

# Extending Wafer Level Chip Scale Packaging (WLCSP) to Photonics using Photonics Interposers

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 Introduction

 Application Proof Points

 Conclusions



# Photonics is undergoing a revolution today, in much the same way as VLSI underwent a revolution these past three decades.

Silicon Based Integration platforms are the key to the predicted explosion in growth



Data Centers  
(Optical Connectivity)



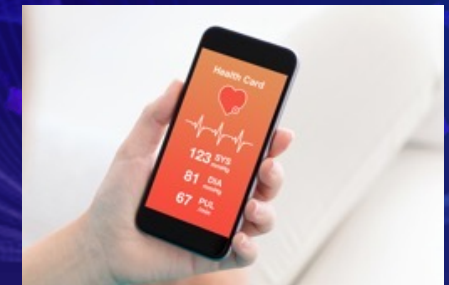
Millions/Year

Compute  
(Chip to Chip communication)



100s of Millions/Year

Wearables  
(Healthcare)



Billions/Year

Smartphones  
(Healthcare, Sensing)

# Key challenges in Photonics

Current technologies are not scalable for applications needing 100's of millions and billions of units per year

Millions/Year

VECTOR

CURRENT TECHNOLOGIES

POET

REASON

*Unit Volume*

X

✓

Manufacturing, test and packaging is fully automated

100s of Millions/Year

*Size*

X

✓

Components are integrated into a single chip

*Cost*

X

✓

Everything is done at wafer-scale with semiconductor technology

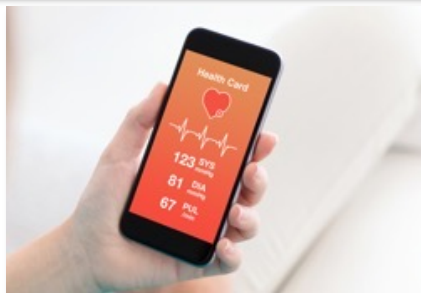
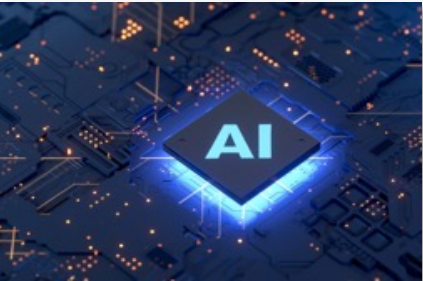
*Power Consumption*

X

✓

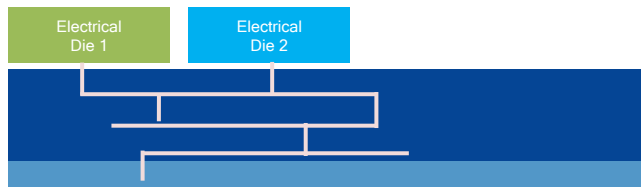
Components are fully integrated electrically and optically

Billions/Year

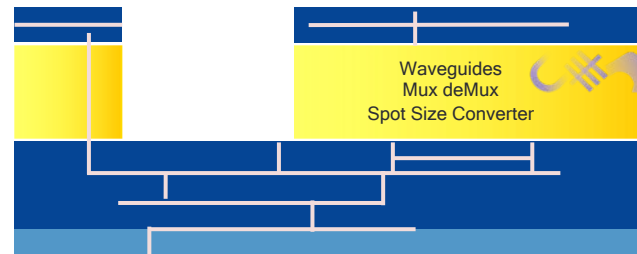


The POET Optical Interposer is the first-ever chip-scale hybrid integration of electronics and photonics into a single chip using wafer-level processing, assembly, test

## An Electrical Interposer



## POET Optical Interposer



## POET Optical Engine



- Chip-Scale: integrated into a single chip on a standard silicon wafer.
- Hybrid: Use “known-good” and “best-of-breed” components made from different materials.
- Wafer-Level: All processes are done on full wafers, 100’s at a time, rather than one at a time, in an automated process.

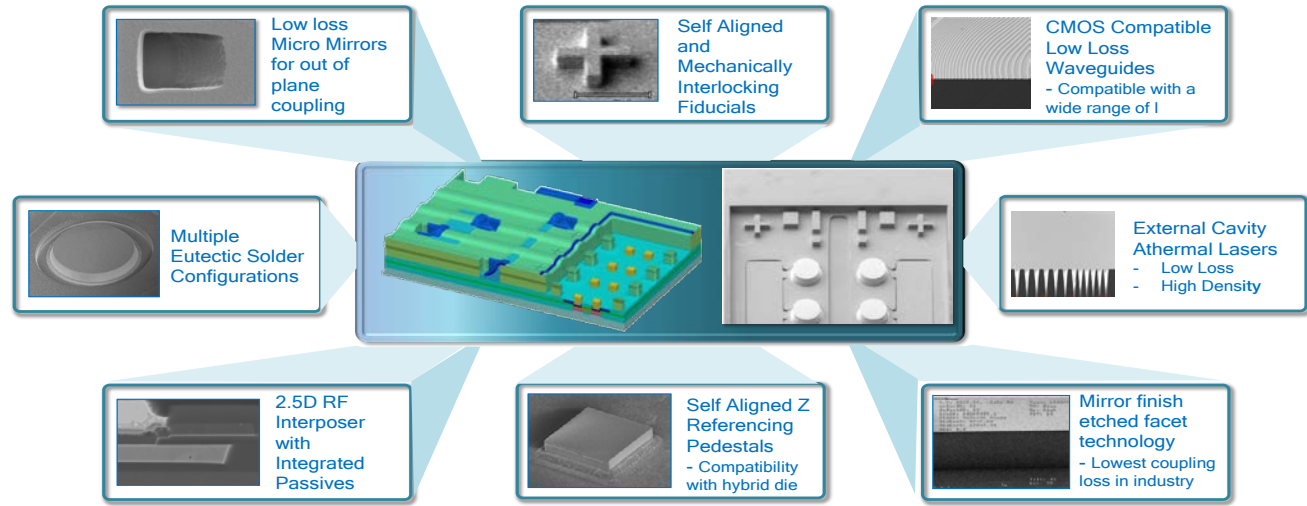
✓ *NO Active Alignment of Components*

✓ *ALL done with automated semiconductor equipment at wafer-level*

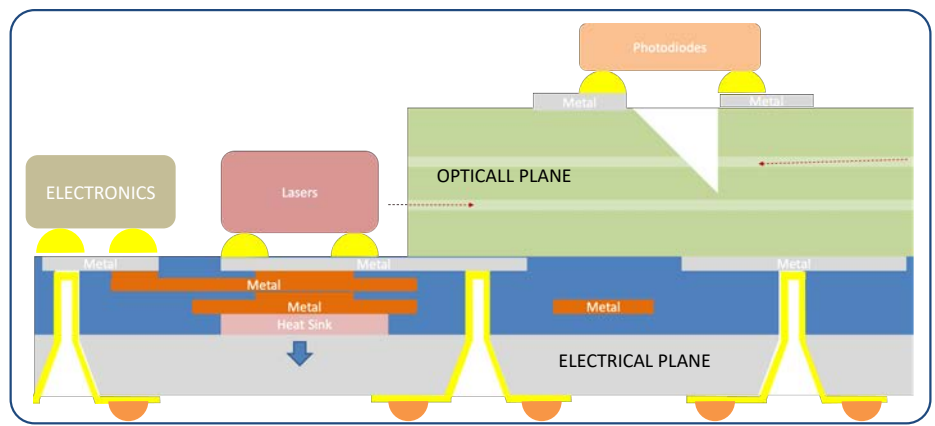
✓ *FULL integration of components*



## POET's Optical Interposer : A Co-Packaging Solution



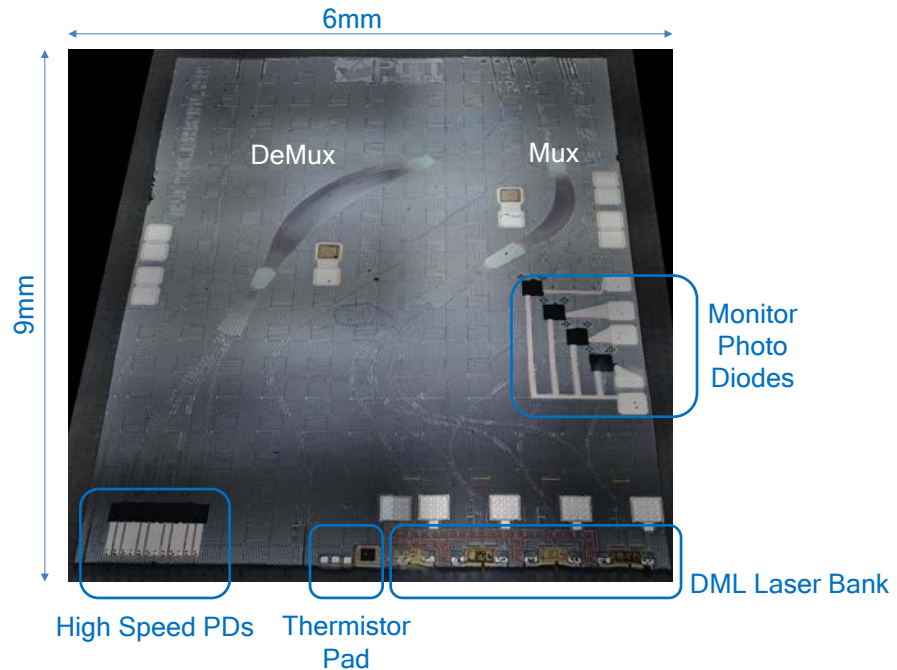
POET's Optical Interposer Platform is the most versatile photonics packaging platform in the Industry



- Two layers of low loss optical interconnects
- Multiple electrical redistribution layers with low RF insertion loss
- High throughput visually assisted passive "pick and place" assembly of electronics and photonics ICs and components
- In plane and Out of plane Optical Interfaces

## Implementation into a 100G-400G Optical Engine

World's smallest CSP implementation of optical engines for 100-400G communications and beyond



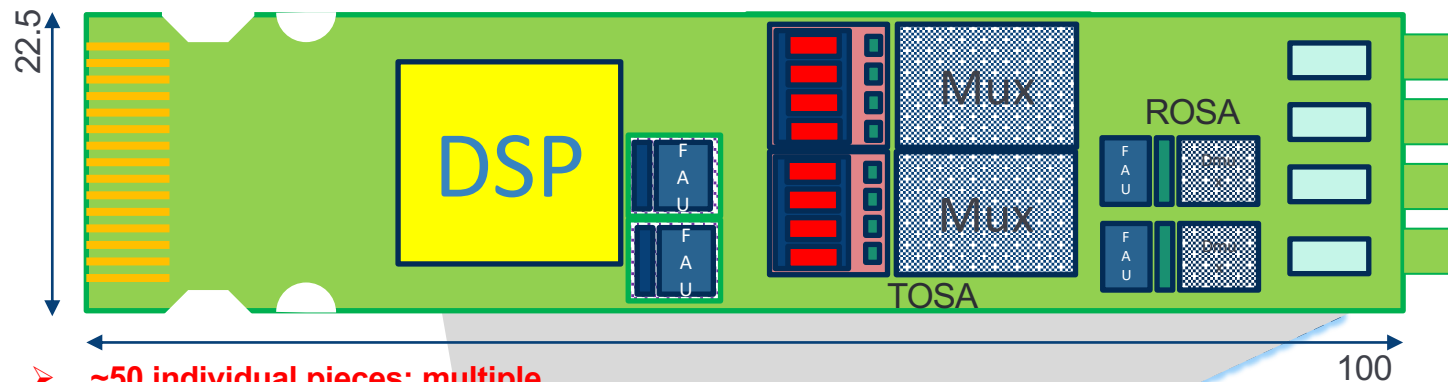
# Simplified Design, Improved Energy and Lower Cost

## Data Communications Challenges

- Serial data communication channels have not been able to keep up with the pace of bandwidth growth.
- Number of communications lanes increase as data rate increases!

