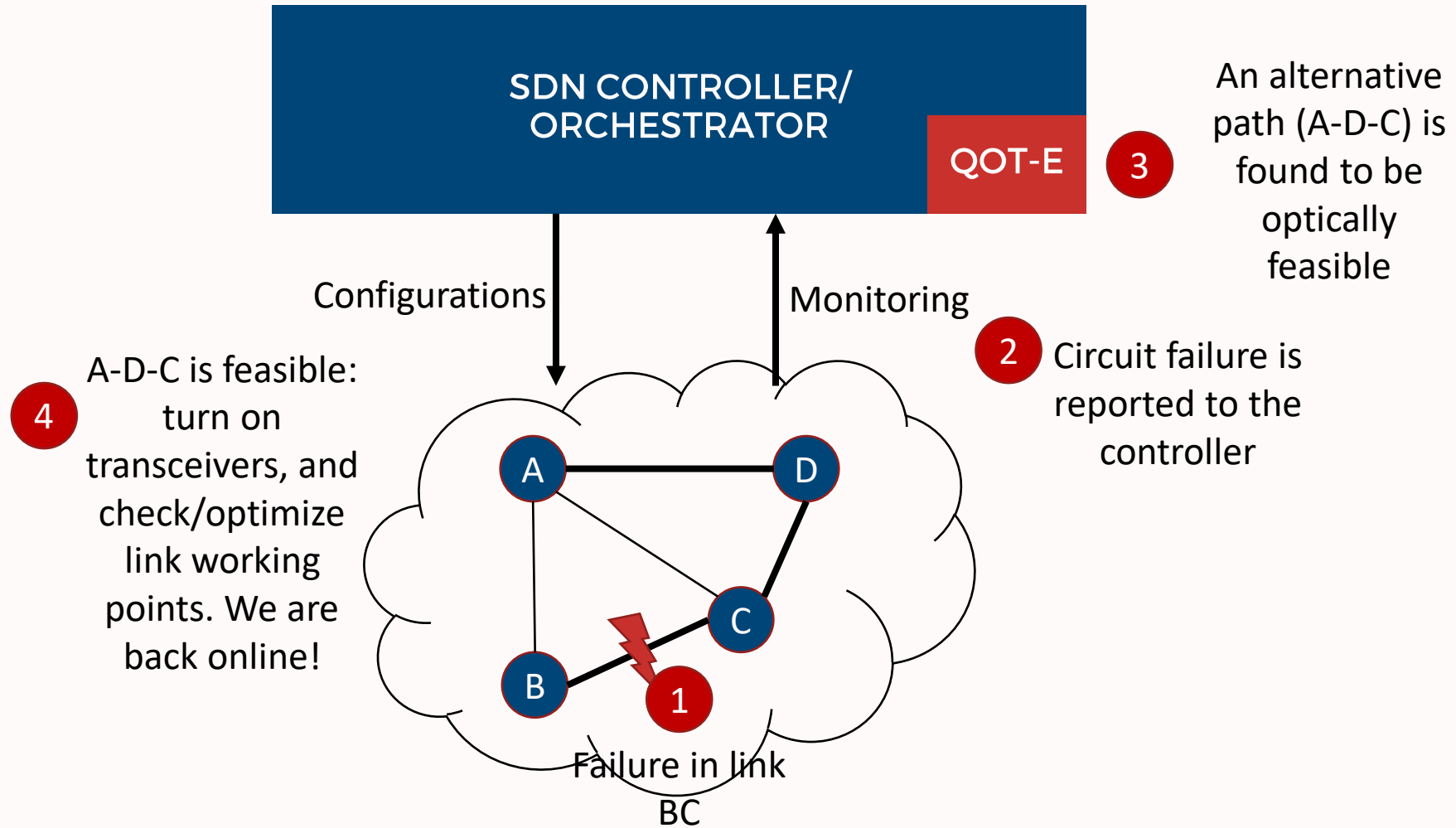


# NETWORK CONTROL – CIRCUIT SETUP





# NETWORK CONTROL – CIRCUIT RESTORATION



# QOT-E STRUCTURE



STRUCTURE OF THE QOT-E FOR 10G DISPERSION MANAGED LINKS

# RELEVANT IMPAIRMENTS

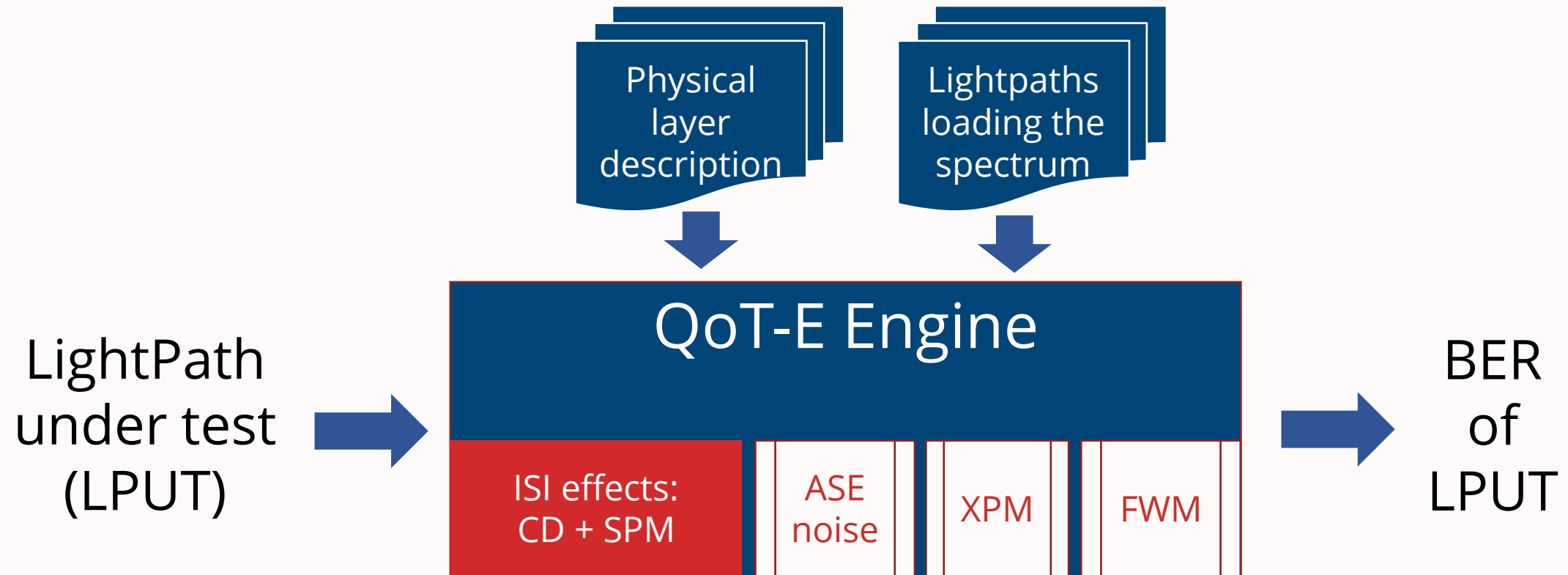
Relevant effects in *single channel* propagation:

- **Chromatic dispersion:** linear filter → Eye distortion (ISI)
- **SPM:** nonlinear effect → Eye distortion (ISI)
- **ASE noise:** AWGN → OSNR degradation

Relevant effects in *multichannel* propagation:

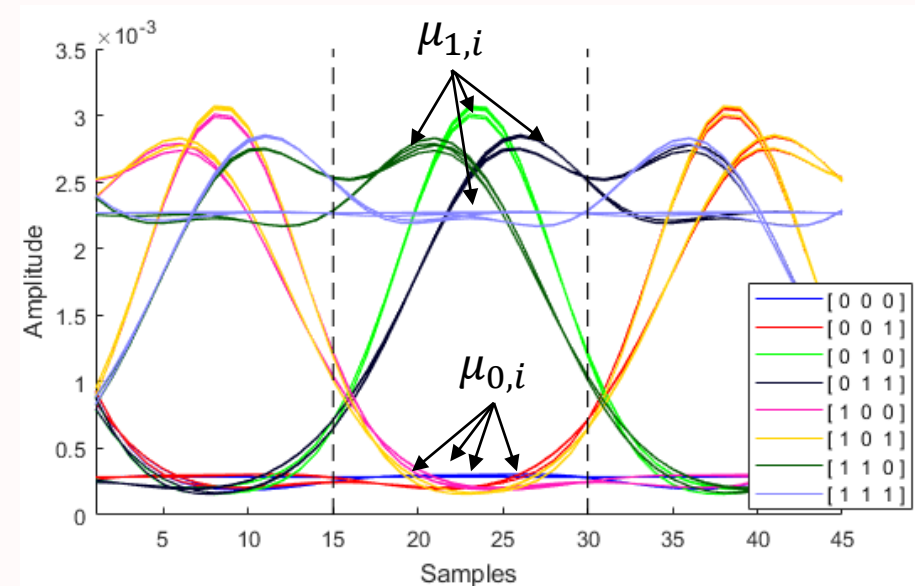
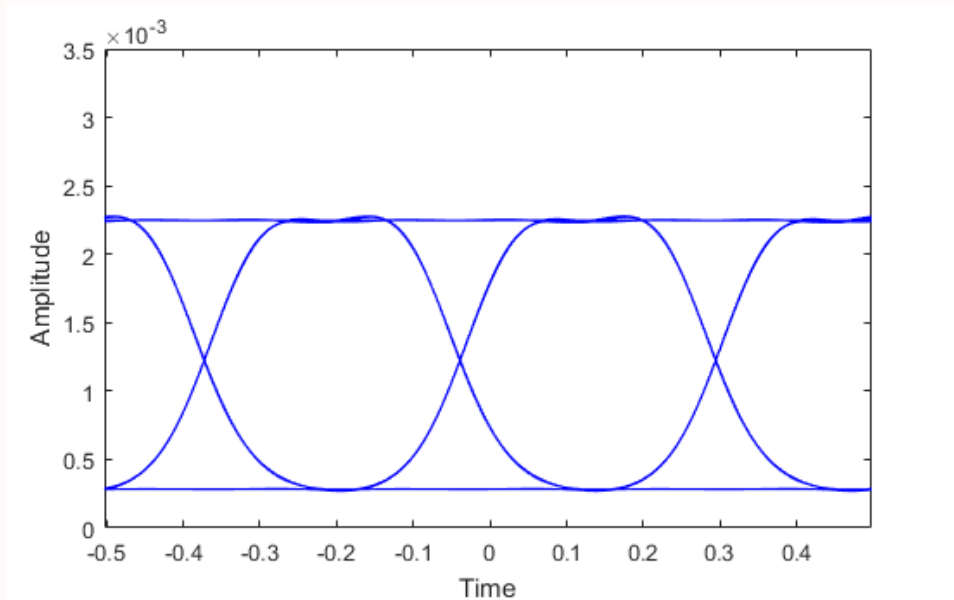
- **XPM:** nonlinear effect → OSNR degradation
  - Additive Gaussian Noise-like
- **FWM:** nonlinear effect → OSNR degradation
  - Additive Gaussian Noise-like

# THE QOT-E TOOL



# HOW TO DEAL WITH ISI

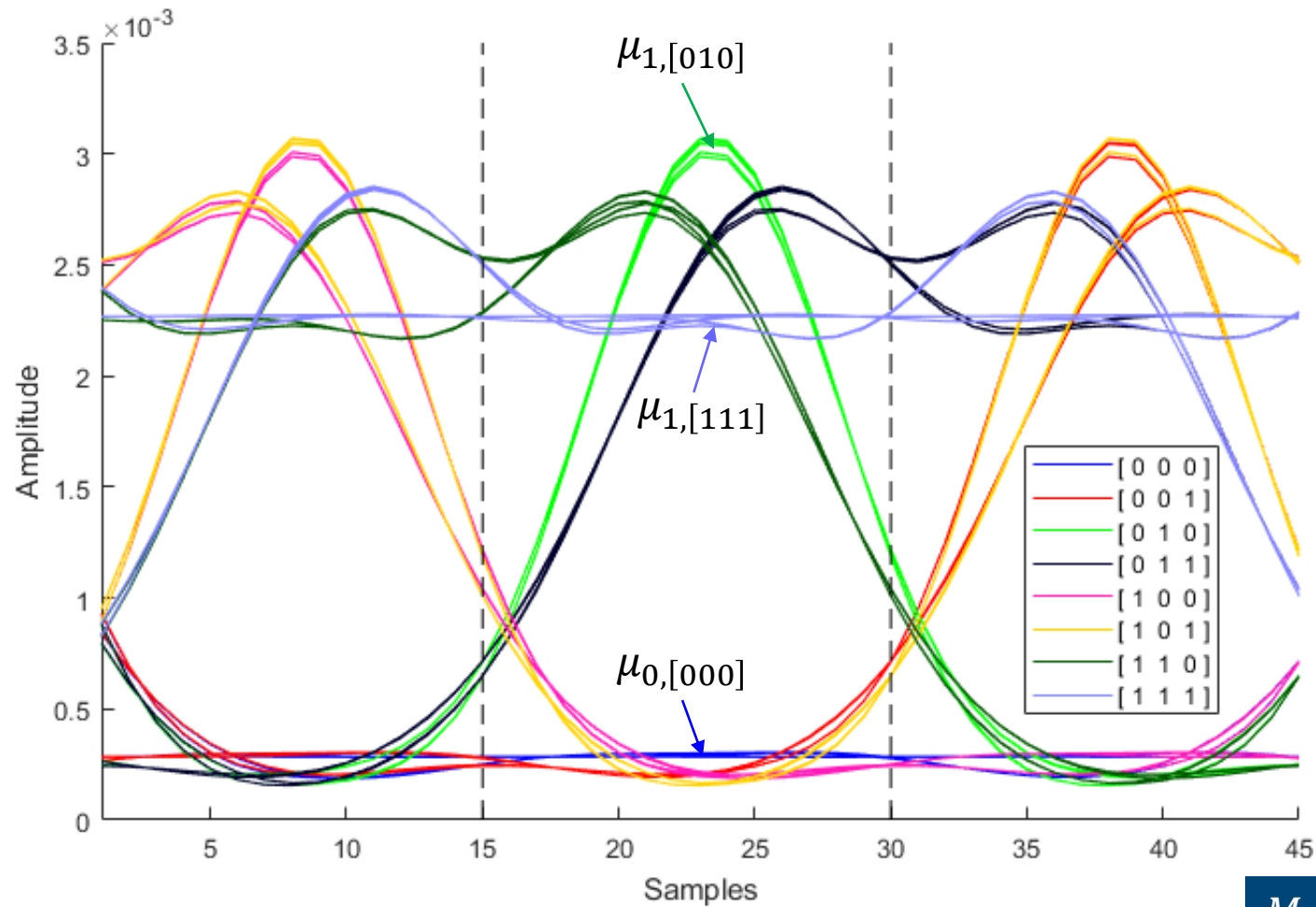
- **ISI:** introduces a memory of  $M$  bit.
- Assuming  $M = 3$ , the 0 and 1 levels  $[\mu_{0,i}, \mu_{1,i}]$  of the received bit depend on the preceding and following bit



- **Key idea:** look at symbols of  $M = 3$  bits to estimate the correct  $\mu_{0,i}$  and  $\mu_{1,i}$  levels

