## 400ZR: Revolutionizing Networking

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#### What is 400ZR?

- Coherent optical technology
  - Single wavelength
  - Long distance
  - Requires a sophisticated digital signal processor (DSP)
- Running at 400Gbps
- In a client form-factor module
  - QSFP-DD (mostly) or OSFP
- Originally defined by the OIF
  - Interoperable





Maximum

**Date of Commercial Introduction** 

### **400ZR: Perfect Serendipity**

- For the first time, pluggable coherent for outside the datacenter and rates inside the datacenter match up (400GbE)
- 400ZR is designed to work in routers without limiting front panel space (QSFP-DD / OSFP)
- 400ZR is an industry standard, so interoperability is at least theoretically possible
- 400ZR is compatible with the way networks outside the datacenter are built
- 400ZR has changed the way network operators design networks



#### 400ZRx Standards, MSAs, and more

|                    |                            | Primary<br>Application                               | Client<br>Protocols         | Reach    | Form<br>Factor    | Vendors                                    |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|----------|-------------------|--|
| Standards-Based    | 400ZR                      | Short reach data<br>center<br>interconnect           | 400GbE                      | 80-100km | QSFP-DD /<br>OSFP | Cisco<br>Ciena<br>Huawei<br>Marvell<br>NEL |
|                    | IEEE 802.3ct/cw<br>(100ZR) | Short reach data<br>center and metro<br>interconnect | 100/<br>400GbE              | 80km     | QSFP-DD /<br>OSFP |  |
| Industry Coalition | OpenZR+                    | Metro Ethernet<br>and data center<br>interconnect    | 100/200/<br>400GbE          | ~600km   | QSFP-DD /<br>OSFP | Cisco<br>Ciena<br>Huawei<br>Marvell<br>NEL |
|                    | OpenROADM                  | Incumbent telco<br>metro networks,<br>multi-haul     | 100/200/<br>400GbE<br>& OTN | ~600km   | CFP2              |  |
| Proprietary        | Regional/Long<br>Haul      | Longer reach optical network                         | Multiple                    | >600km   | CFP2              | Many                                       |
|                    | Subcarrier                 | Point to Point &<br>Access networks                  | Multiple                    | TBD      | QSFP<br>QSFP-DD   | Infinera                                   |

- No one is building a DSP with just OIF 400ZR support
- OpenZR+ and OpenROADM have some of the variations "standardized"
- OdBm, proprietary FEC, subcarrier, and more options being developed

#### **400ZR Fragmentation and Expansion**



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#### 400ZR(x): The most successful coherent generation ever

**Coherent Generation Adoption** 

- Most deployments are in switches & routers
- Growing at datacenter rates, not telecom rates





#### **400ZRx: Current Market**

- 4 DSP suppliers shipping now
- 9 DSP suppliers expected by the end of 2023
- Almost 50k units shipped in Q3
- More than 30% of all optical bandwidth outside of the datacenter in 2023 will be 400ZRx



#### QSFP-DD/OSFP Units Shipped



## **400ZRx Forecast: Long Tail**

- 400ZRx will have a very long lifetime
- 9 DSP vendors means innovation and new applications
  - 100ZR
  - ZR/ZR+ collapse
  - Multi-wavelength solutions 200,000
- Commodity = lower price

#### QSFP-DD/OSFP Units Shipped per Year





## **IP-over-DWDM: This time is different**

- It's timely: 400G inside matches 400G outside
- Form factor parity
- Multi-vendor ecosystem
- It works in the fastest growing network segment
   datacenter interconnect





**Traditional Model** 



# 400ZRx: Changing the way networks are built

- IP-over-DWDM finally works
  - DCI optics directly in the router, eliminate transponder layer
  - Routers integrating optical layer management / pass-through
- New networks that could not be built before
  - E.g., Microsoft et. al.'s distributed datacenters
- Expansion into new areas
  - Just put in a switch, much less real estate and power
- Causing network operators of all types to re-evaluate networking plans





 Historical Optical Systems
 Optical Systems reduction
 Optical Systems Metro

 Metro Sales
 due to IPoWDM
 forecast w/o IPoWDM (hypothetical)

 NANOG<sup>™</sup>

Optical Systems Metro forecast - IPoWDM

#### What's next?

- More vendors offering 400ZRx in more varieties
  - More functionality in QSFP-DD (migrating from CFP2)
  - QSFP-DD adoption in more optical systems
  - Huge uptake in China for long-haul 200G operations
- 800ZR (project underway by the OIF standards body)
  - Can also work as very long-haul 400G
  - Lines up with 800GbE (coming very soon)
  - Won't be as popular as 400ZRx or ramp as quickly



#### What's next?

- 100ZR
  - Bringing coherent to the edge reduce fiber count, eliminate Nx10G LAG, close 100G rings
  - Two options QSFP28 (new DSP required) or QSFP-DD (higher power)
- Coherent inside the datacenter
  - Not economical at 400G or 800G
  - May make sense at 1.6T (2x800G)



# Thank you

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