Data Rate	Number of lanes
10G	1
40G	4
100G	1/4
200G	4
400G	4
800G	8
1.6T	8/16
3.2T	16

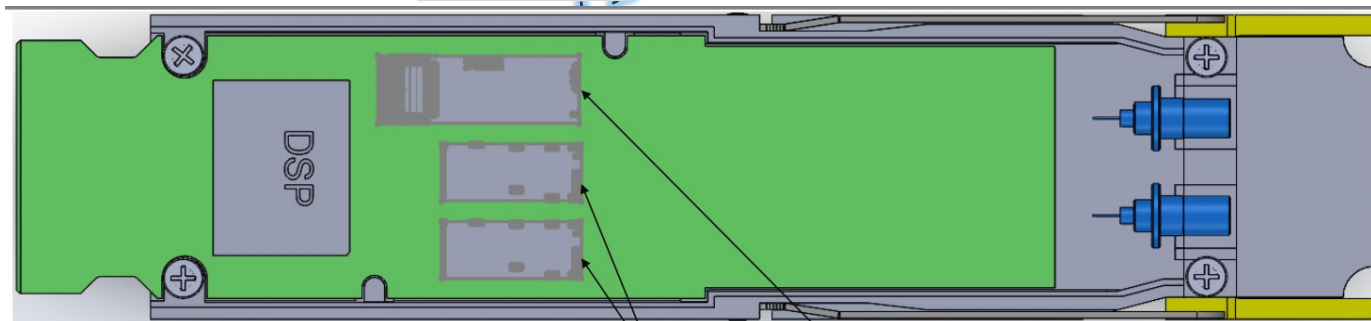
## Conventional Discrete Assembly



- ~50 individual pieces; multiple active alignments
- Unsustainable for 8 channels ; Impossible for 16

**POET :  
75% smaller**

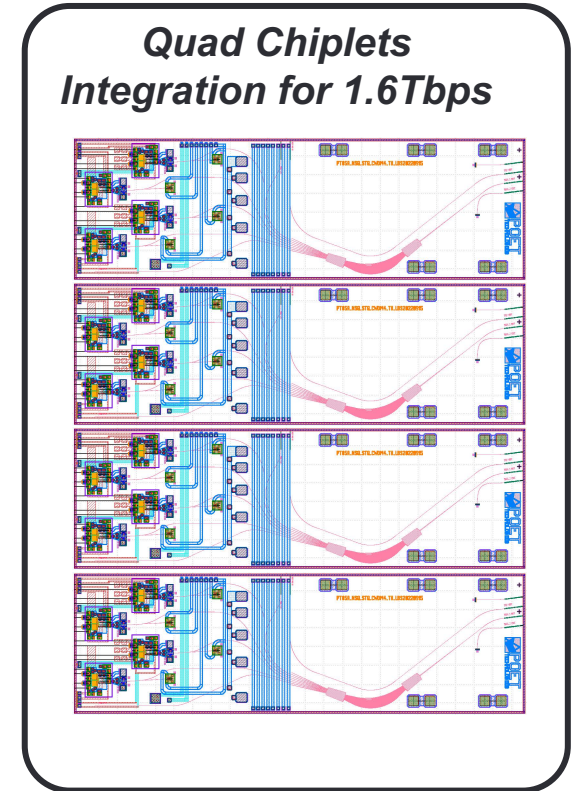
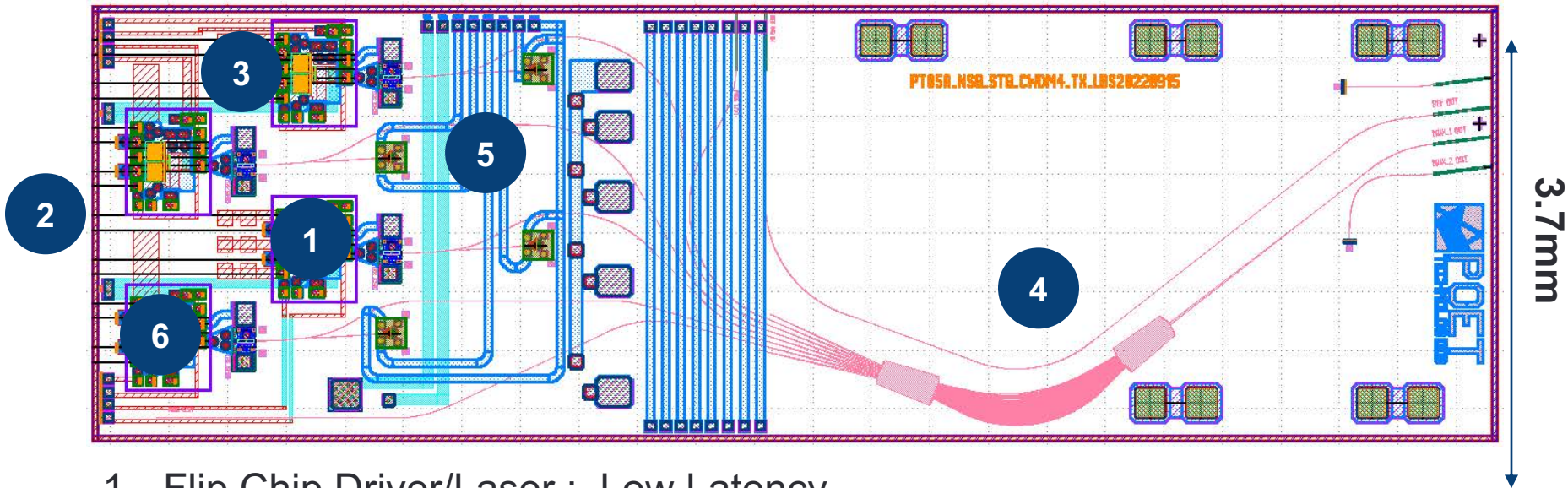
## POET's Hybrid Integration



- 2 integrated Tx and Rx optical engines with no active alignment
- Readily scalable to 16 channel implementations

# Example of **Design Flexibility** offered by an Interposer platform

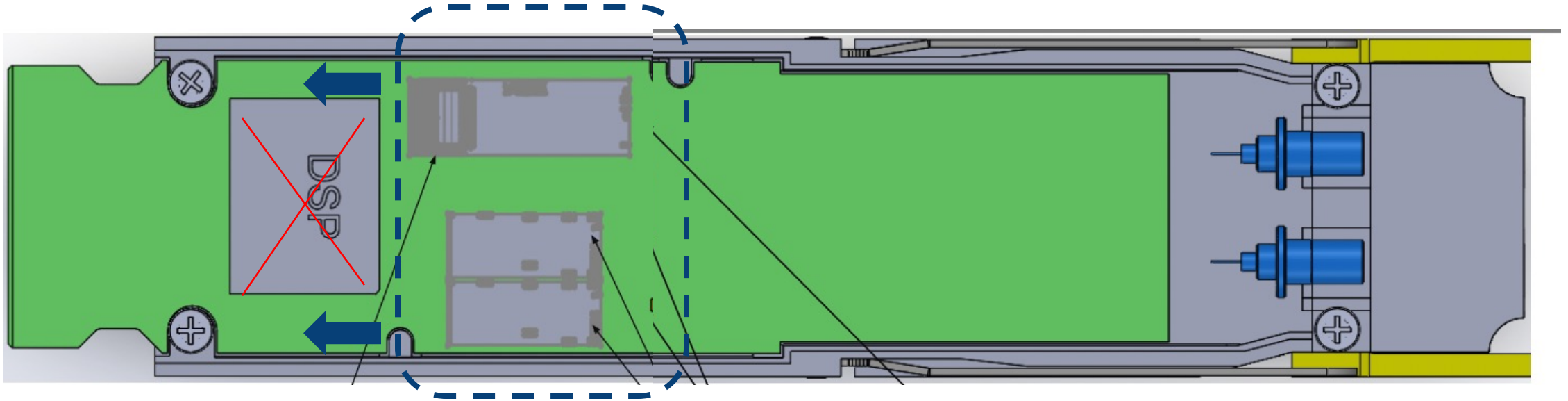
## 400G CHIPLETS for 1.6Tbps and beyond



1. Flip Chip Driver/Laser : Low Latency
2. All pads re-configured to a single facet end for each of chiplet integration
3. Through Silicon Vias for Signal Integrity for Signal/Ground
4. Integrated Athermal and Low Loss Multiplexer
5. Integrated Power Monitoring
6. Integrated Passive Devices



# Why Scale (and Signal Integrity) matter



- Small Factor / Good Signal Integrity (no wirebonds, direct access to PCB with TSVs) → POET's engines can be located anywhere on the PCB – minimizing the electrical trace lengths
- For 800G and beyond – with no gear box requirements – this can enable Direct Drive capabilities directly from the Switch, eliminating the DSP requirements → 6-8W power reduction per module !!
- Can enable “CPO performance” within a Pluggable Form Factor

# Key Competitive Differentiators

POET's Optical Interposer provides a comprehensive integration platform relative to incumbent competing technologies

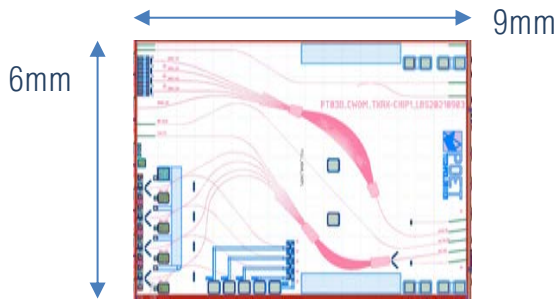
Competition	Key competitors	Wafer scale Assembly scale and cost	Hybrid integration best of breed components	Form Factor small size & customizable
POET				
Conventional OSA Suppliers	Mitsubishi, Sumitomo, CIG, San-U, Tsuhan, Others			
Silicon Photonics	Intel, Marvell, Cisco, Others			
Vertically Integrated Module Makers	Innolight, II-VI, Others			

Best in class integration of Tx and Rx: Small size, lower power and customizable design  
Compared to other Silicon Photonic PIC vendors

Discrete Component	Vendor A	Vendor B	Vendor C	Vendor D	POET OE
Modulator	✓ Modulator	✓ Modulator	✓ Modulator	✓ Modulator	✓ Modulator
Lasers	✓ Colored lasers		✓ Grey lasers	✓ Colored lasers	✓ Colored lasers
MUX	? MUX			✓ MUX	✓ Monolithically integrated MUX
Isolator					✓ None needed
DMUX					✓ Monolithically integrated DMUX
Photodiodes		✓ Photodiodes	✓ Photodiodes		✓ Photodiodes
TIA		✓ Flip-chip TIA			✓ Flip-chip TIA
FAU					✓ FAU

POET's Hybrid Integration Platform provides a COMPLETE solution for next generation Data Center Interconnects as well as other parallel market verticals

## Directly Modulated Laser Platform

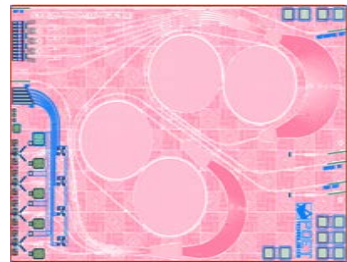


### FR4

- 100Gbps
- 200Gbps
- 400Gbps
- 800Gbps

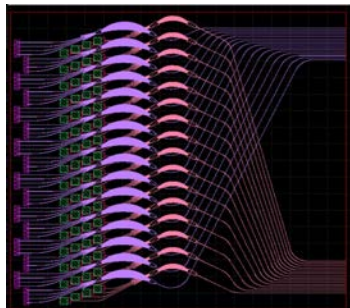
### LR4

- 100Gbps
- Custom Configurations with multiple engines form factors

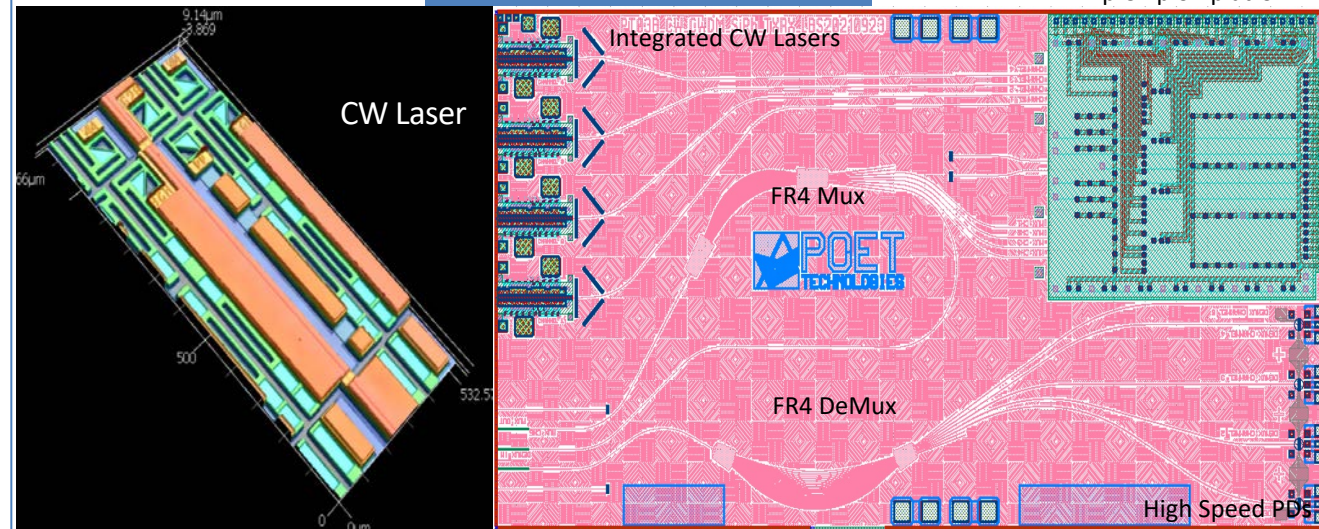


### 6.4Tbps

- DML/EML Implementation
- Custom Configurations
- Industry leading form factor with two layer waveguides (optical chiplet : 18mmx18mm)