# HOW TO DEAL WITH ISI

*Transition diagram* plots all the 8 possible bit patterns



$$M = 3 \rightarrow 2^3 = 8 \text{ symbols}$$

# BER ESTIMATION

BER = Sum of the 8 symbols BER contributions:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{BER} = \frac{1}{8} & \{ P_e(0_{Rx}|1_{Tx})|_{010} + P_e(0_{Rx}|1_{Tx})|_{011} + P_e(0_{Rx}|1_{Tx})|_{110} + \\ & P_e(0_{Rx}|1_{Tx})|_{111} + P_e(1_{Rx}|0_{Tx})|_{000} + P_e(1_{Rx}|0_{Tx})|_{001} + P_e(1_{Rx}|0_{Tx})|_{100} + \\ & P_e(1_{Rx}|0_{Tx})|_{101} \} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{erfc} \left( \frac{\mu_{1,[010]} - V_{th}}{\sqrt{2} \cdot \sigma_{1,[010]}} \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{erfc} \left( \frac{V_{th} - \mu_{0,[100]}}{\sqrt{2} \cdot \sigma_{0,[100]}} \right)$$

$[\mu_{0,i}, \mu_{1,i}]$ : 0 and 1 average levels due to SPM and CD

$$[\sigma_{0,i}, \sigma_{1,i}] = \sqrt{\sigma_{ASE}^2 + \sigma_{XPM}^2 + \sigma_{FWM}^2}$$

- 0 and 1 levels standard deviations
- Estimated *analytically*

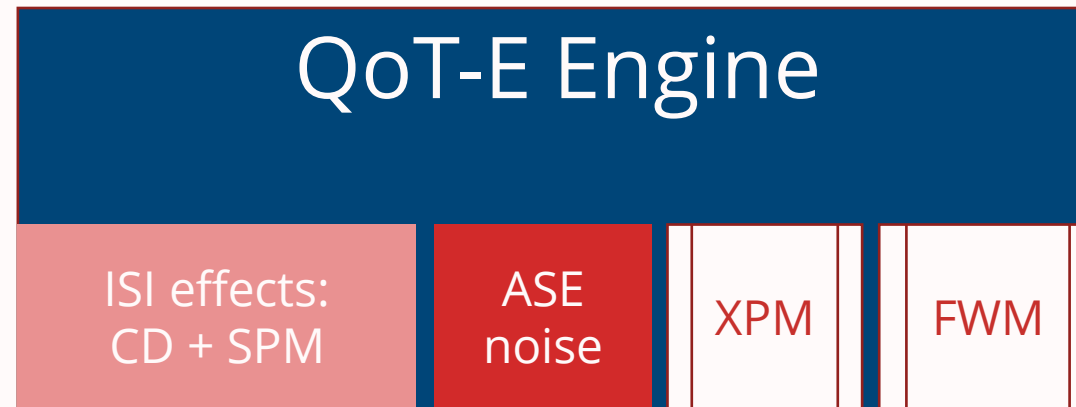
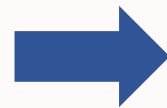
# THE QOT-E TOOL

- Channel power  $P_{ch}$
- Link Topology:
  - Fiber  $\alpha, D, \gamma$
  - Dispersion map
  - Number of spans
  - Span lengths
- OSNR

Physical  
layer  
description

Lightpaths  
loading the  
spectrum

LightPath  
under test  
(LPUT)

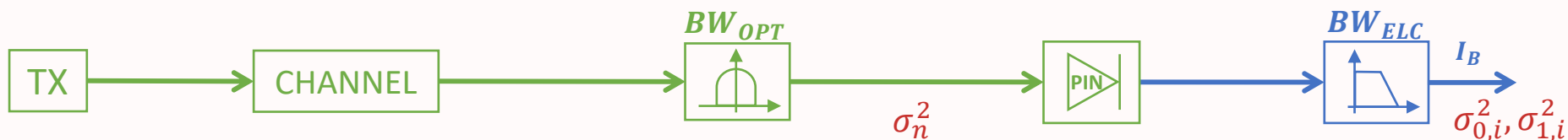


BER  
of  
LPUT



# ASE VARIANCE ESTIMATION

- We compute the  $\sigma_{0,i}$  and  $\sigma_{1,i}$  for each  $OSNR$  and  $[\mu_{0,i}, \mu_{1,i}]$  levels considering that:



$$I_B = \mu + 2\sqrt{\mu}n_{ASE,XI} + [n_{ASE,XI}^2 + n_{ASE,XQ}^2 + n_{ASE,YI}^2 + n_{ASE,YQ}^2]$$

**Signal-Noise beating variance**  
(Gaussian distributed)

**Squared-Noise variance**  
(Chi-squared distributed,  
quasi-Gaussian distributed  
after Bessel filtering)

$$\sigma^2 \cong \text{Var}[I_B] = \sigma_{GSS}^2 + \sigma_{CHI}^2$$

$$\sigma_{n_{T,F}}^2 = \frac{P_{TX}}{OSNR} = f(OSNR) \longleftarrow \text{Optical Noise Variance after Optical Filter}$$

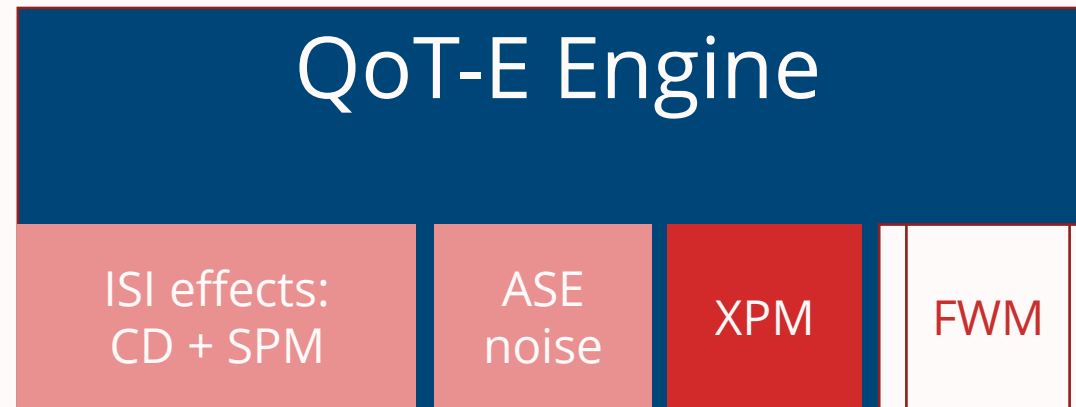
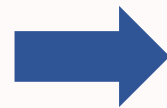
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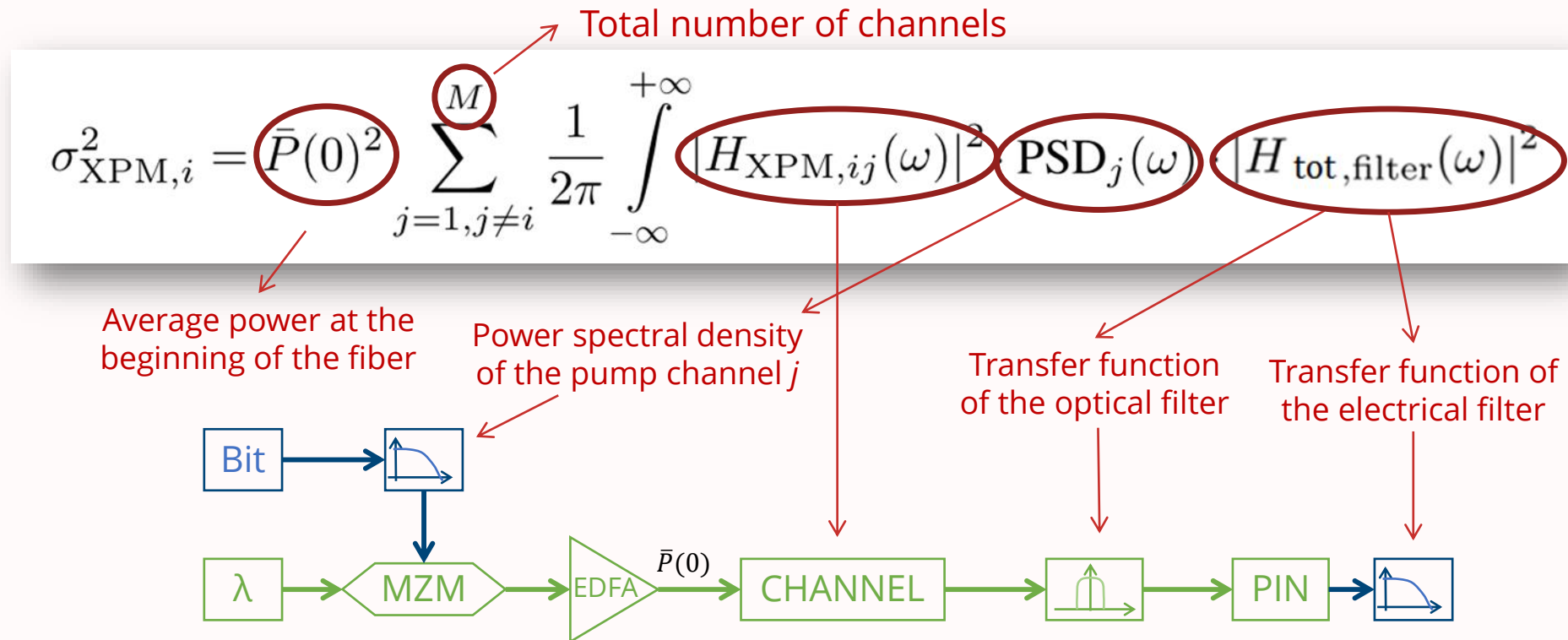
LightPath  
under test  
(LPUT)



BER  
of  
LPUT

# XPM ANALYTICAL MODEL

The goal is to obtain an analytical expression for the **XPM-induced noiselike variance**, using the following approach:



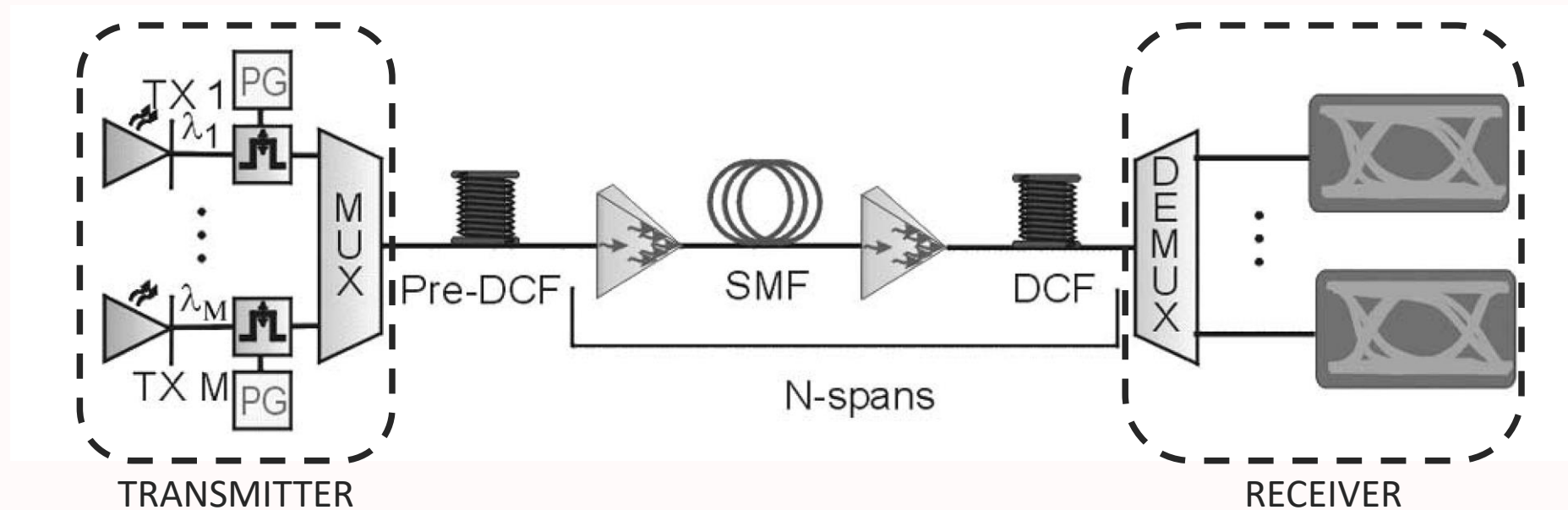
[1] S. Pachnicke et al., "Fast Analytical Assessment of the Signal Quality in Transparent Optical Networks", *Journal of Lightwave Technology*, Vol. 24, No. 2, 2006.

# QOT-E VALIDATION



# EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

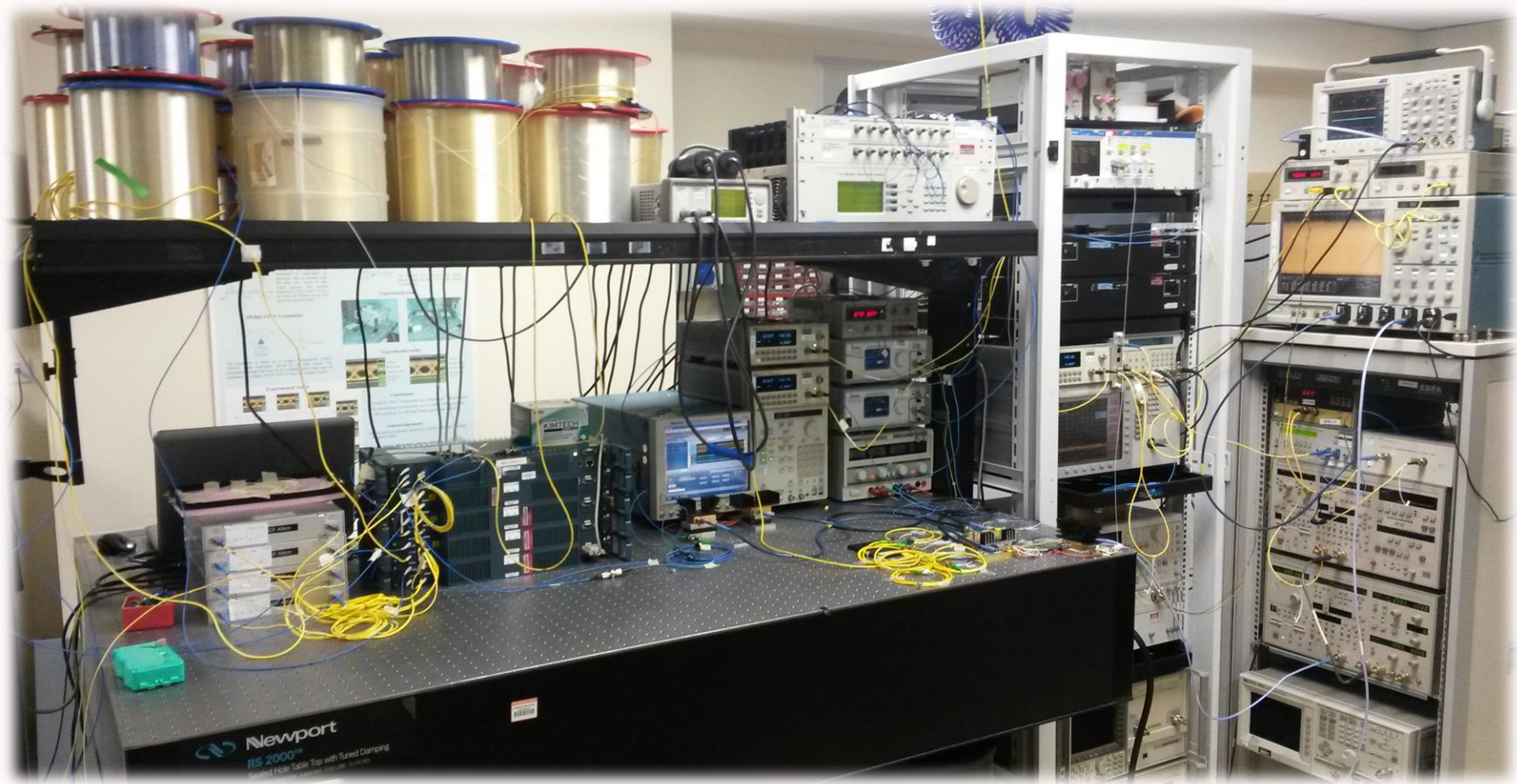
In the PhotonLab of ISMB, we emulated the setup depicted in this picture [1]