## CW Laser Platform



### 800Gbps (2x400FR4) and beyond

- Platform with CW lasers compatible with external modulators like Si Photonics
- Extensible to 200G/λ with TFL (thin film LiNbO3) modulators

### Remote Light Sources

- C Band and O Band Applications
- CPO and AI applications

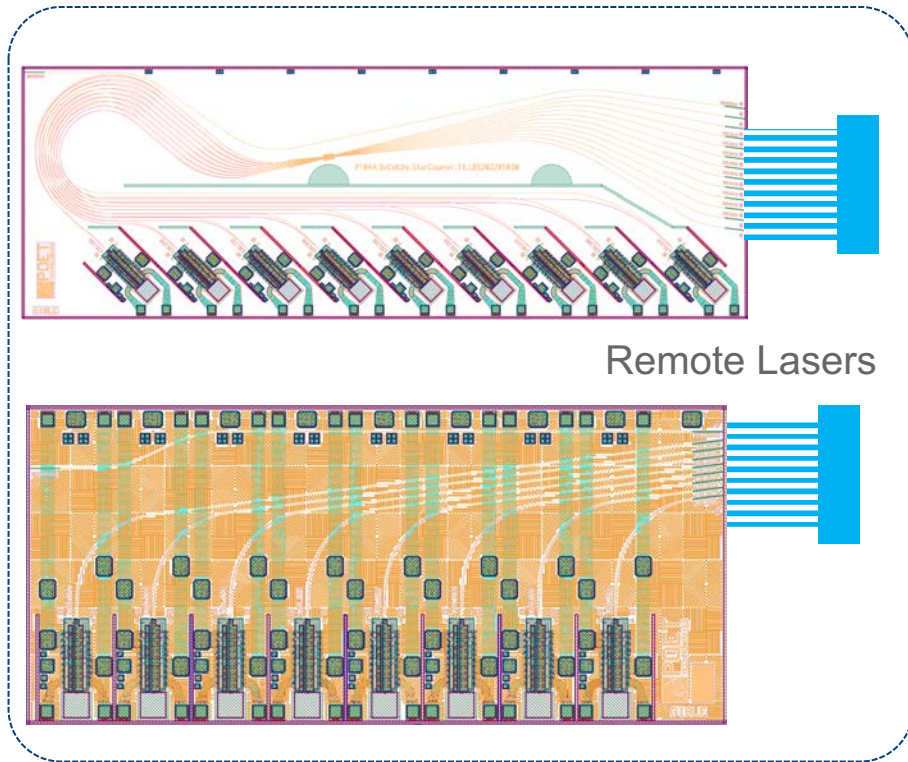




# Optical Interposer Light Sources for High Bandwidth Communications

- Engaged with leading AI-ML Accelerator and Chip-Chip communication companies to provide novel light sources at lower cost and greater flexibility than conventional laser suppliers.

POET Solutions



- POET's Optical Interposer platform enables wafer scale, passive assembly of **high channel count lasers** – with **in-built splitting / multiplexed solutions** as required
- Eliminates the requirements** for laser array use which are very expensive
- Meets cost, form factor and SCALE requirements** for high volume applications
- Optimized laser coupling efficiency** and power
- Ability to integrate micro-optics** at wafer scale
- Chip-on-board construction ; **Eliminate expensive PM cables** otherwise required

# III Optical Interposers for Integrating New Materials

## Monolithic Integration

*Deposited or Grown on the wafer*

- Best Cost Option Potential
- Complex Performance tradeoffs
- Limited Materials Choice
- Mature for some platform materials (eg. SiN)

## Hybrid Integration

*Assembled on to target as finished components*

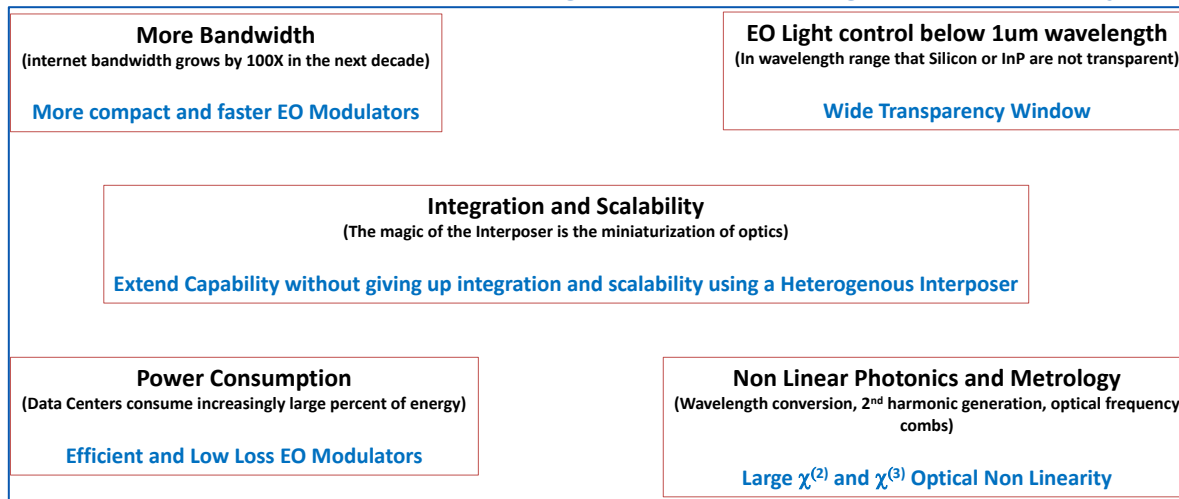
- High Flexibility
- Wafer Scale Assembly Techniques with pick and place
- Known Good Die
- Great option for limited numbers of components
- Limited Performance Tradeoffs
- Packaging Simplicity
- Best components for the application

## Heterogenous Integration

*Transferred / Bonded on the wafer*

- High Material Integration flexibility
- Best Material for the application
- Low Cost Potential
- Emerging Technology

## Lithium Niobate has advantages but lacks Integration Capability



An **Optical Interposer** breathes integration potential to novel materials which otherwise might have challenges integrating to the tight form factors required for next generation modules

# Topics

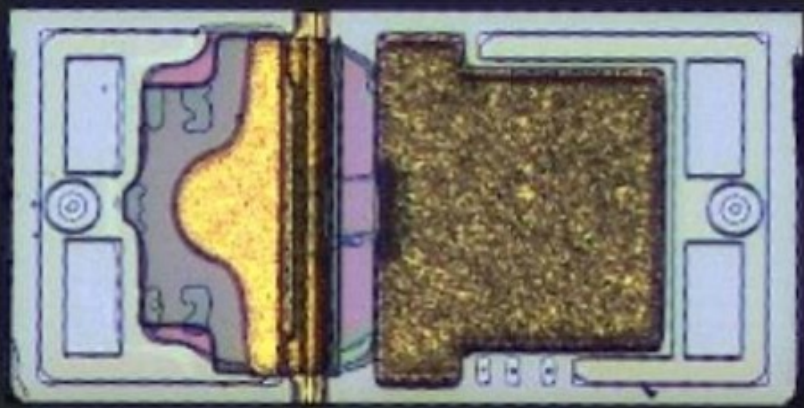
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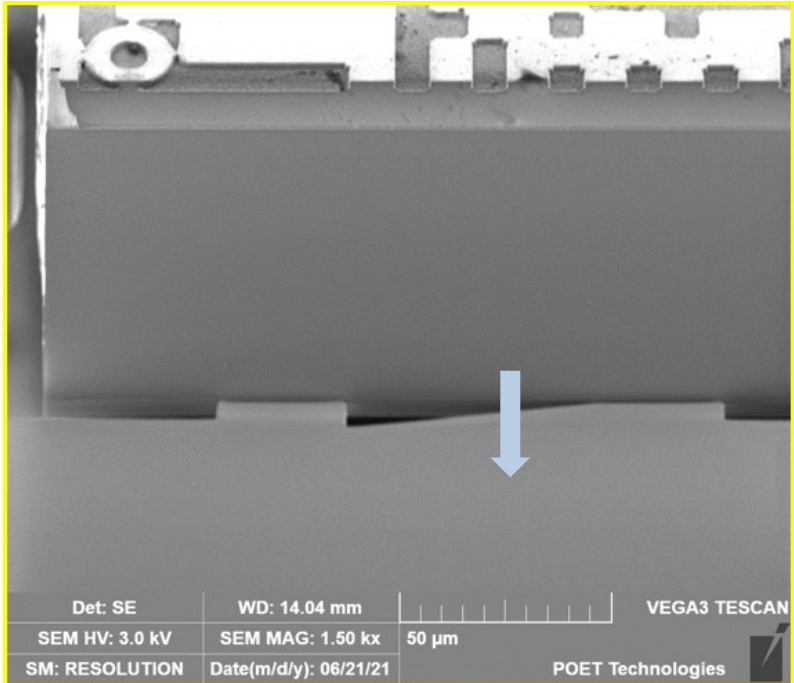
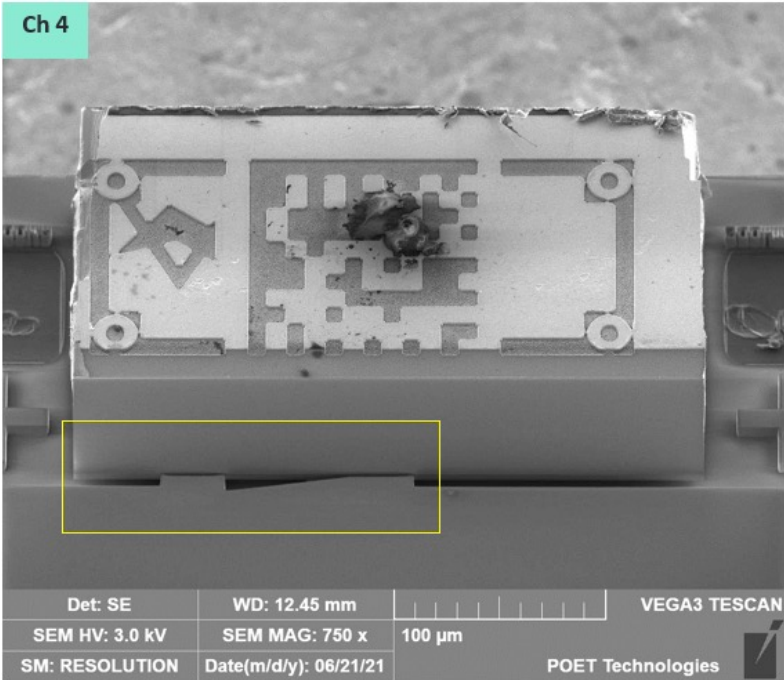
 Conclusions

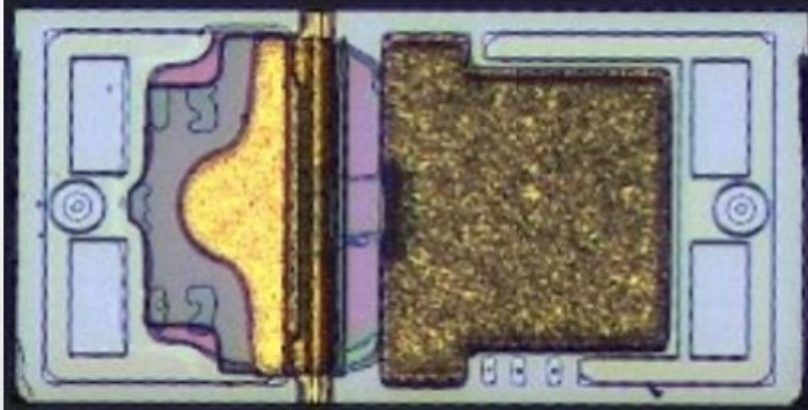


# Flip Chip Lasers Integration in POET's Optical Engines



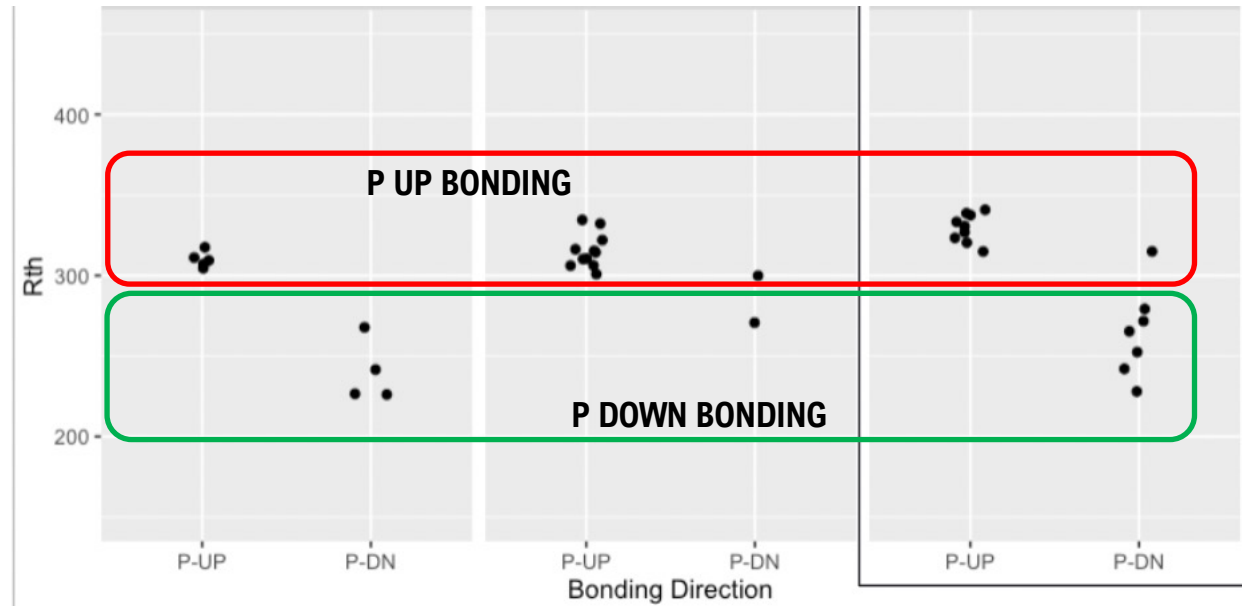
- POET's Interposer platform includes proprietary features for laser attach
- Laser – waveguide coupling performance excellent for both CW and DML lasers
- Passive laser placement and wafer scale assembly





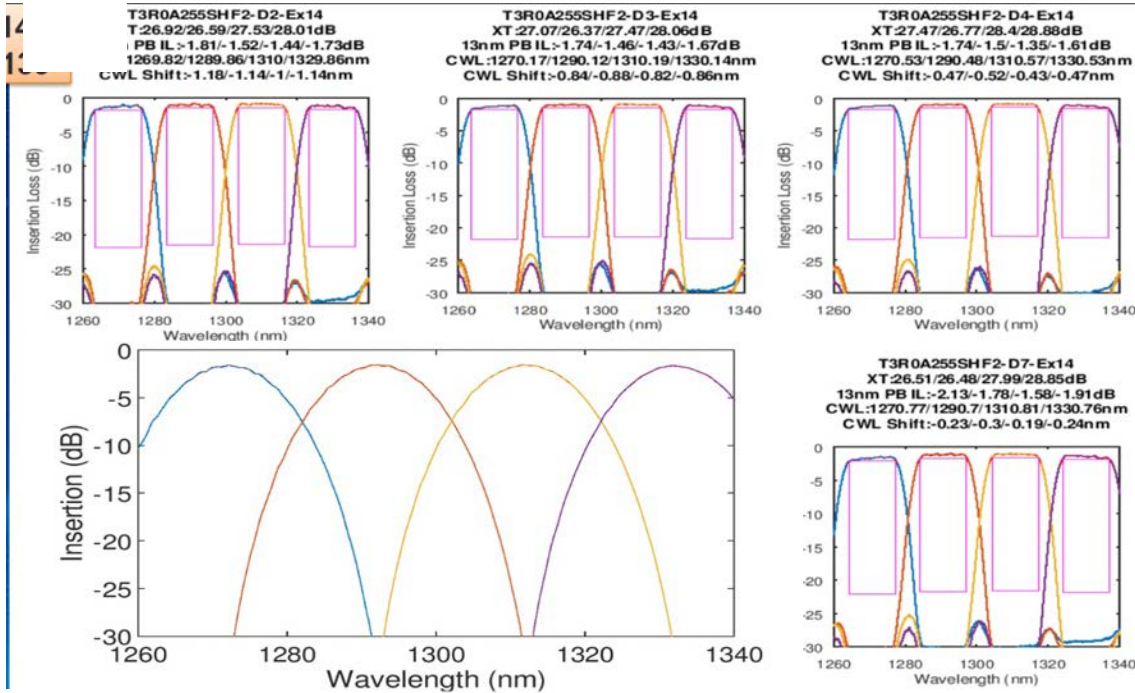
- The Thermal Resistance of the Interposer dictates the high temperature performance of the laser which in turn affects such parameters as Reliability, Bandwidth and Power consumption
- Optimization of the assembly conditions helps achieve equivalent thermal resistance for ultra small DML lasers that are only **250um x 150um** in size

Good Laser thermal performance demonstrated for latest generation of 56G DML lasers

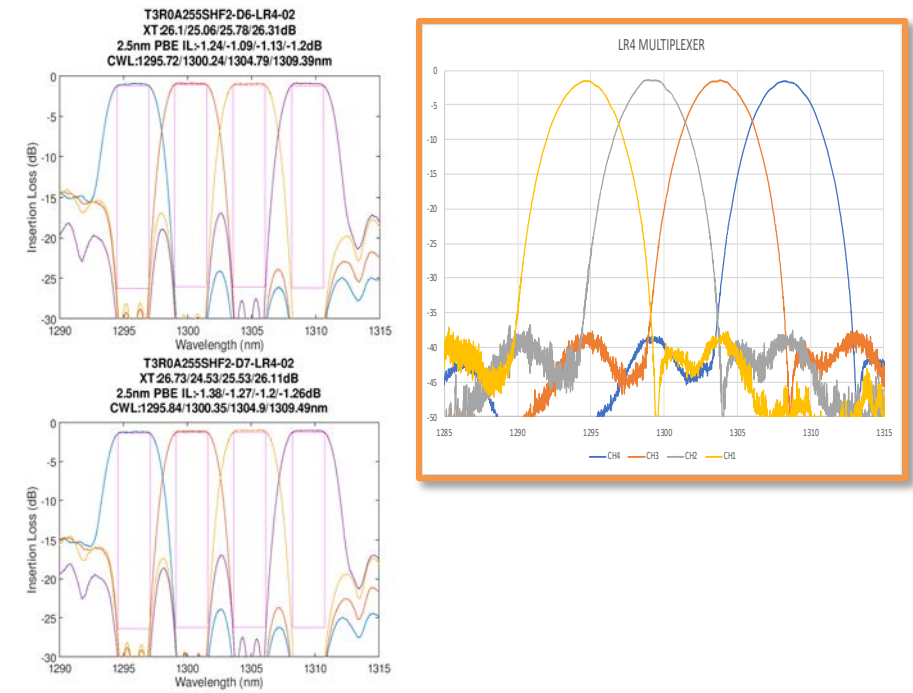


# FR4 (100G/200G/400G) and LR4(100G) Filter performance

FR4 : 13nm pass band, 20nm channel spacing



LR4 : 2.5nm pass band, 800GHz spacing



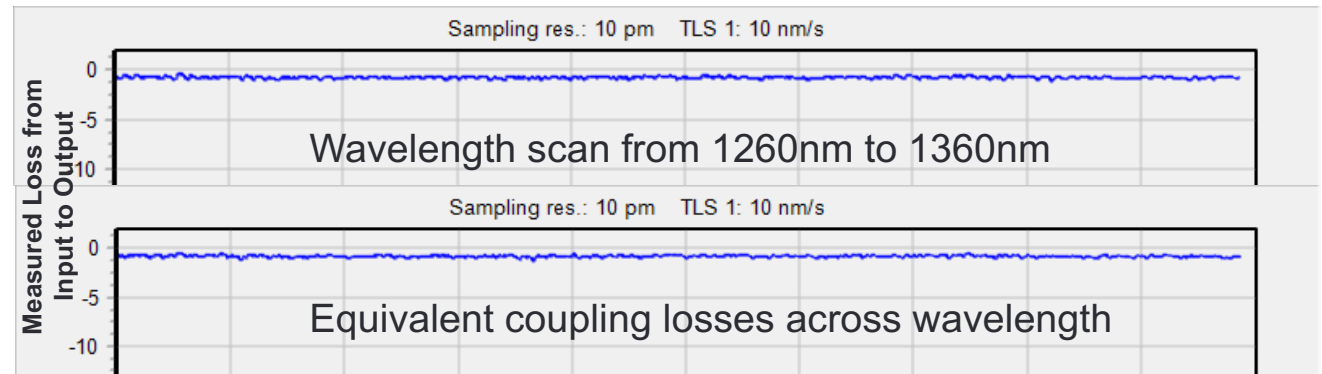
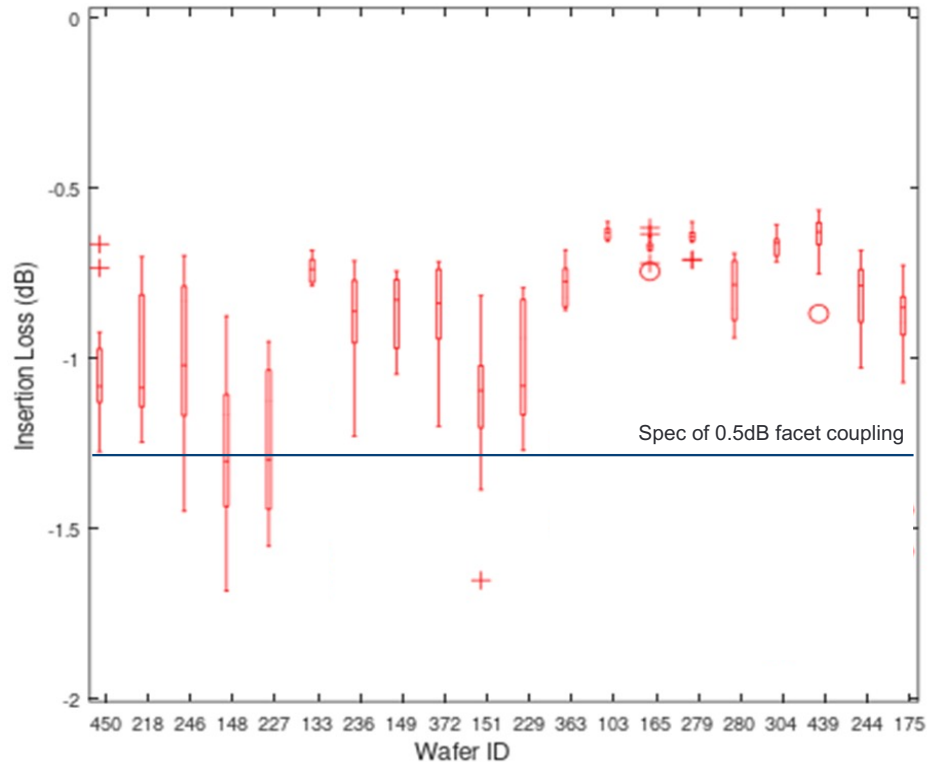
- Insertion Loss including fiber coupling < 1.8dB (FR4) and < 1.5dB (LR4) including fiber coupling
- Cross Talk > 25dB
- Design frozen and taped out for qualification and production
- Data accumulated on 100's of chips across multiple wafers



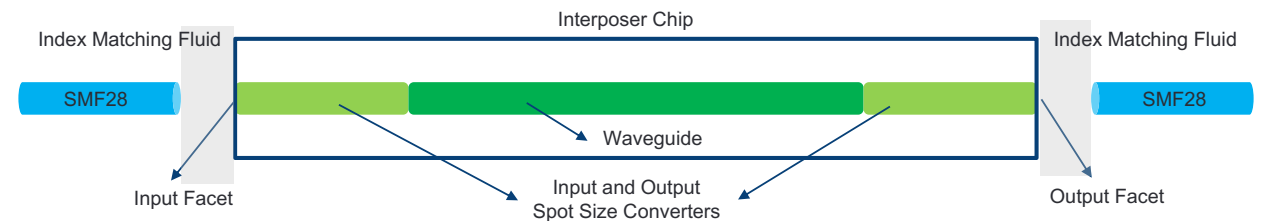
## Measured Fiber Coupling Optical Losses