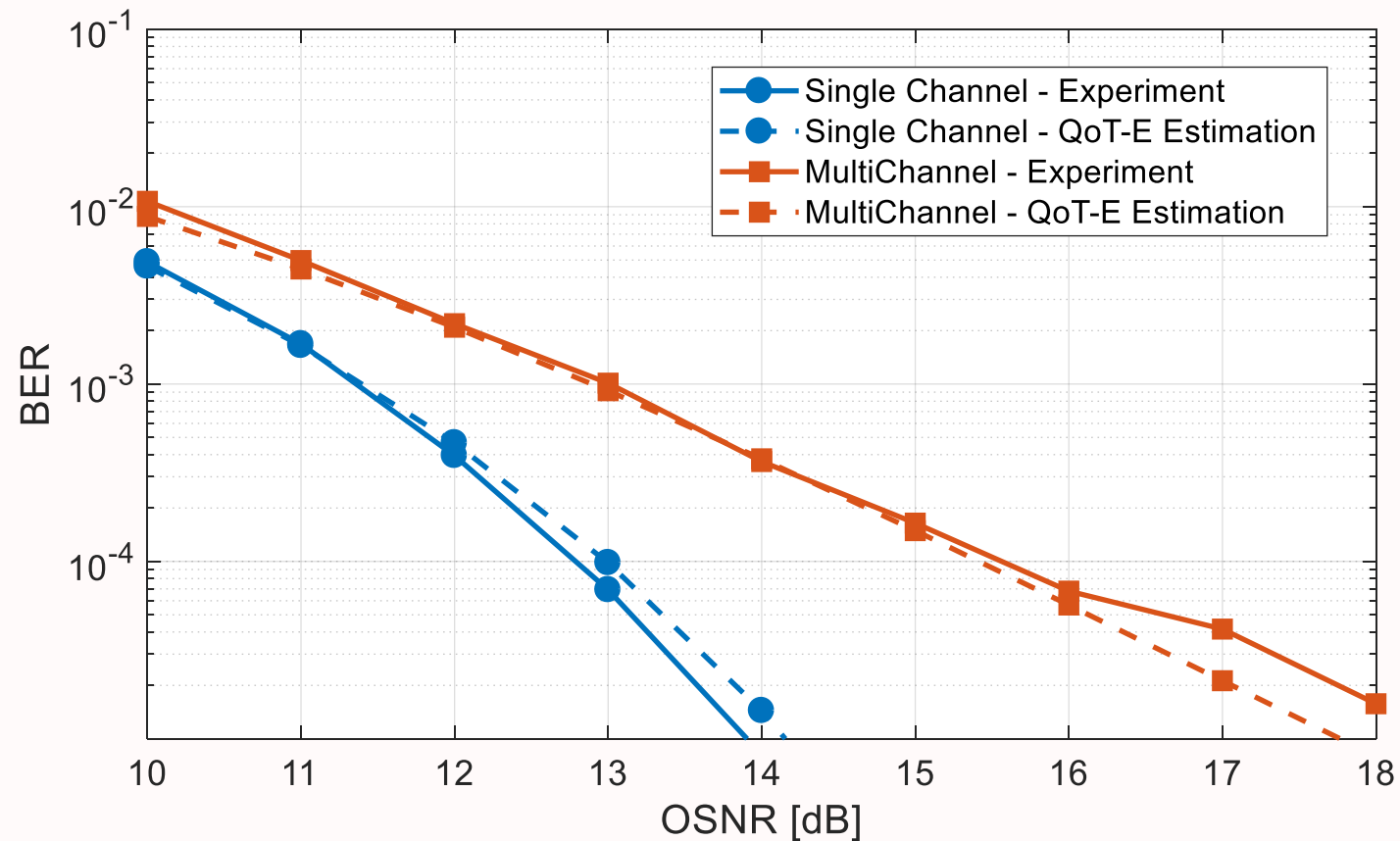
[1] S. Pachnicke et al., "Fast Analytical Assessment of the Signal Quality in Transparent Optical Networks", *Journal of Lightwave Technology*, Vol. 24, No. 2, February 2006.

# EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

... A pic of our setup:

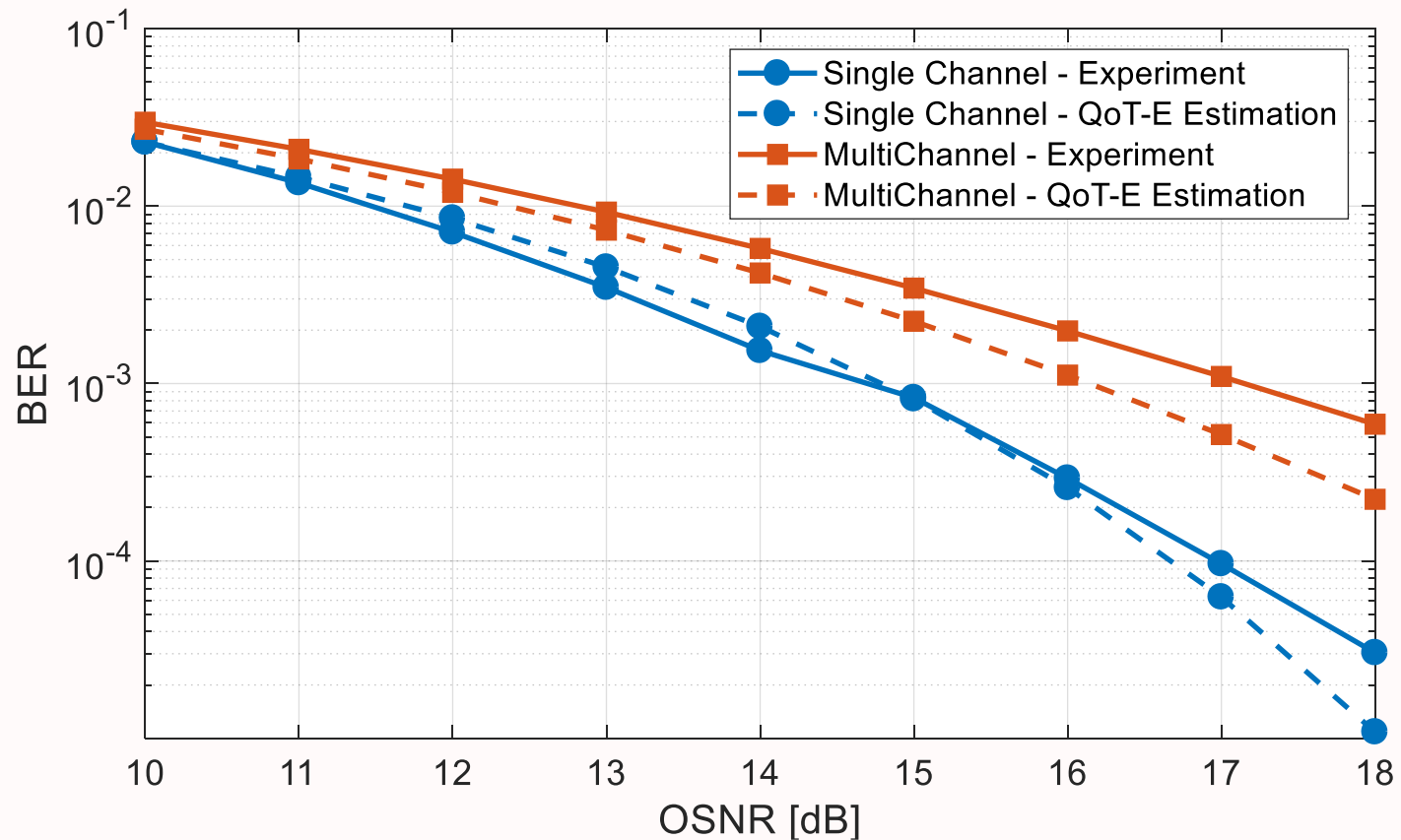


# MULTI-CHANNEL BER ESTIMATION: SINGLE MODE FIBER



- SMF 16 spans
- Inline Residual: 0 ps/nm
- Total Accumulated Dispersion: 700 ps/nm

# MULTI-CHANNEL BER ESTIMATION: TRUEWAVE



- TrueWave 16 spans
- Inline Residual: 154 ps/nm
- Total Accumulated Dispersion: 864 ps/nm



# QOT-E APPLICATIONS: POWER MASK



AN EXAMPLE OF QOT-E ENABLED PERFORMANCE ESTIMATION

## Unallocated Margin

Difference between the **Available OSNR** at the receiver and the **Required OSNR** to get a certain target BER [1]

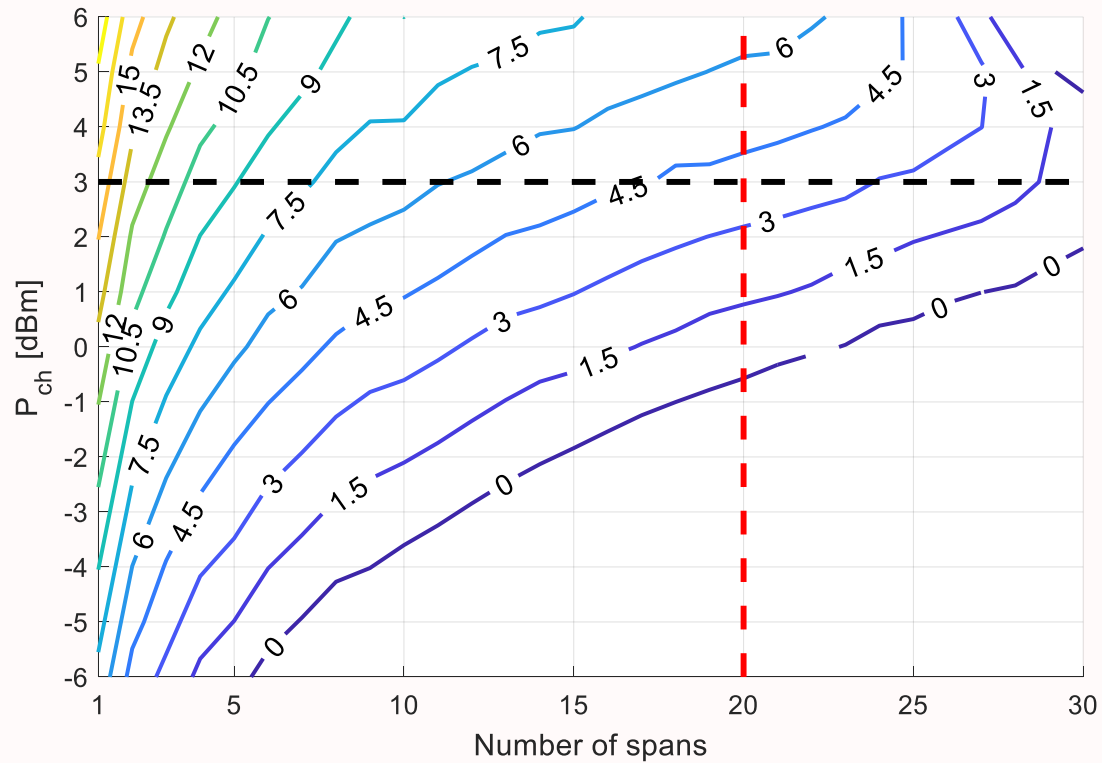
## Power Mask

Set of contour lines of the Unallocated Margin vs **Channel Power** and **Number of Spans** defining the network dimension.

# POWER MASK - 50 GHZ FREQUENCY SPACING

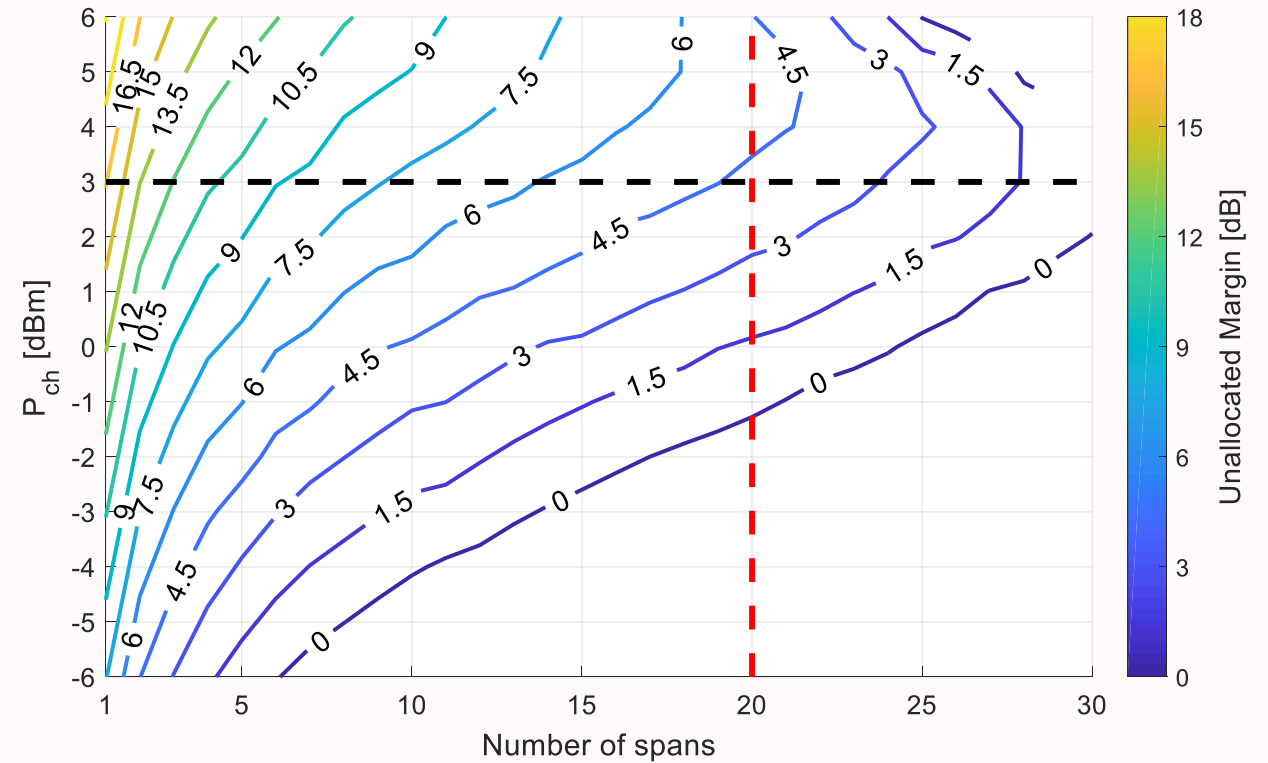
SMF

Frequency Spacing: = 50 GHz



LEAF

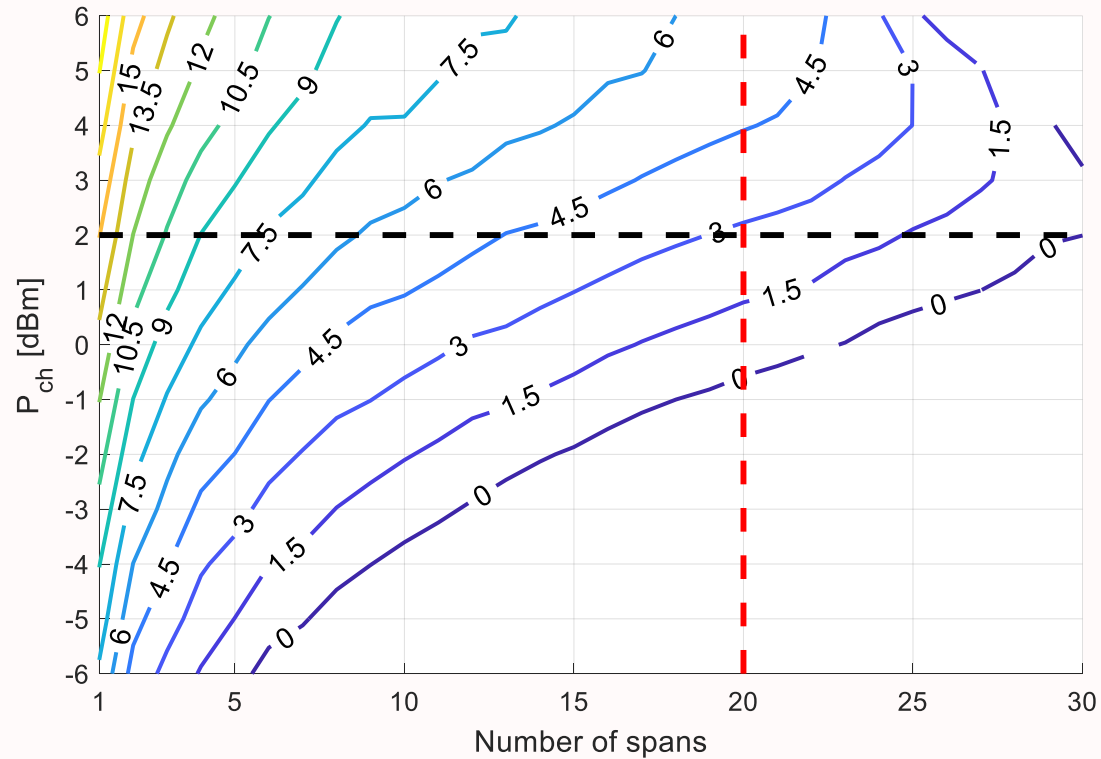
Frequency Spacing: 50 GHz



# POWER MASK - 37,5 GHZ FREQUENCY SPACING

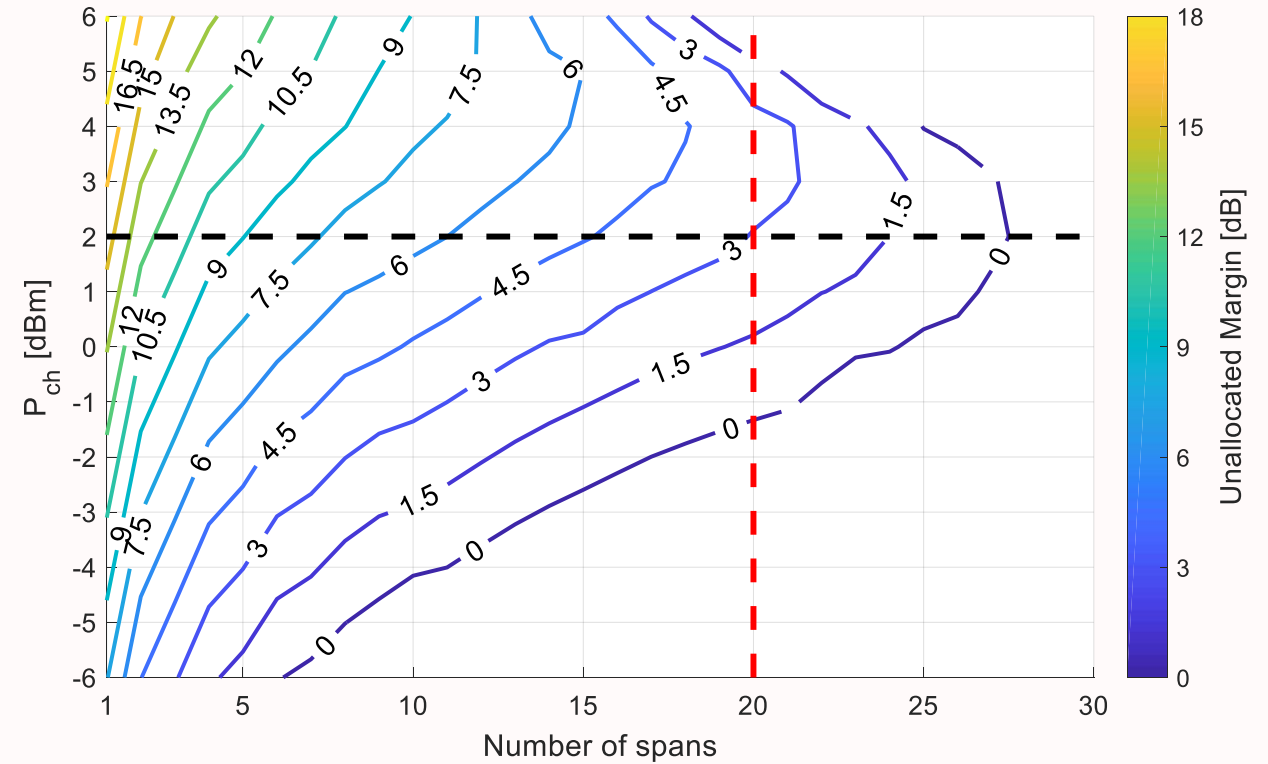
SMF

Frequency Spacing: 37.5 GHz



LEAF

Frequency Spacing = 37.5 GHz



# CONCLUSIONS



# CONCLUSIONS

- We developed a QoT-E for IMDD over DM links allowing reliable and real-time performance estimation
- QoT Estimation will be pivotal to enable physical layer awareness at the networking level
- This will allow:
  - Faster network design and upgrade iterations
  - Enhanced Flexibility and Optimization in network operations such as
    - Circuit turn up
    - Proactive reactions to failures
    - Improved Path Computation (capacity aware)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION!

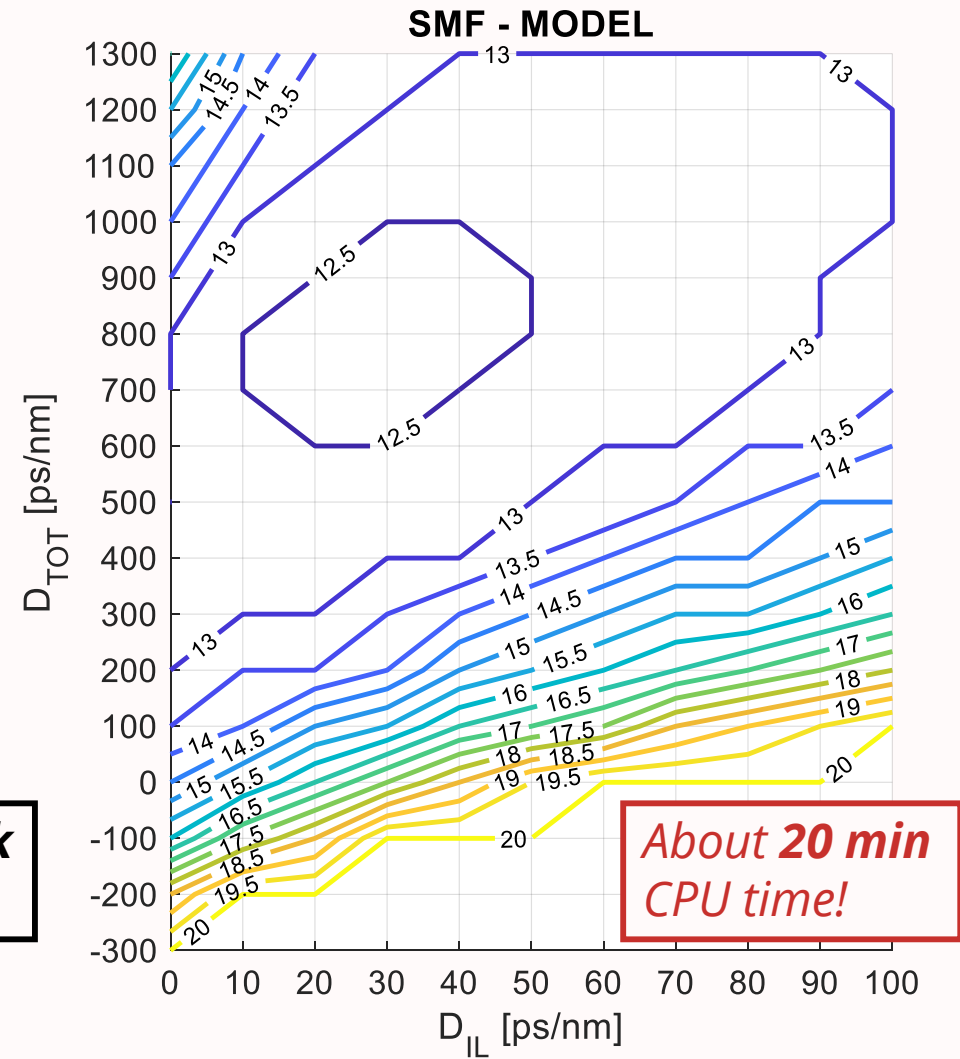
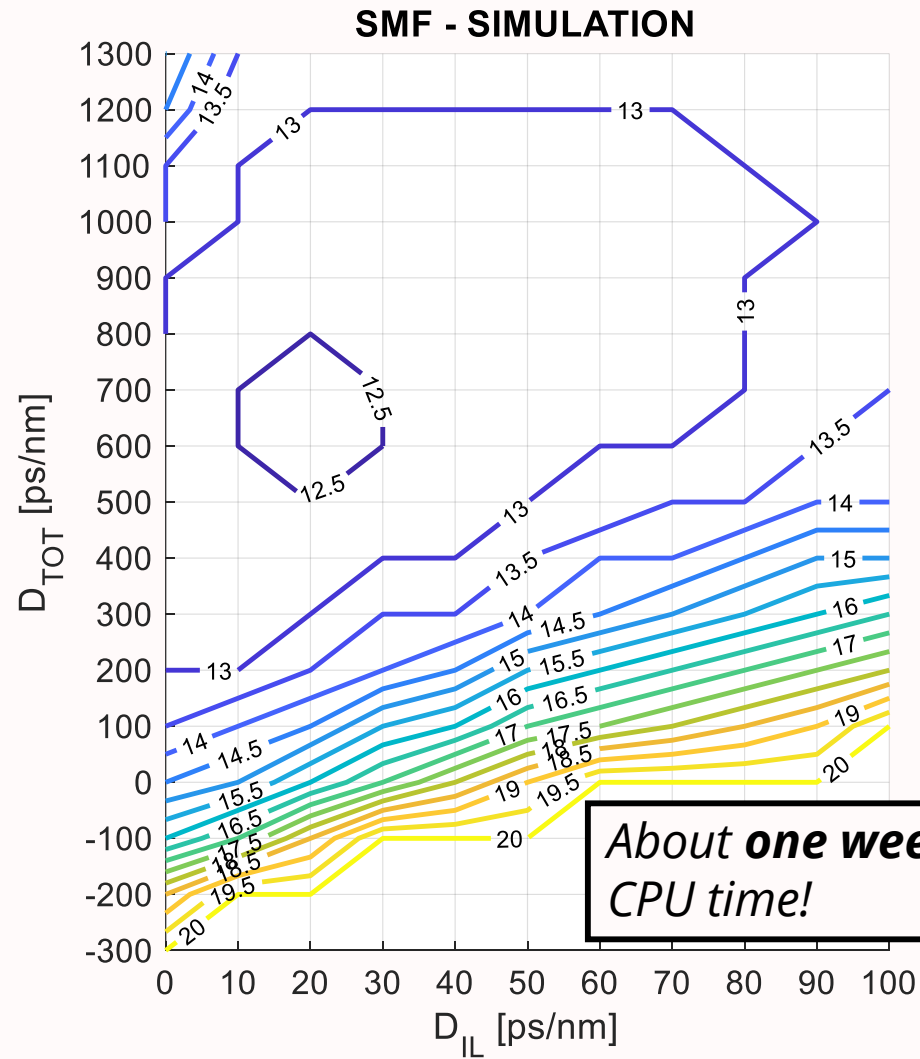