Total loss from input to output : 0.7dB  
Best measured fiber coupling loss : 0.2dB/facet

Transmission Loss : 0.3dB  
Expected in Production: 0.5dB/facet

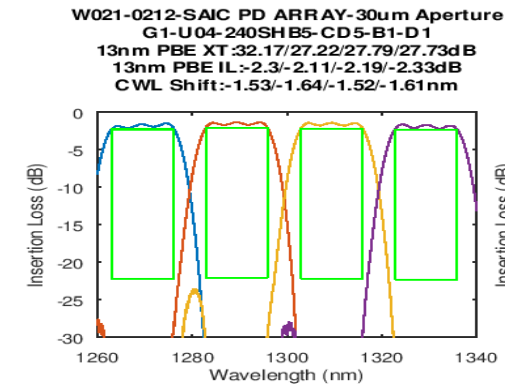
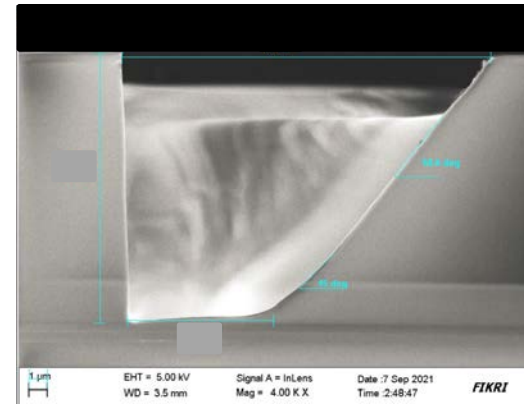
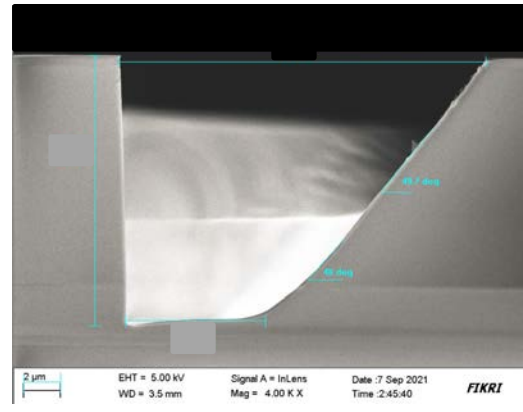
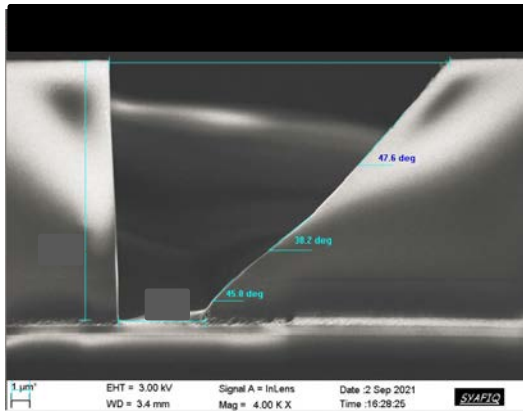


### Measurement Set Up

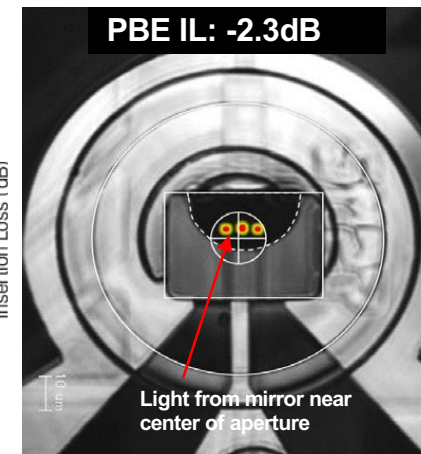
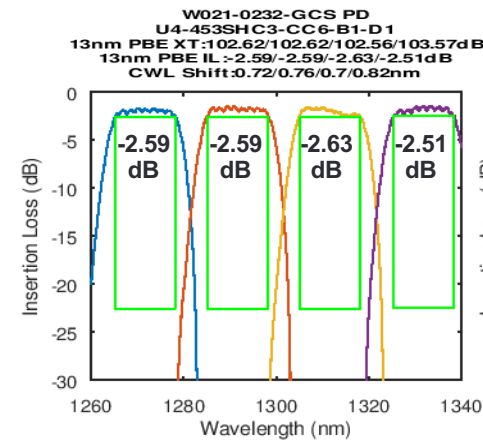
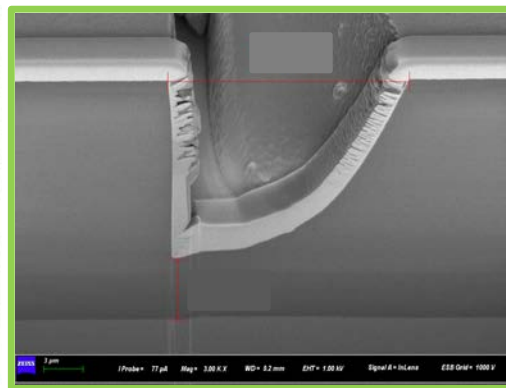
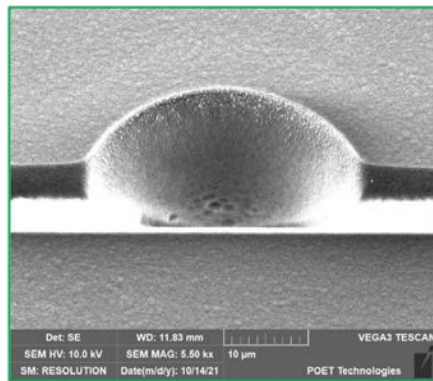


POET uses vertical coupling mirrors as a low loss alternative to grating couplers to couple light “out of plane” to the waveguides – these are used for coupling light to conventional top entry / emitting devices and for wafer level test

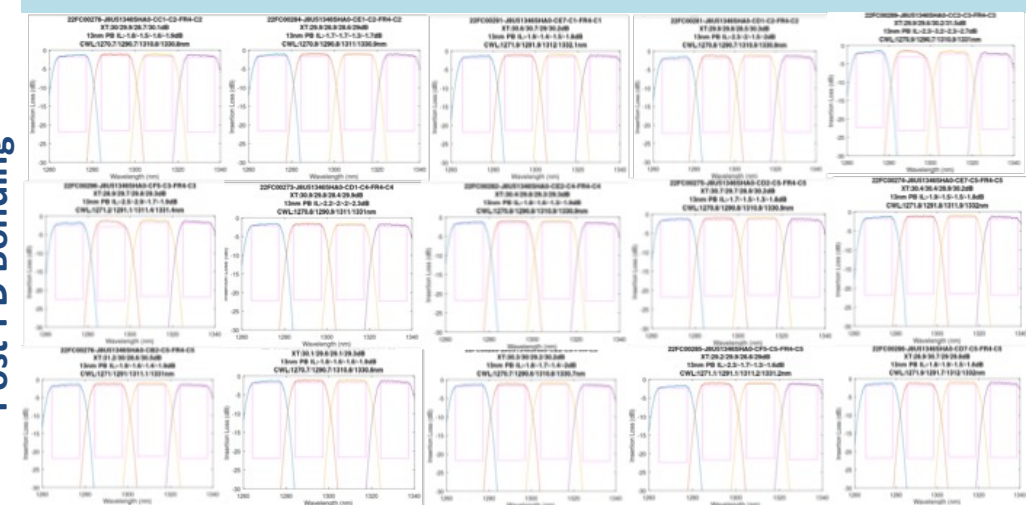
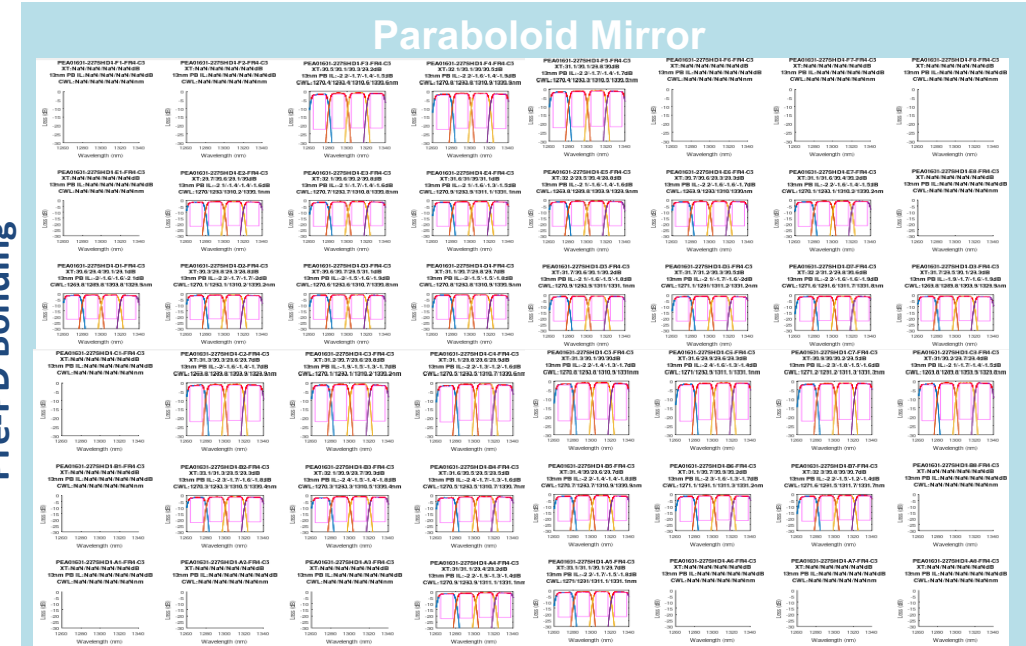
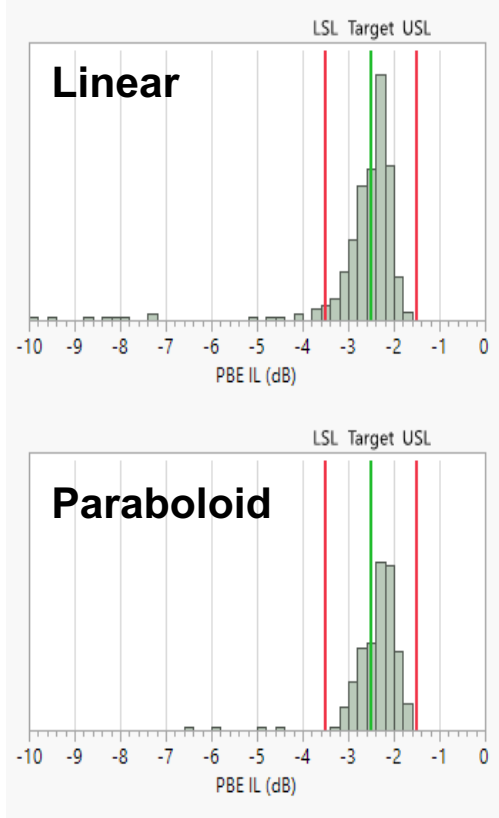
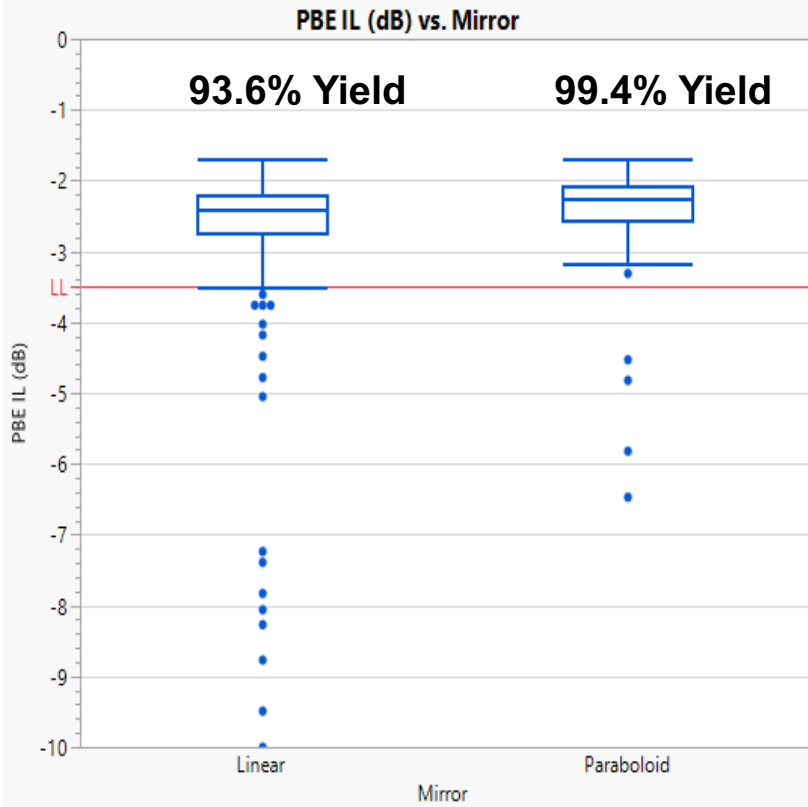
## Linear Mirrors : Used with 100G/200G PDs (28Gbps)