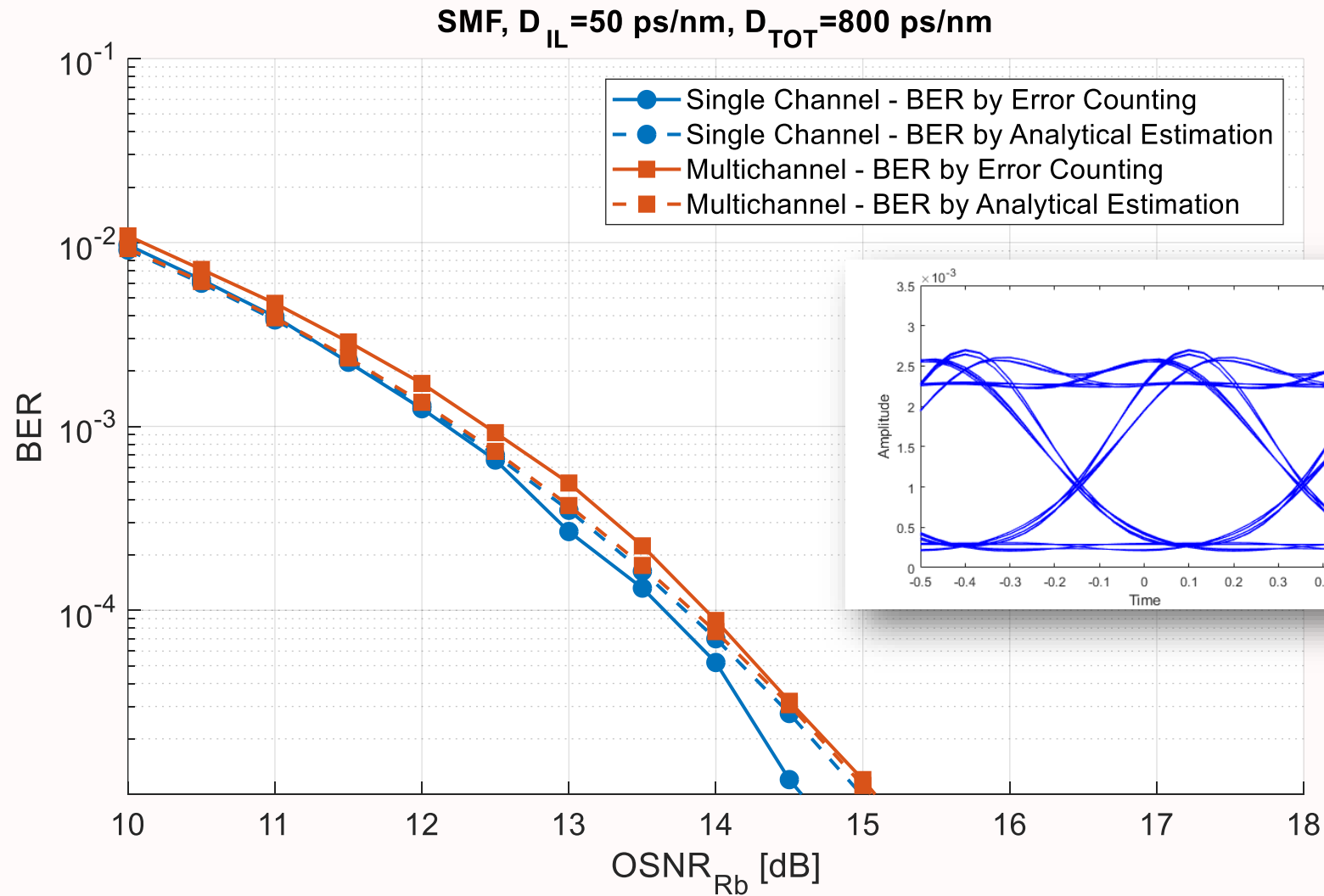
BACKUP SLIDES



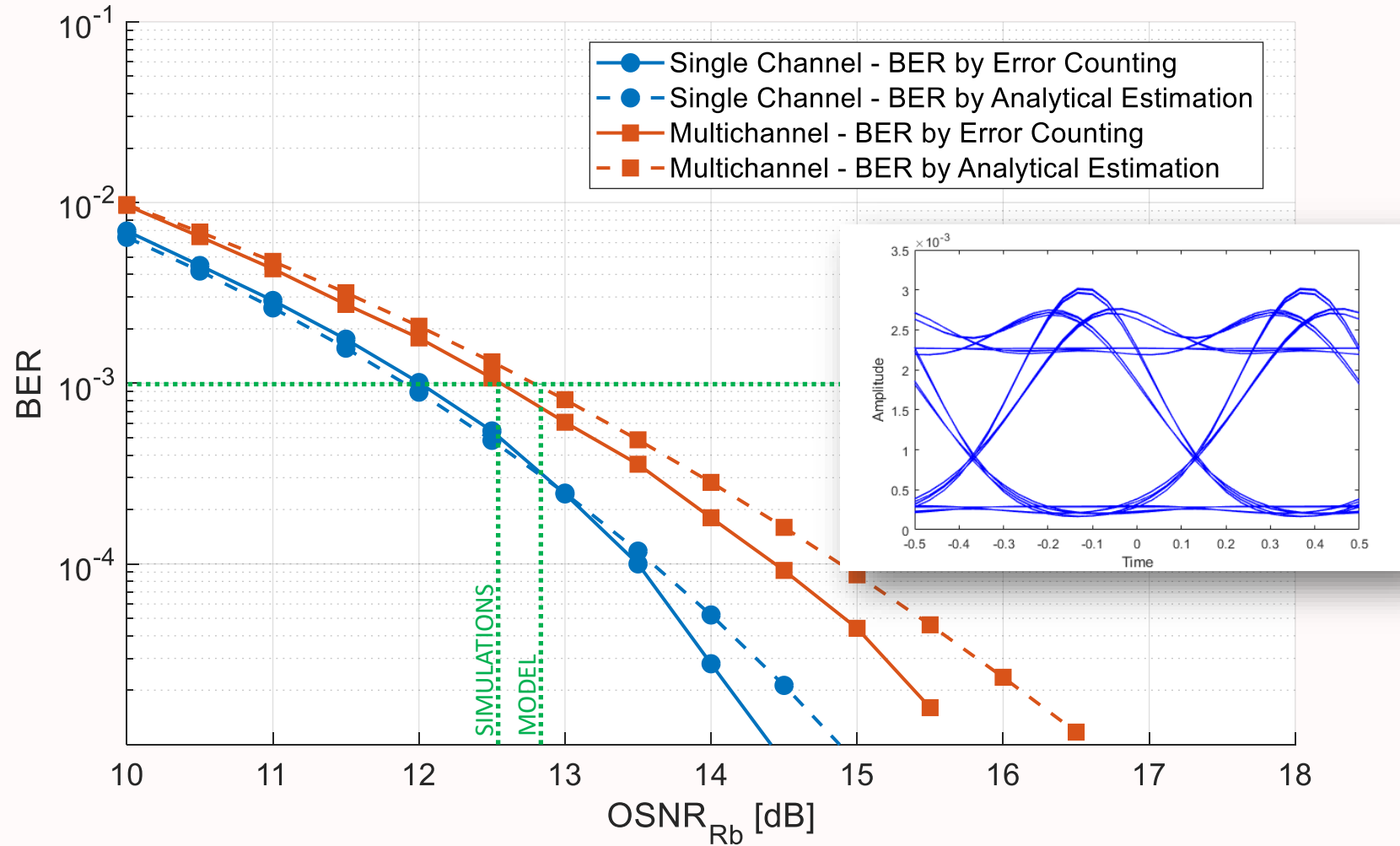


# MULTI-CHANNEL BER ESTIMATION: SMF

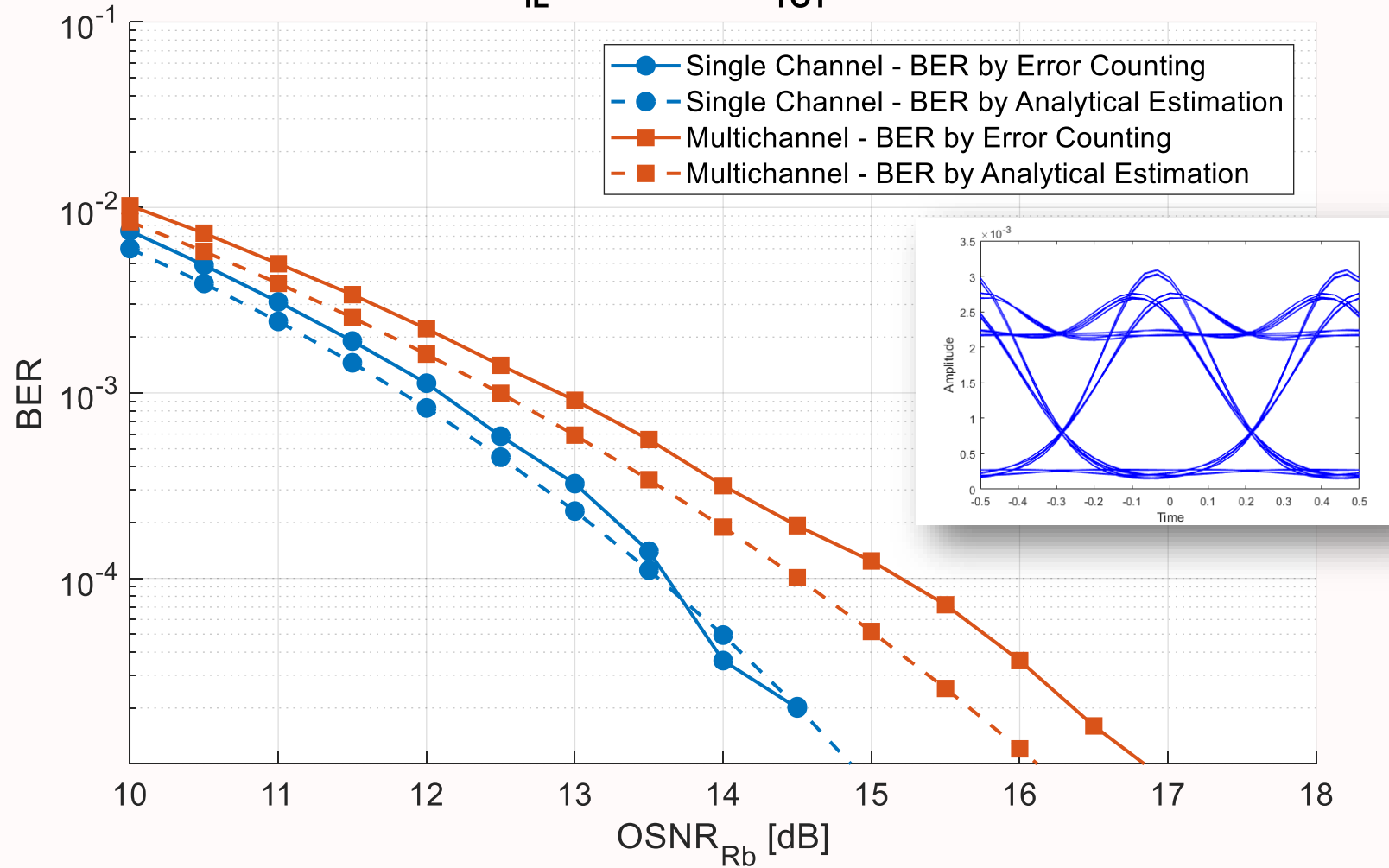




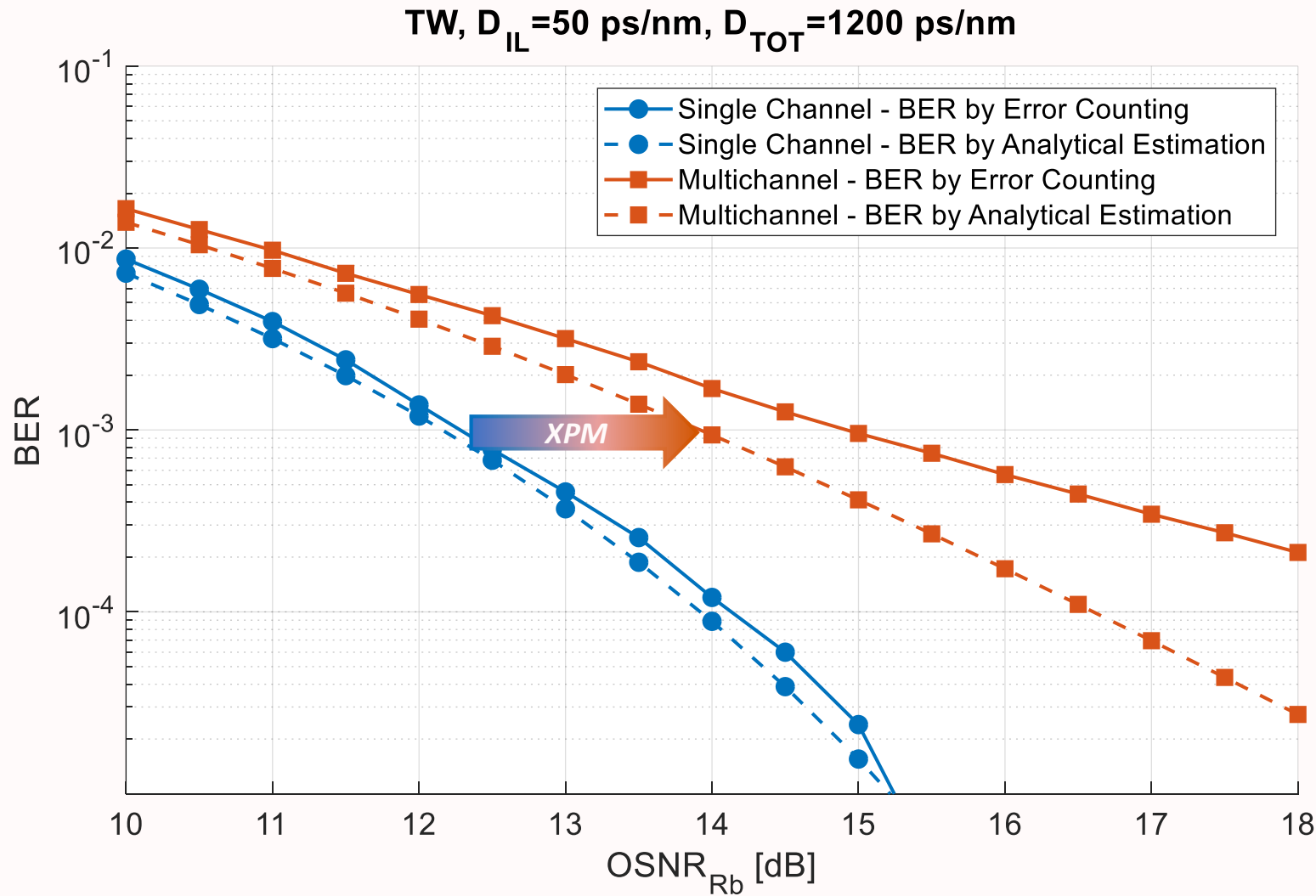
SMF,  $D_{IL}=0$  ps/nm,  $D_{TOT}=700$  ps/nm

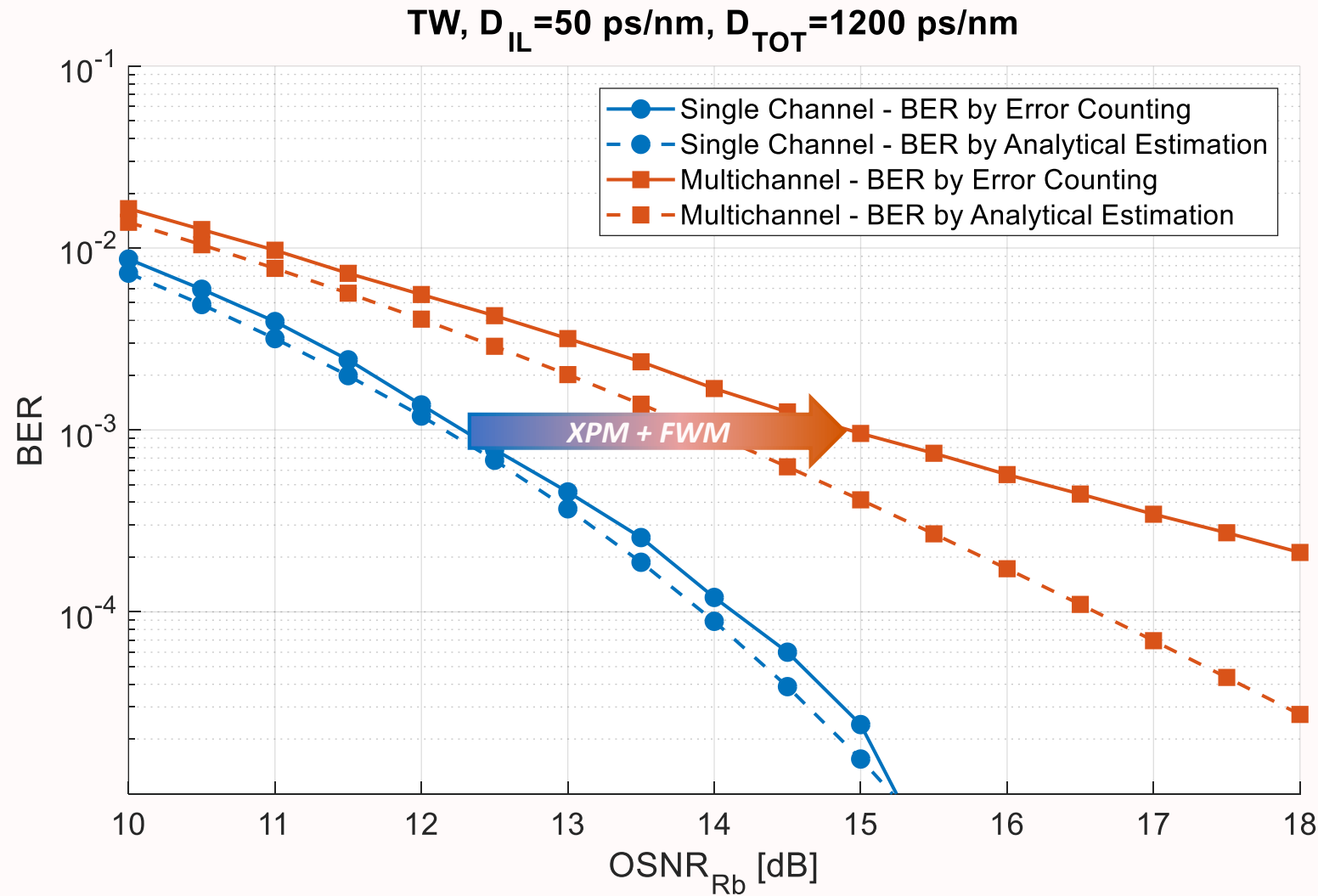


TW,  $D_{IL} = 50$  ps/nm,  $D_{TOT} = 800$  ps/nm

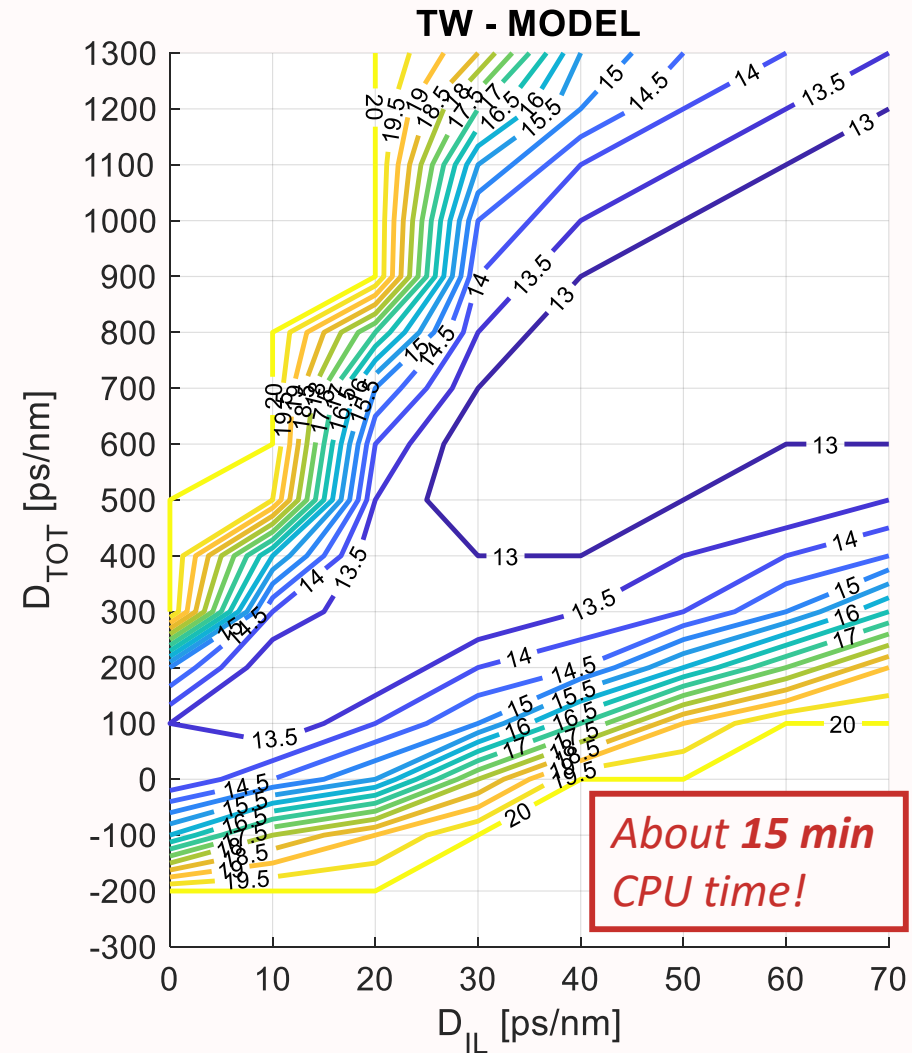
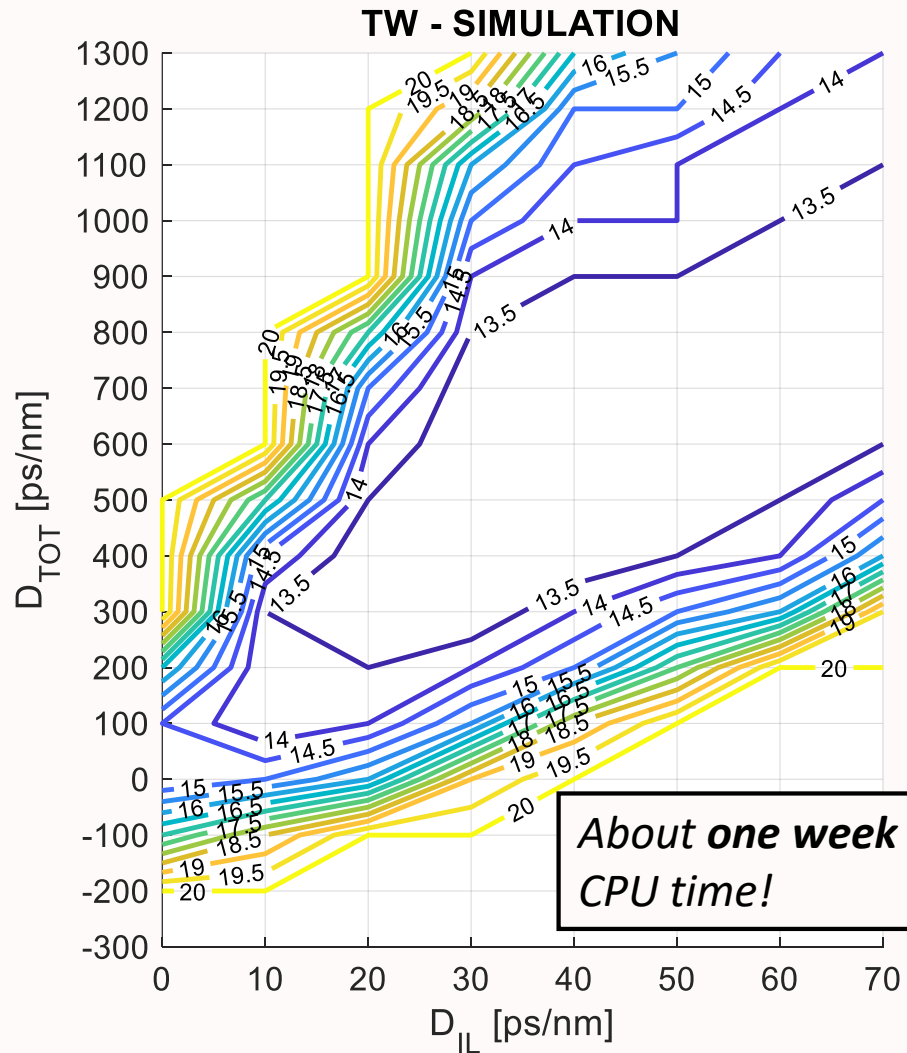


# MULTI-CHANNEL BER ESTIMATION: TW

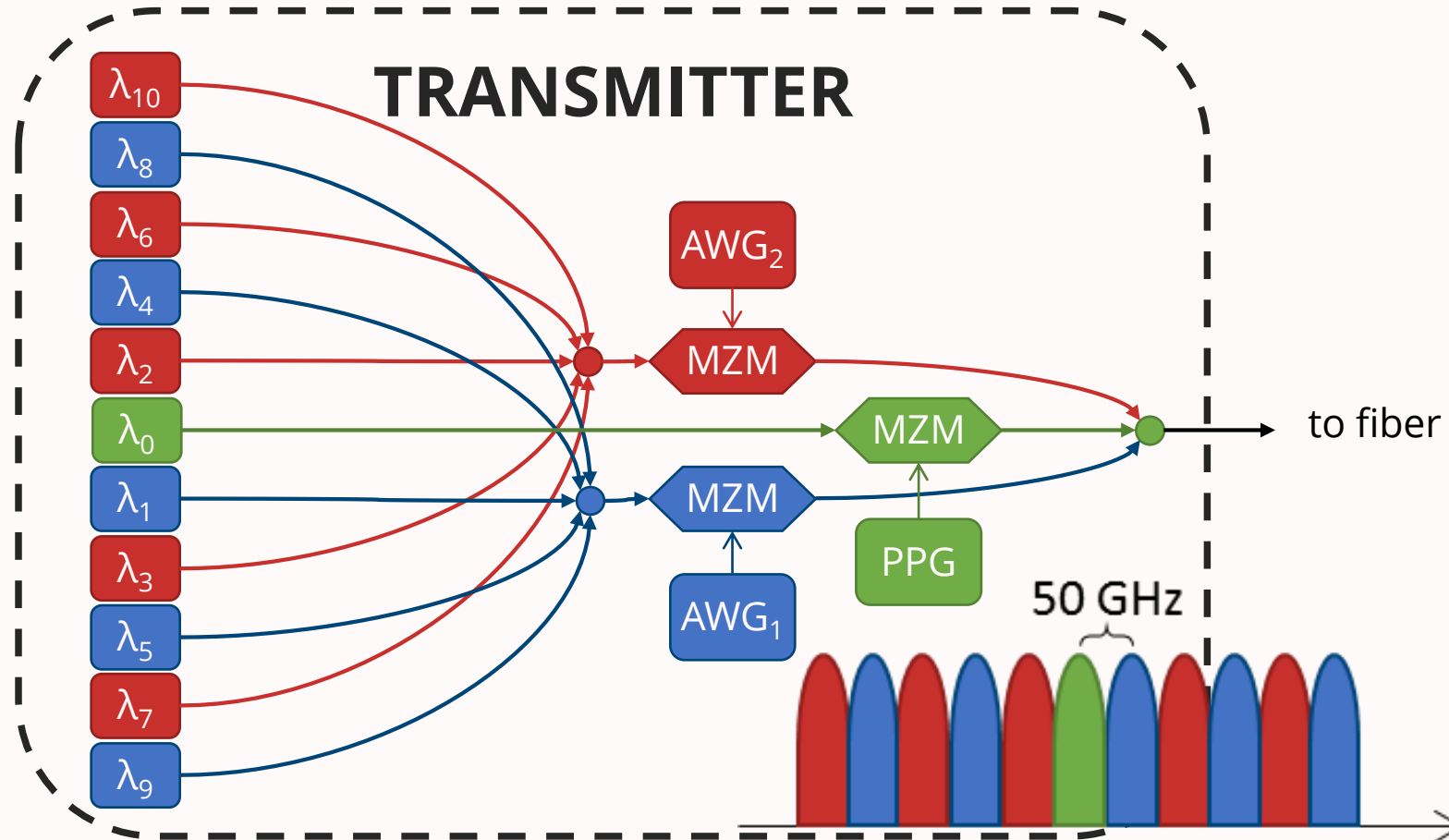




# MULTI-CHANNEL BER ESTIMATION: TW

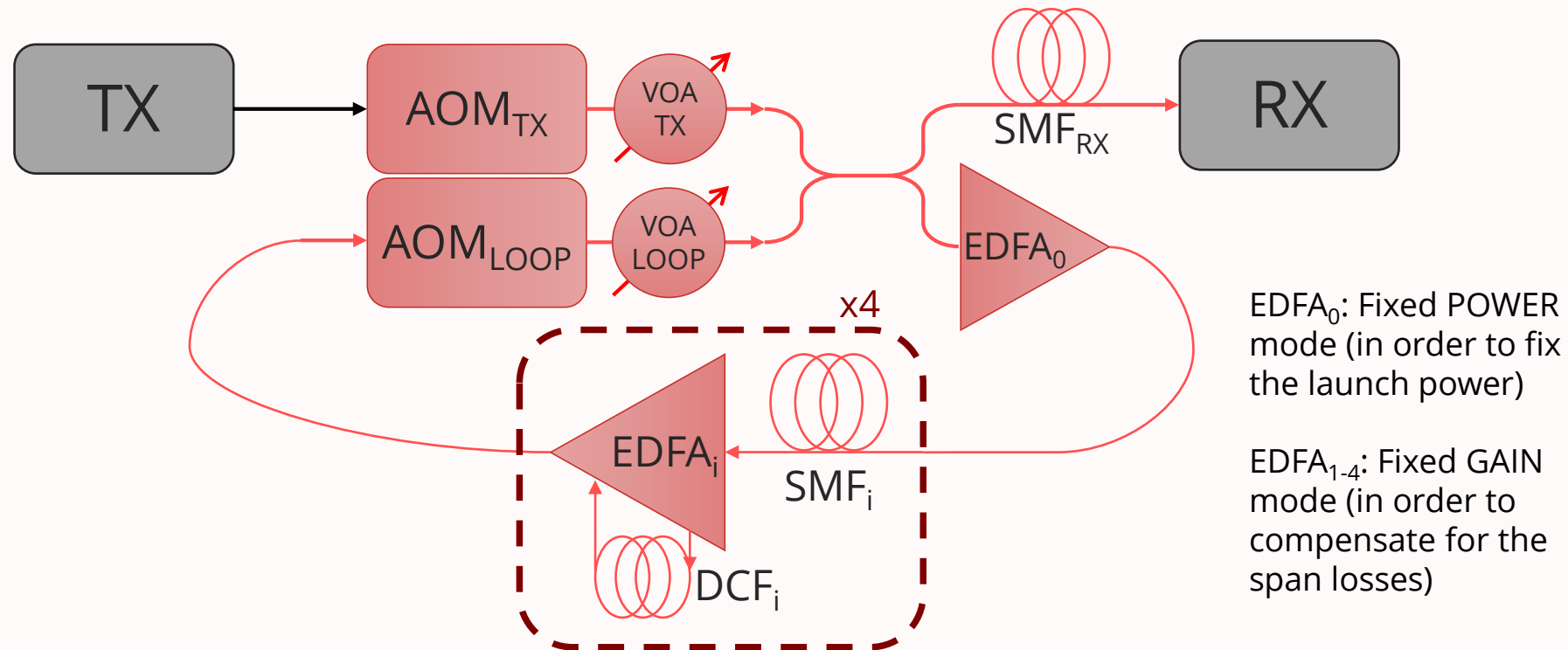


The transmitter is composed by 1 channel under test and 10 interfering channels. They are independently modulated and then coupled into the system.