## Paraboloid Mirrors : Used with 400G PDs (56Gbps)



# Vertical Mirror Performance



**Consistent performance both pre and post PD bonding**

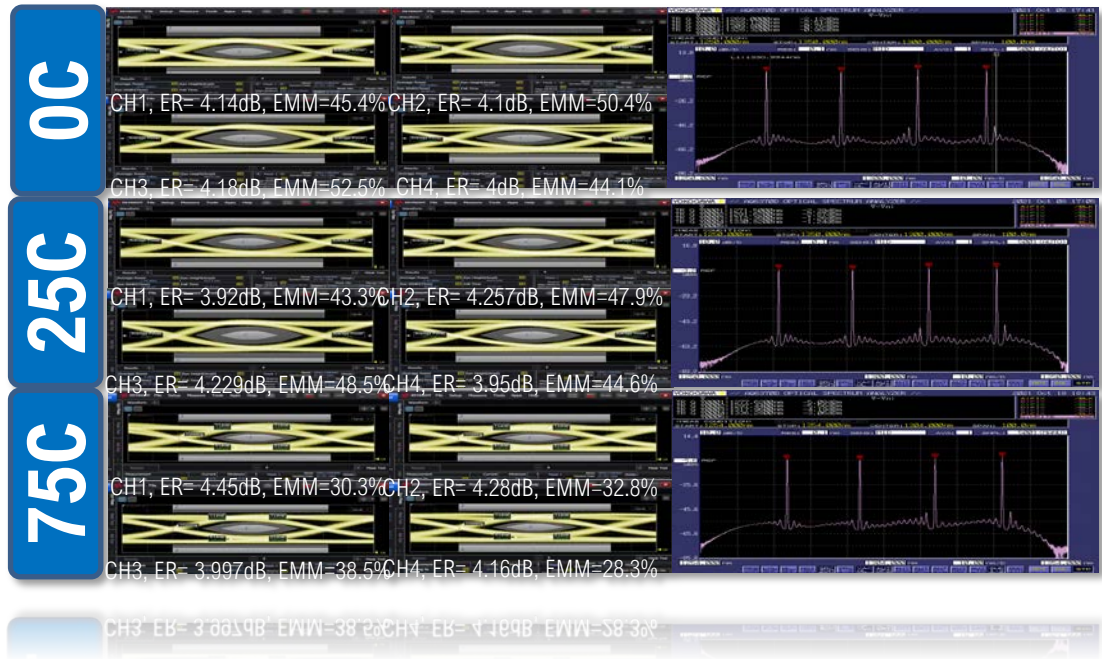


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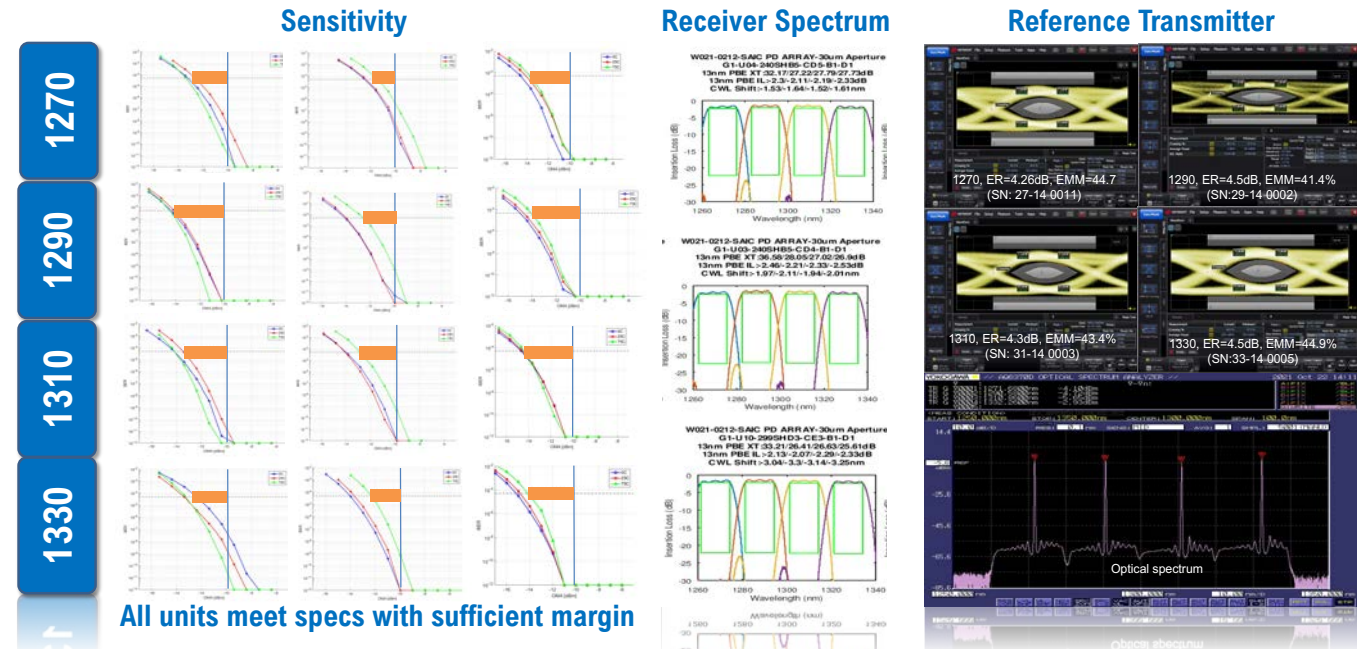
 Application Proof Points

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## TRANSMITTER



## RECEIVER

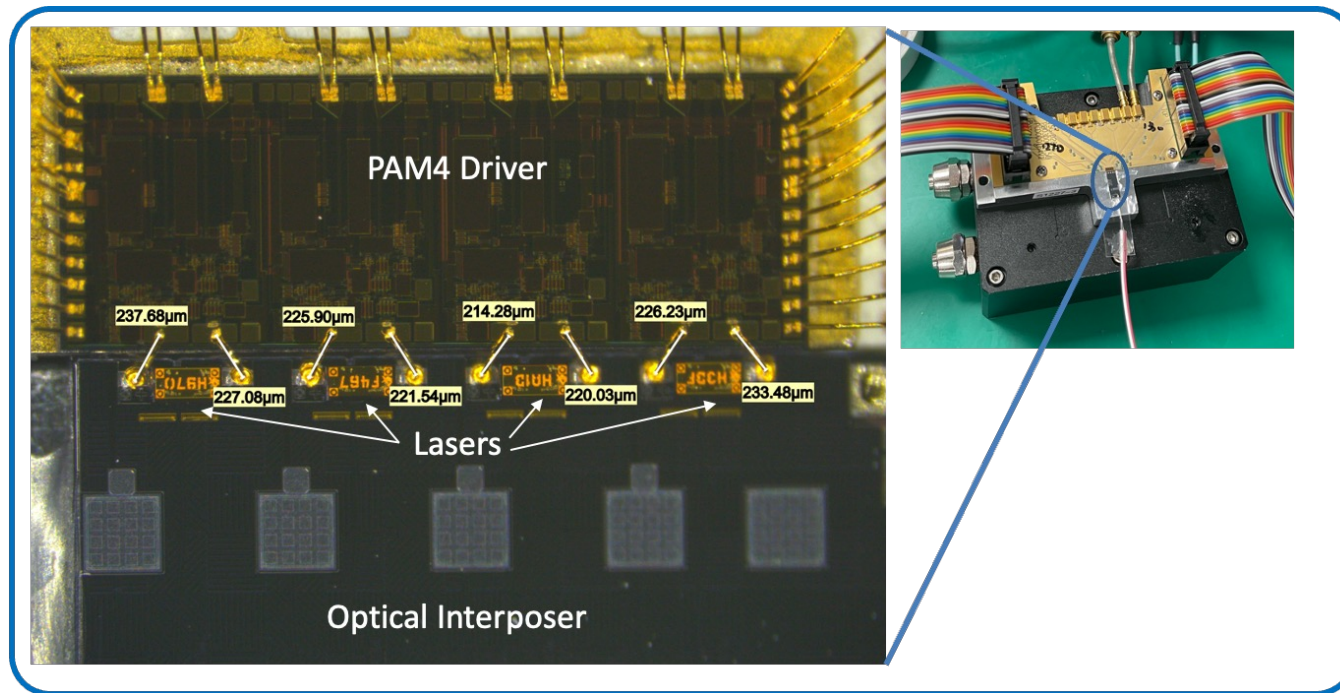


All units meet specs with sufficient margin

- Excellent Eye Margin and Extinction ratio across the temperature range for Data Centers
- DML engine is extensible in performance from 100G -> 200G – 400G
- POET will offer the lowest cost, highest density DML engine by incorporating 56Gbaud DMLs into its platform
- Competitive solution for Co-packaged optics

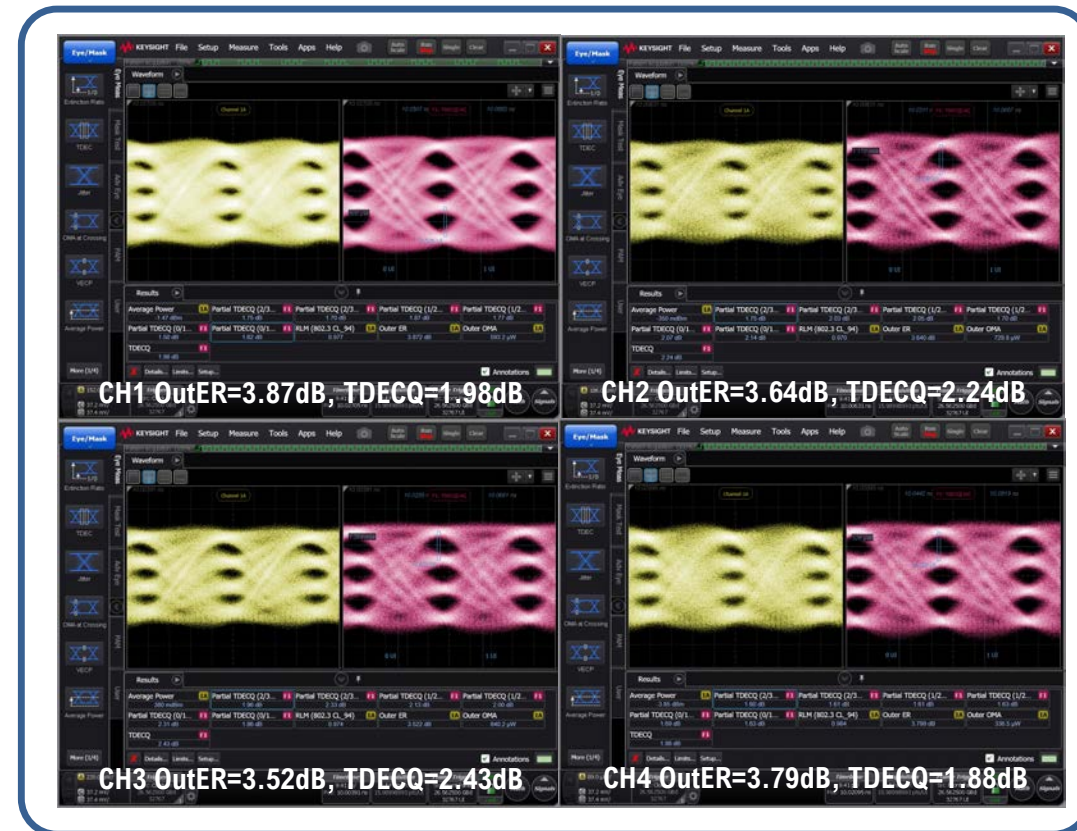
## Common Optical Engine meeting the requirements of 100/200G

### 200G Optical Engine on Evaluation Board



Excellent 200G PAM4 signals through the Optical Interposer  
200G Rx also shows excellent performance (not shown)

### Optical Performance @ 75C

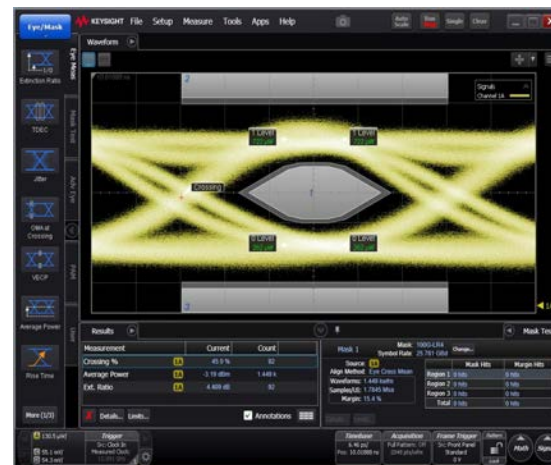




# 100G LR4 Optical Engine



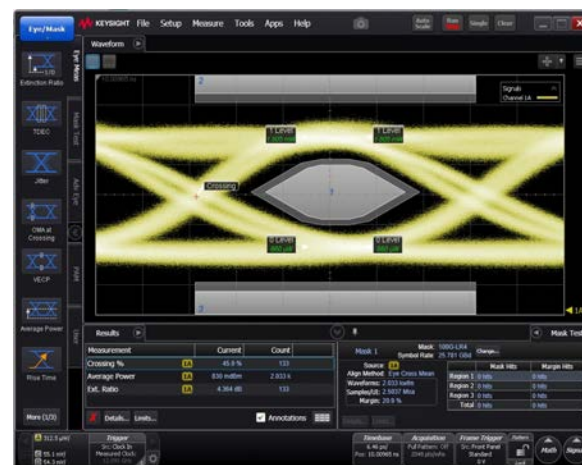
CH1 ER=4.25dB, EMM=13.2%



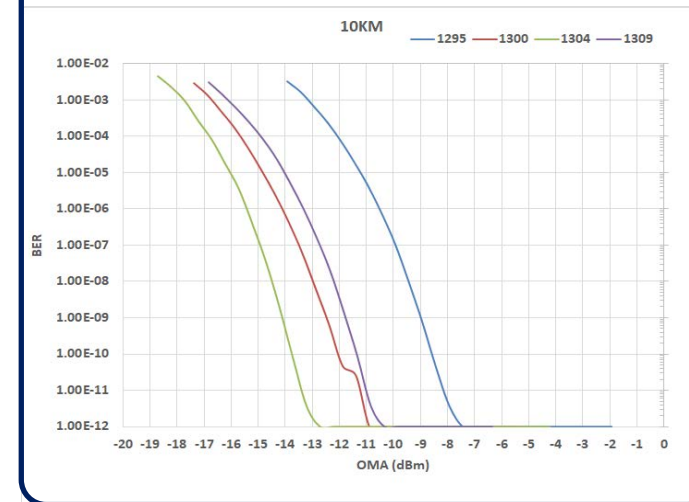
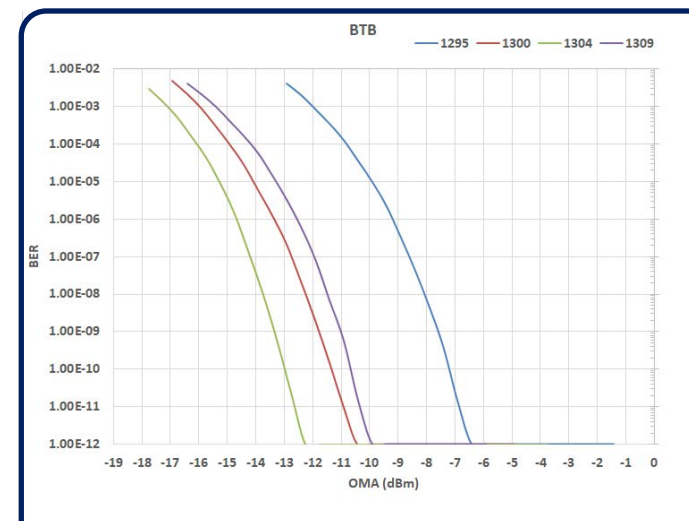
CH2 ER=4.4dB, EMM=15.4%



CH3 ER=4.23dB, EMM=21.4%



CH4 ER=4.36dB, EMM=20.9%



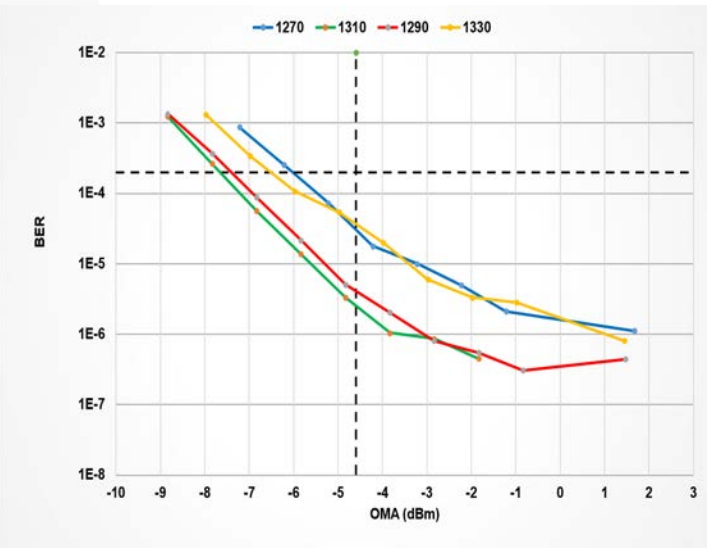
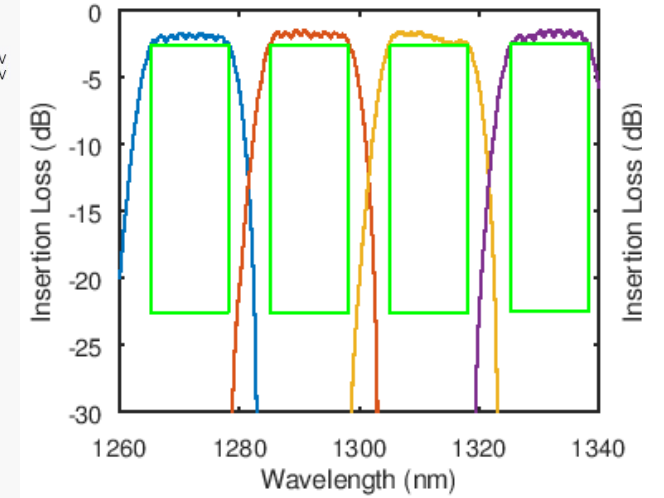
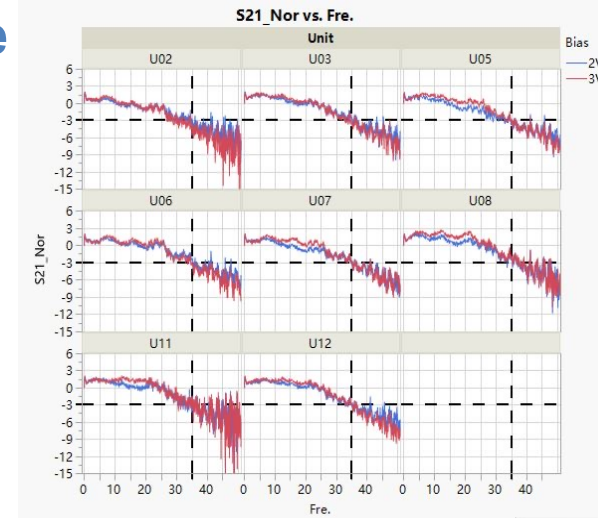
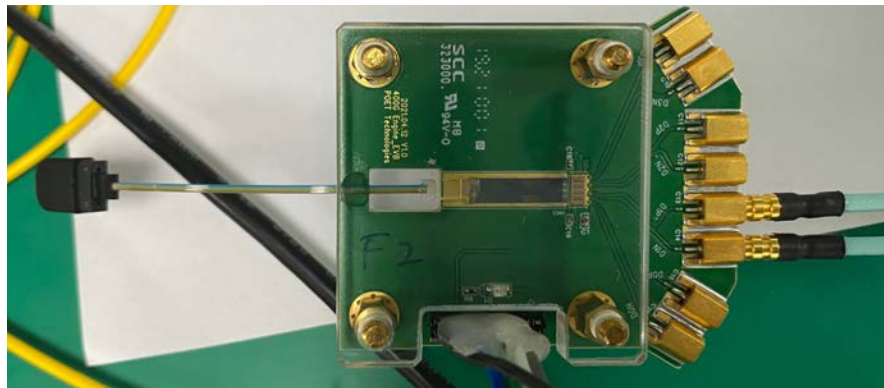
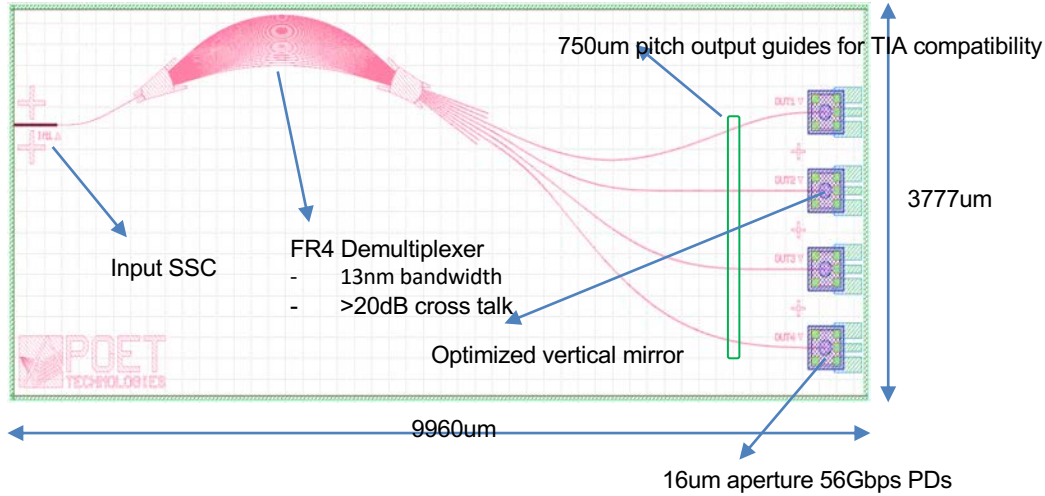
Channel 1 performance impacted by OOS wavelength

Industry first implementation of a “chip on board” LR4 implementation !!