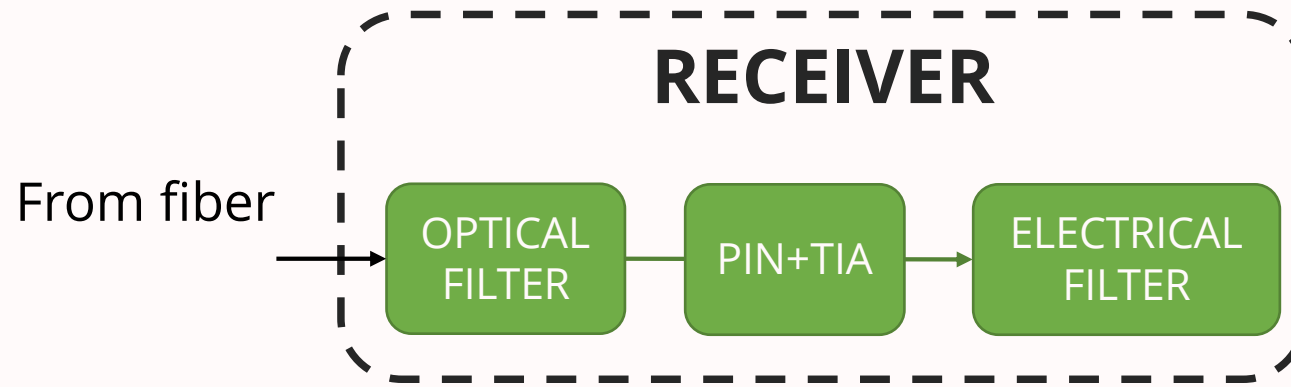




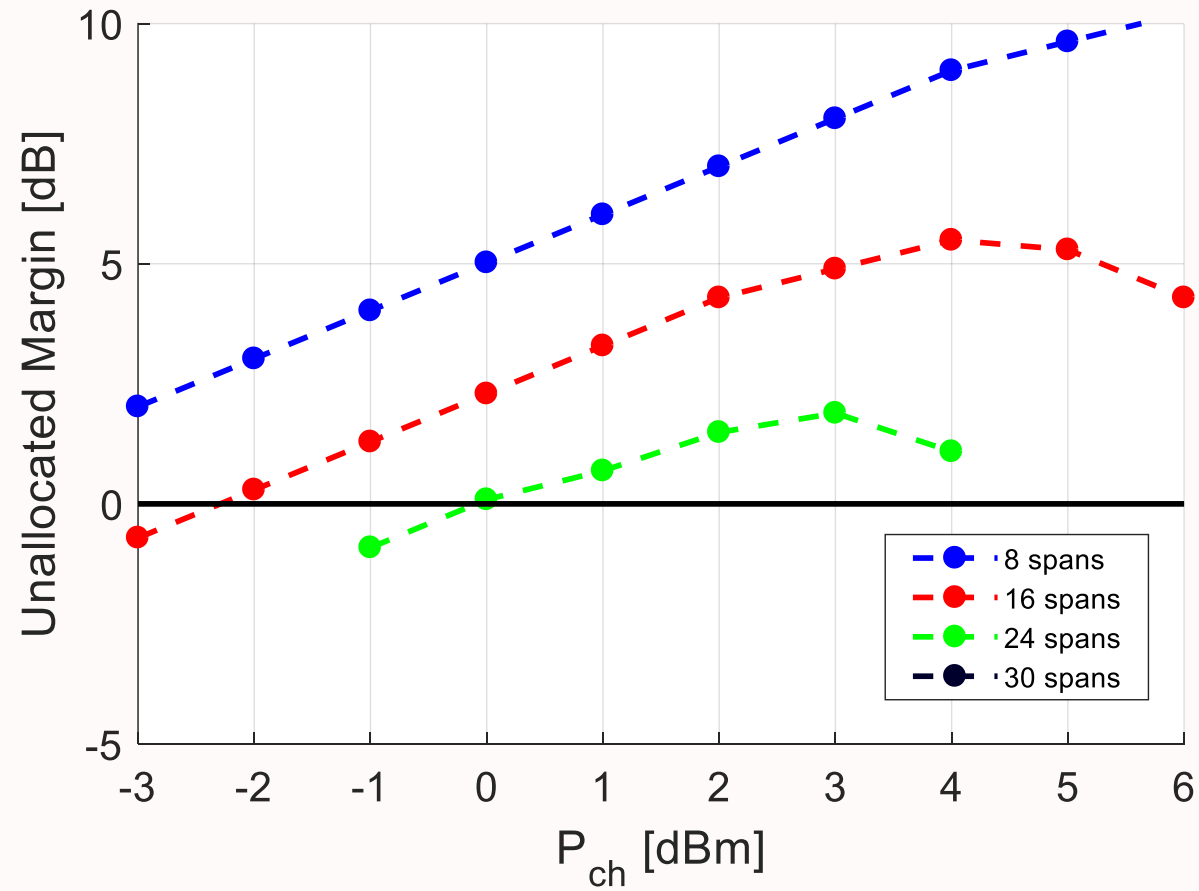
The spans are placed inside a recirculating fiber loop, in order to emulate the signals propagation through 4, 8, 12, 16... spans. The loop is composed as depicted in this slide:



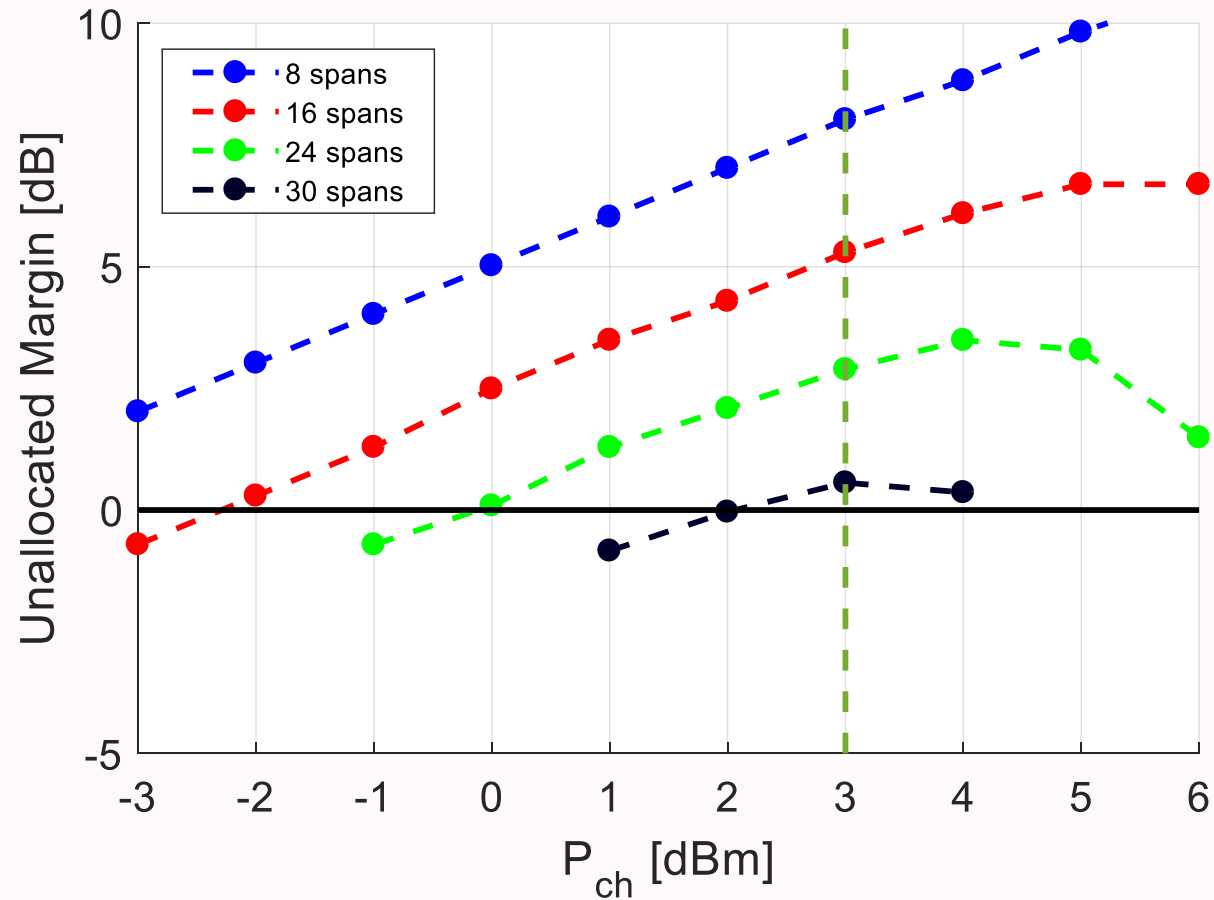
The receiver is composed by a band-pass optical filter, an optical receiver (PIN+TIA) and a low-pass electrical filter.



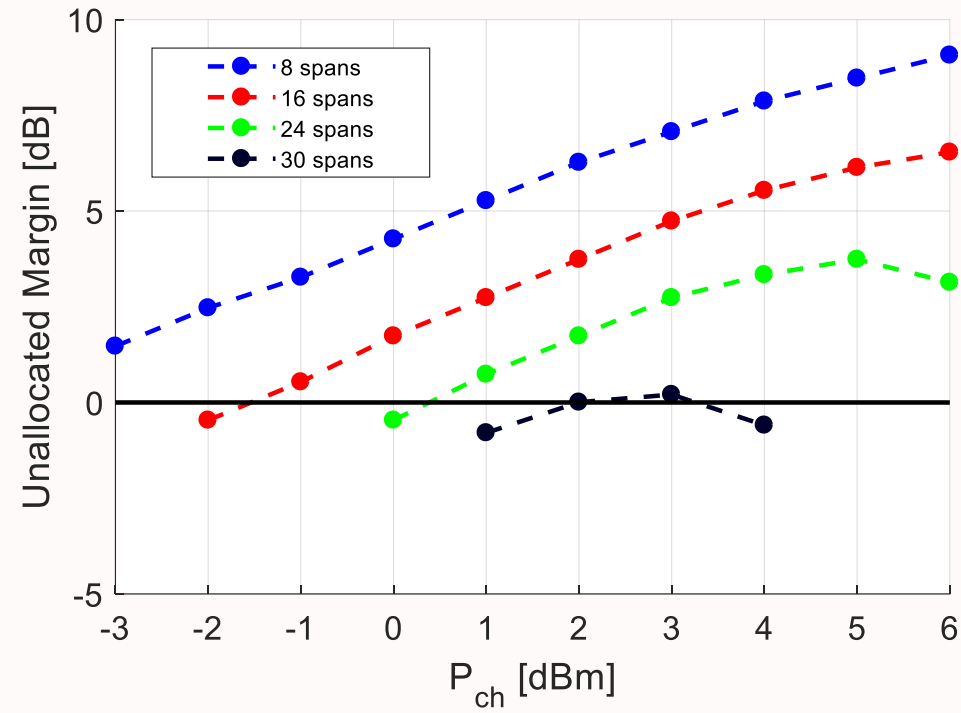
# MARGIN VS PCH LEAF 50PS DF37,5



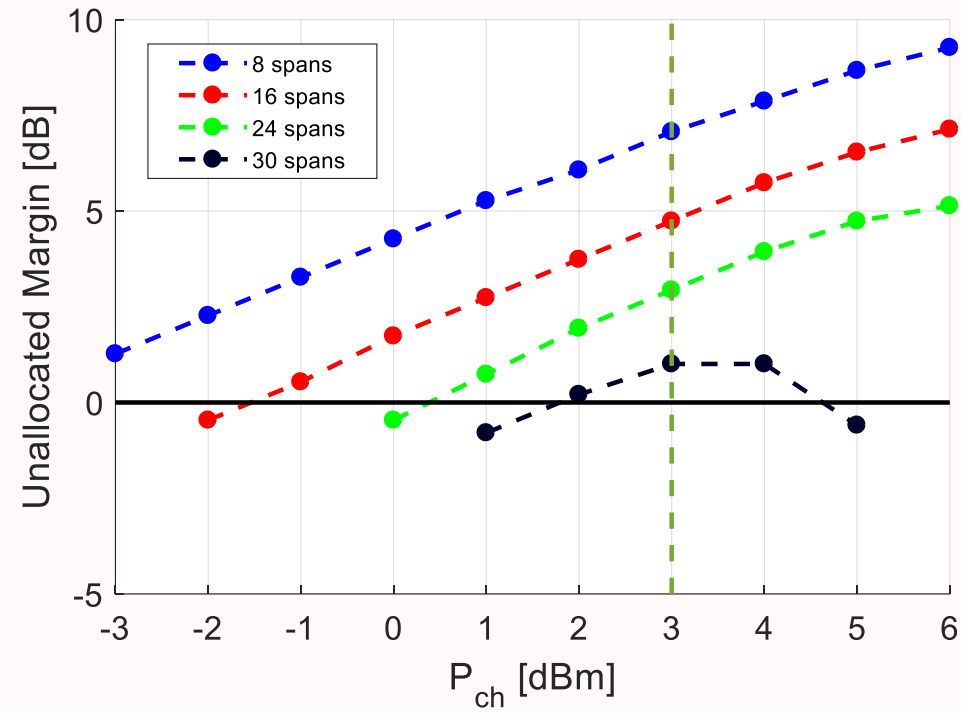
# MARGIN VS PCH LEAF 50PS DF50

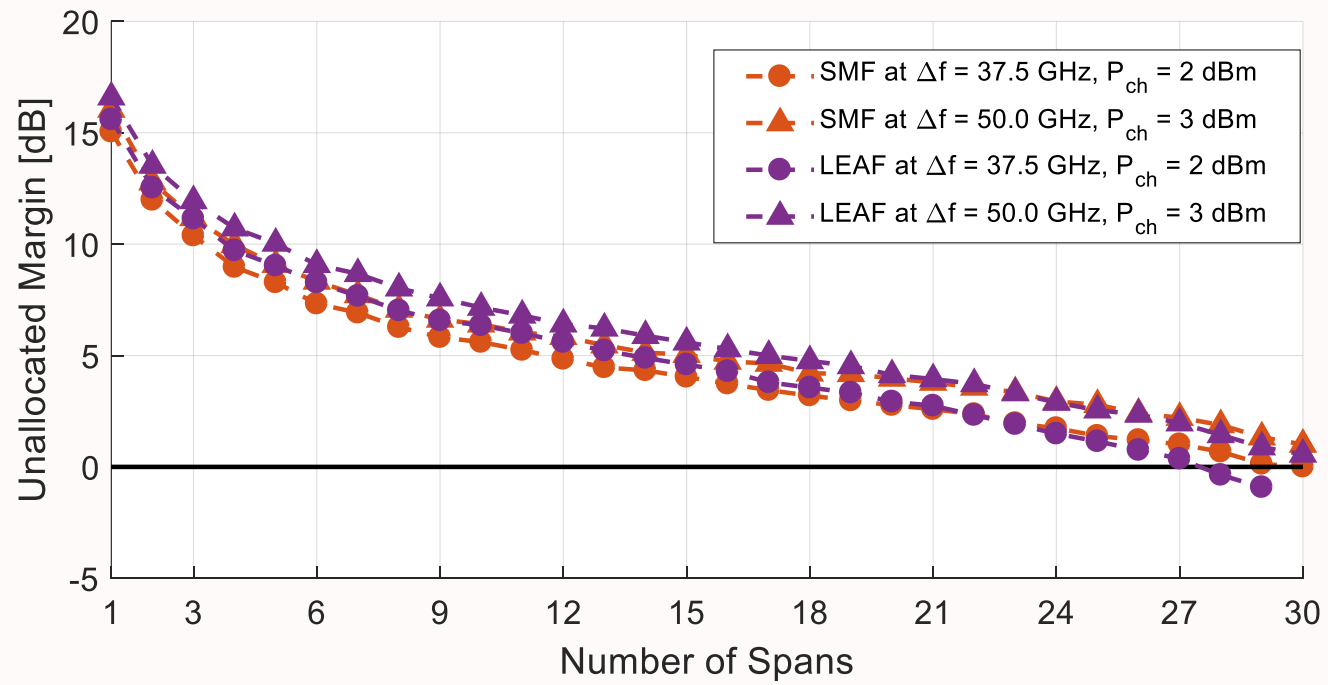


# MARGIN VS PCH SMF 50PS DF37,5

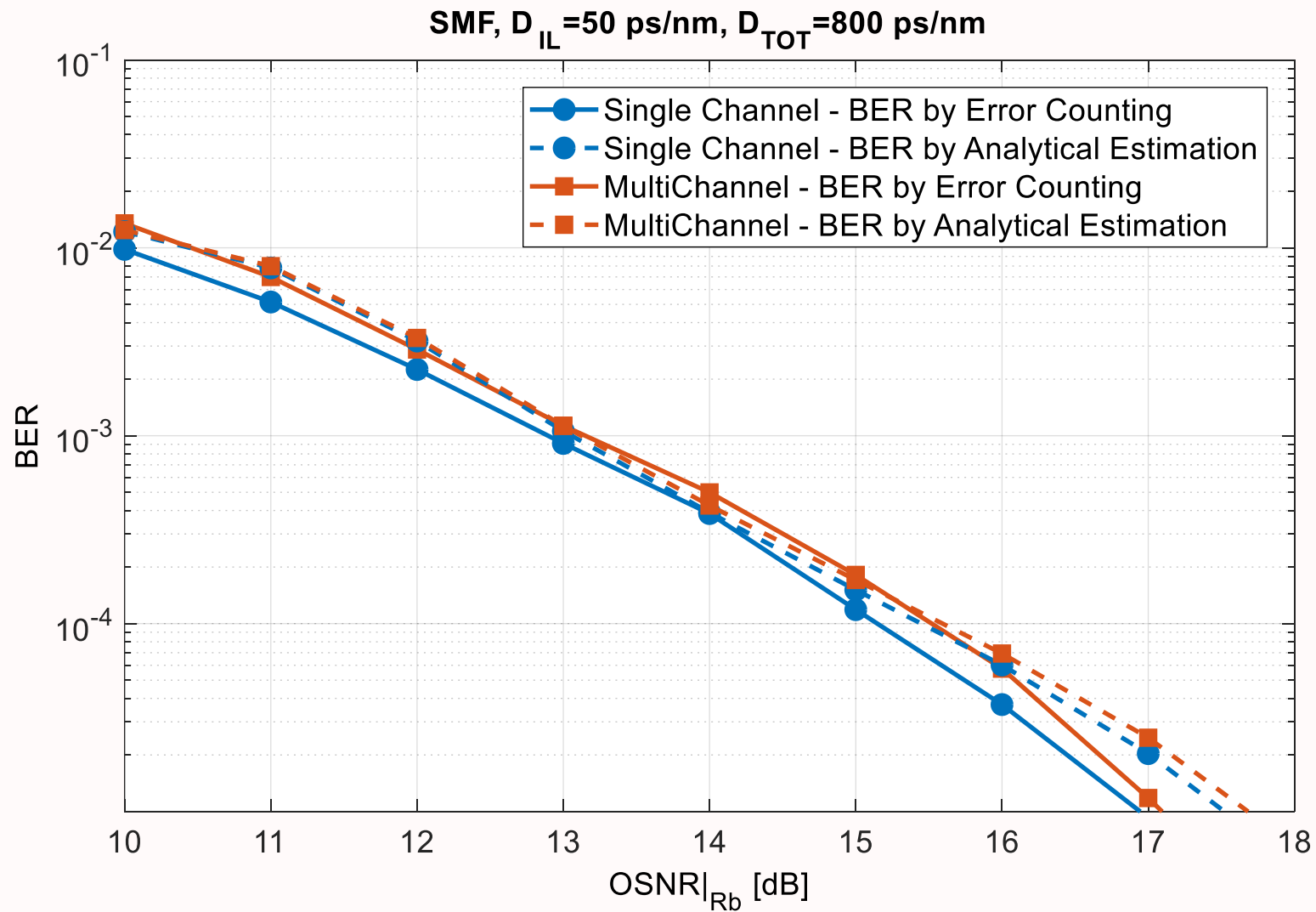


# MARGIN VS PCH SMF 50PS DF50





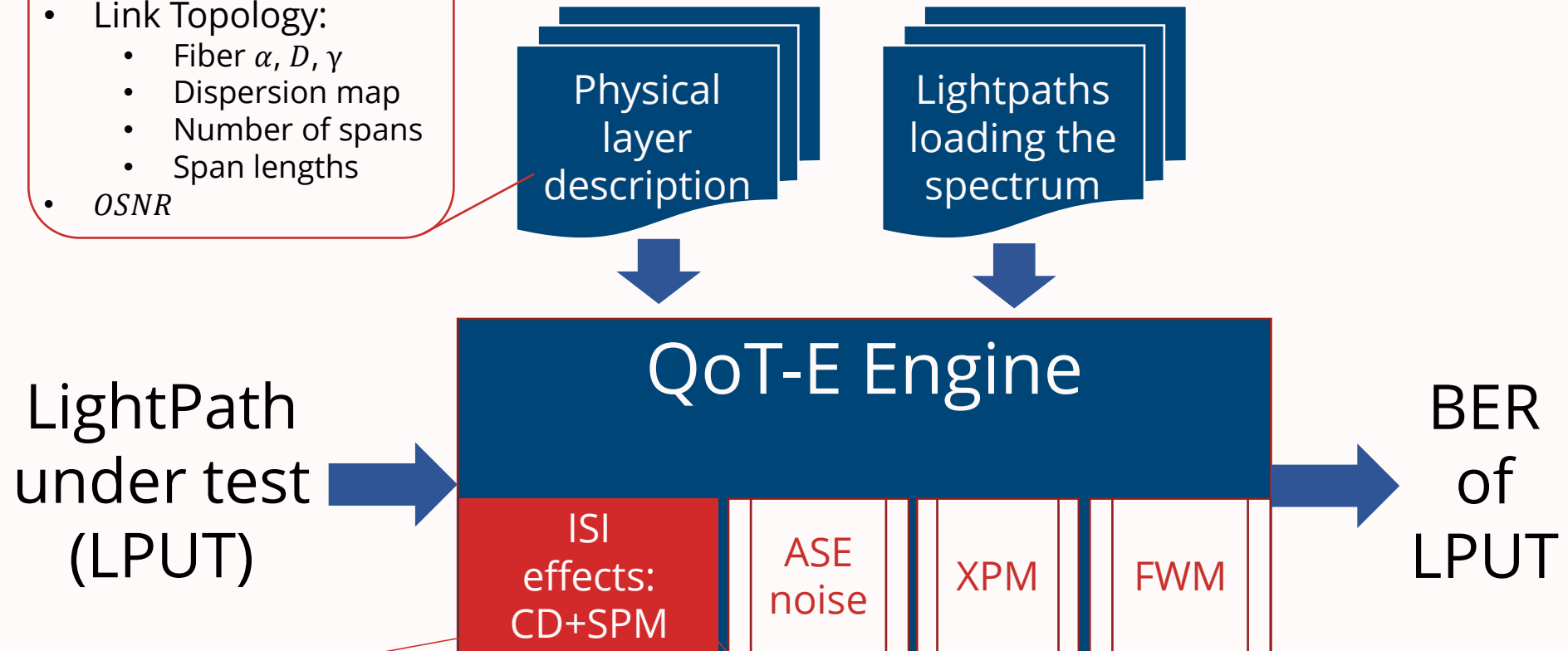
# MULTI-CHANNEL BER ESTIMATION: SMF





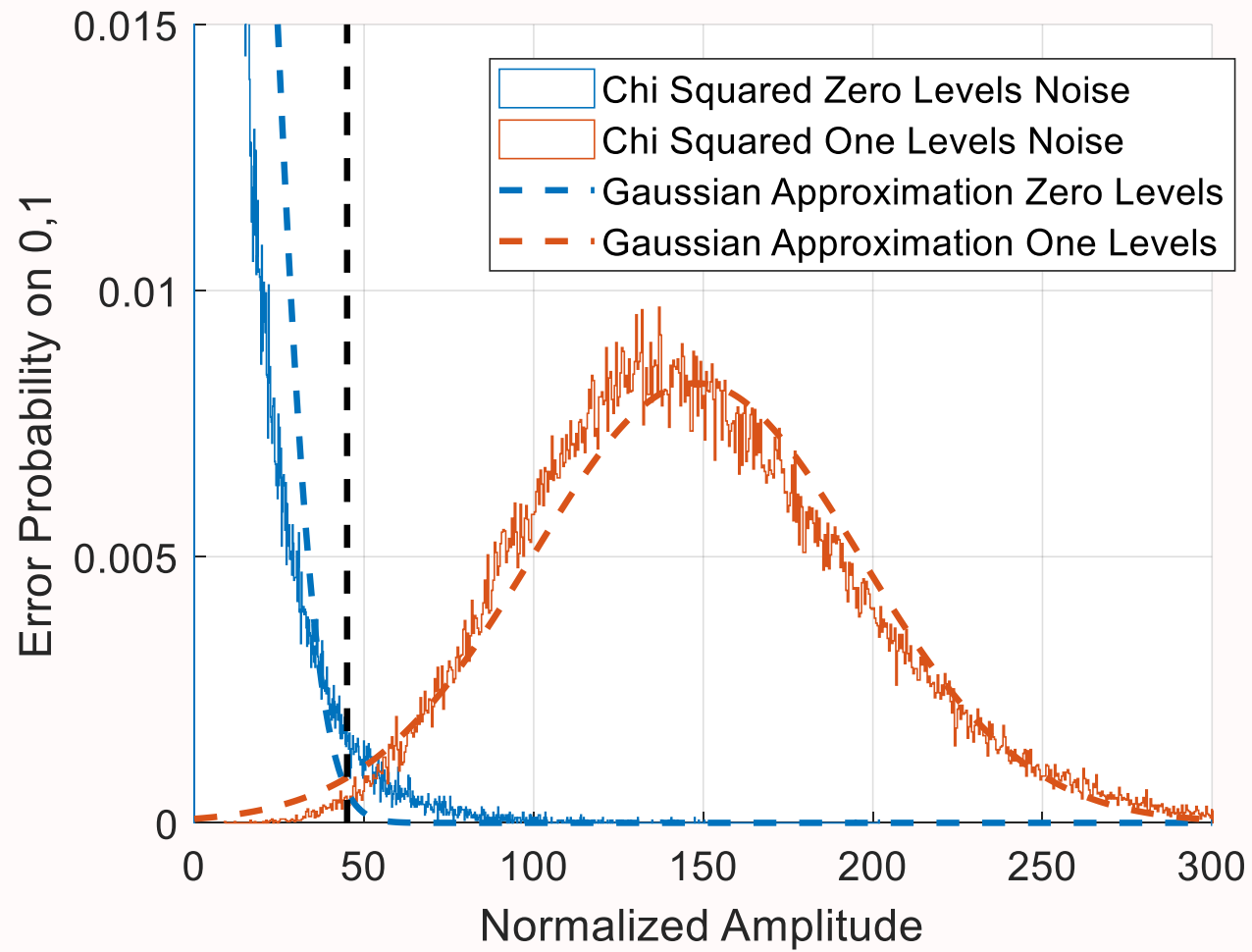
# THE QOT-E TOOL

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- Link Topology:
  - Fiber  $\alpha, D, \gamma$
  - Dispersion map
  - Number of spans
  - Span lengths
- OSNR



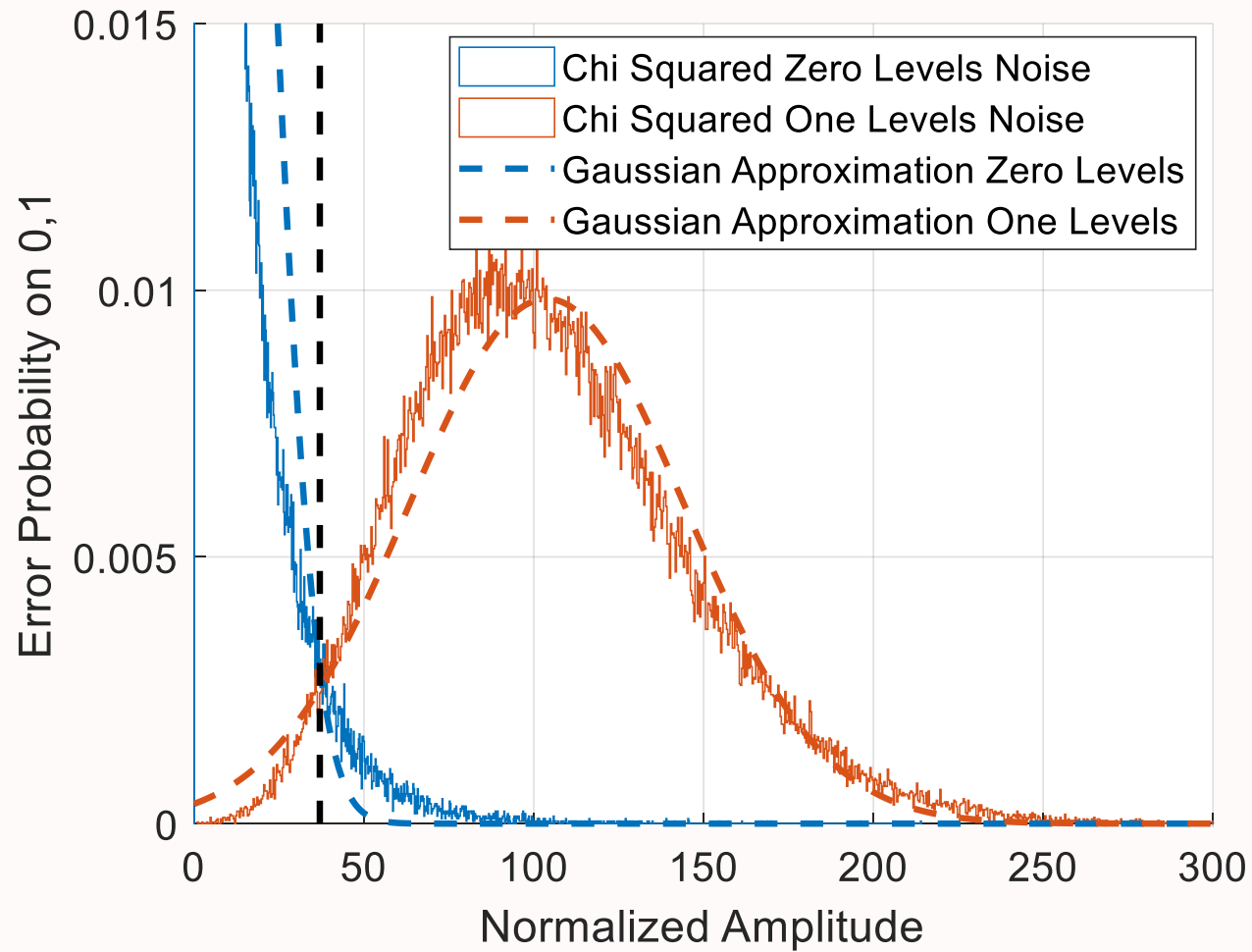
- $\mu$  levels for different topologies **obtained by simulation**
- Noiseless (SPM + CD effects only)

# GAUSSIAN APPROXIMATION



- Older systems required BER such as  $10^{-12}$
- Such low BER is determined by the superposition of the tails of the Chi-Squared distributions of 0 and 1
- The Gaussian approximation led to substantial error in performance evaluation

# GAUSSIAN APPROXIMATION



- Modern FEC allow to work at higher pre-FEC BER target ( $10^{-3}$ )
- In this case the error probability contribution are not dominated only by the Chi-Squared tails.
- Gaussian approximation holds enabling more reliable BER estimation.

# NETWORK CONTROL AND ORCHESTRATION