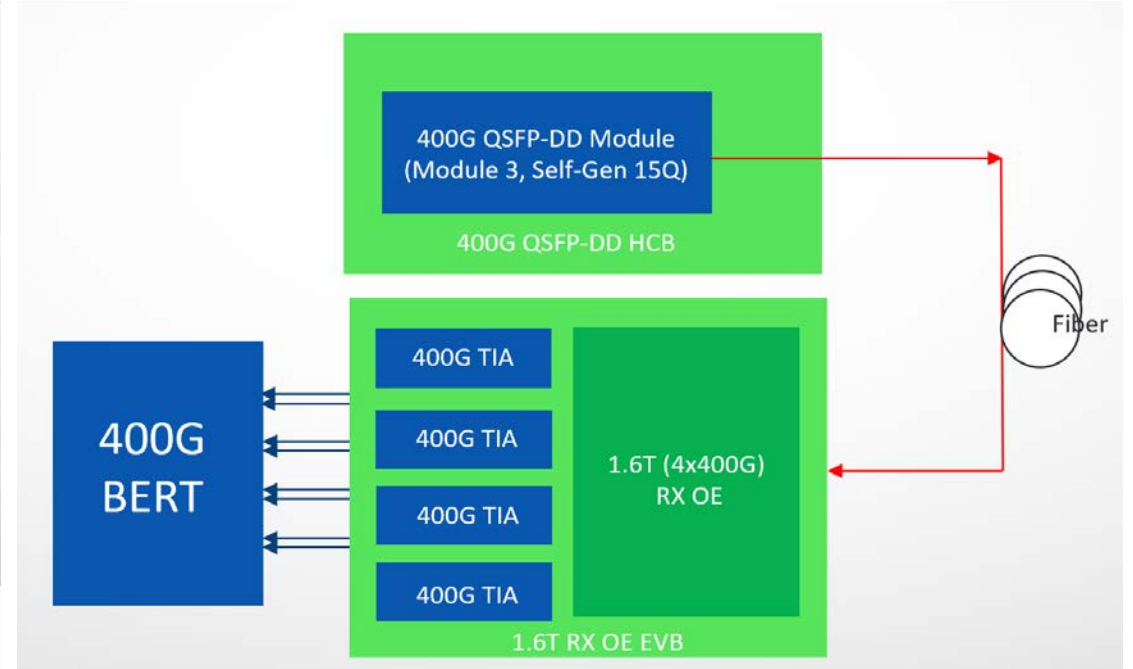
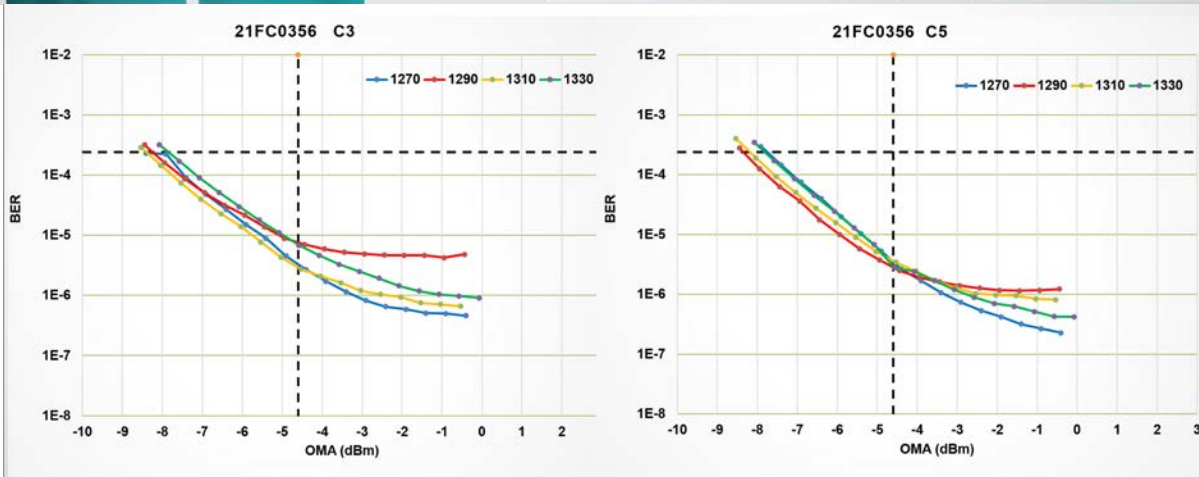
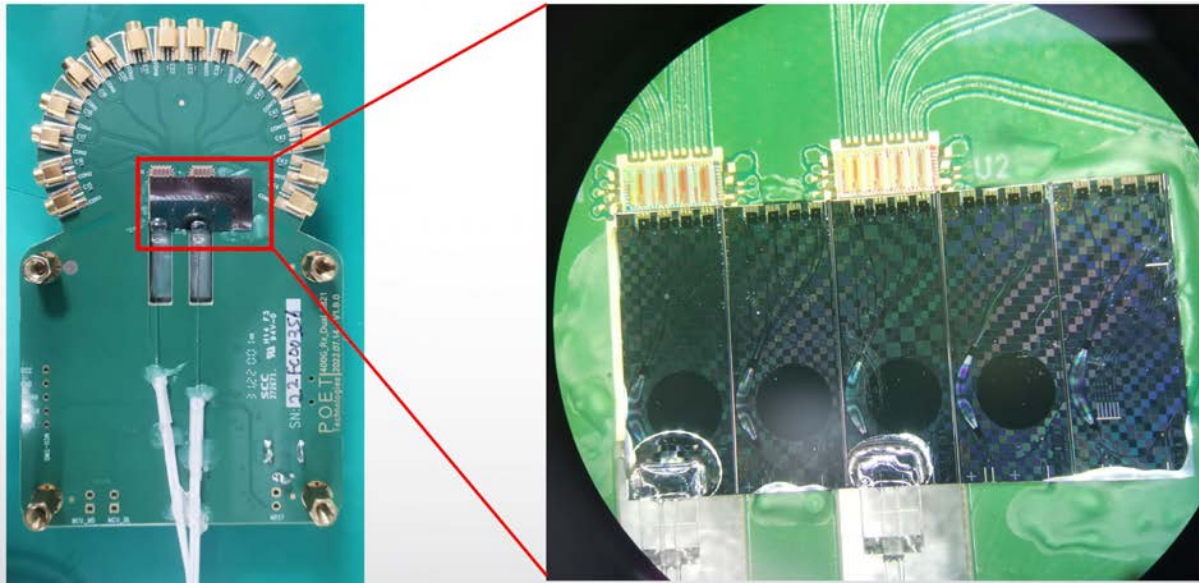





# 400G/800G FR4 Receiver Performance

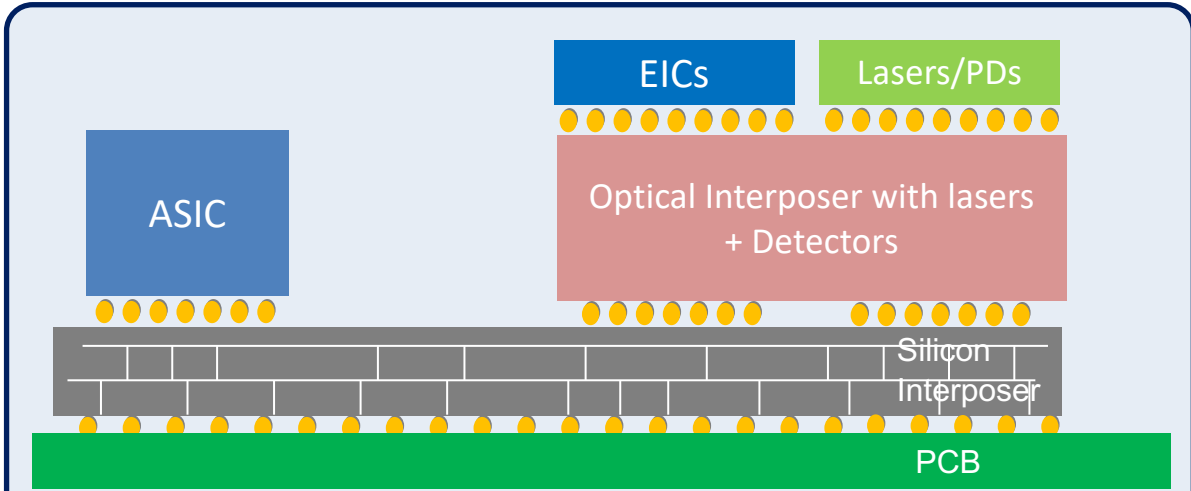
## 400G FR4 Receivers integrated into 400G FR4 engine



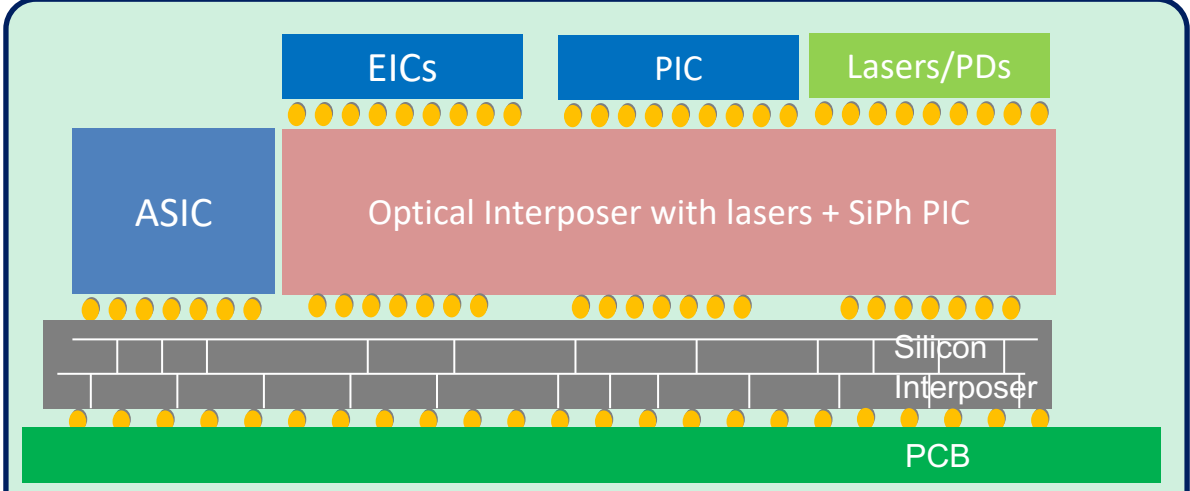
# 1.6Tbps FR4 Demonstrator



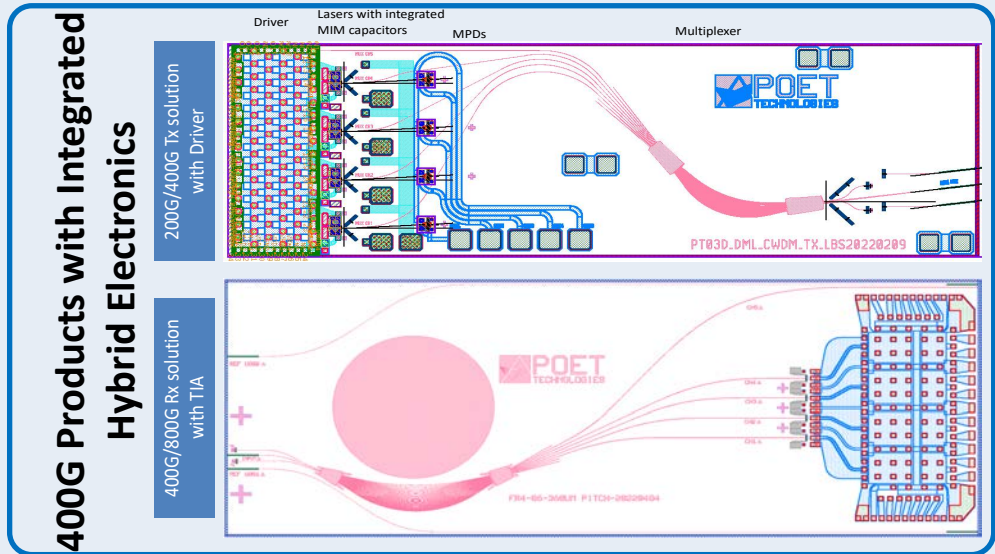
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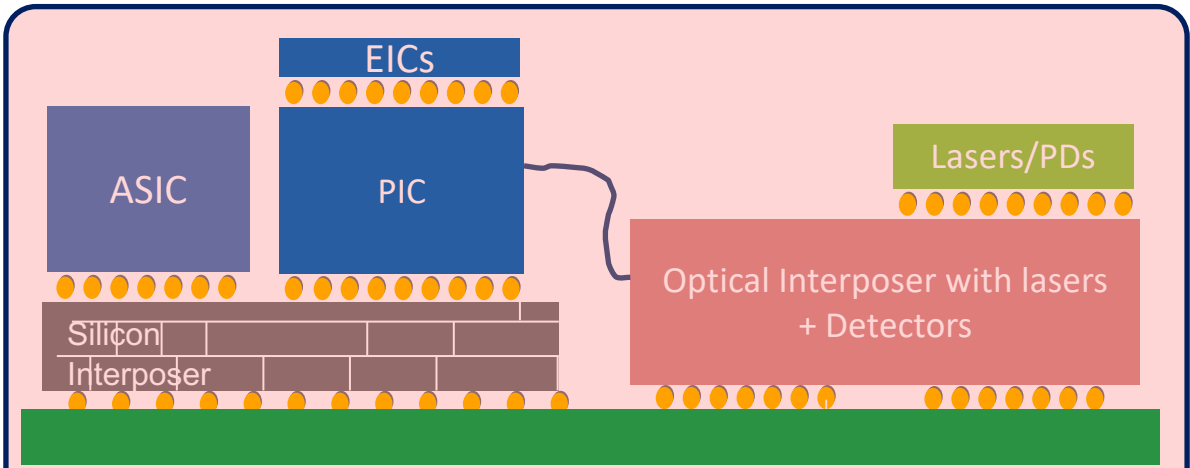
**Modulated Laser solutions using the Optical Interposer**



**Integrated Laser/PIC solution using the Optical Interposer**



**400G Products with Integrated Hybrid Electronics**



**External Laser solutions using the Optical Interposer**



