



Escola Tècnica Superior d'Enginyeria de
Telecomunicació de Barcelona



UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA
DE CATALUNYA
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FIBER-OPTIC COMMUNICATIONS

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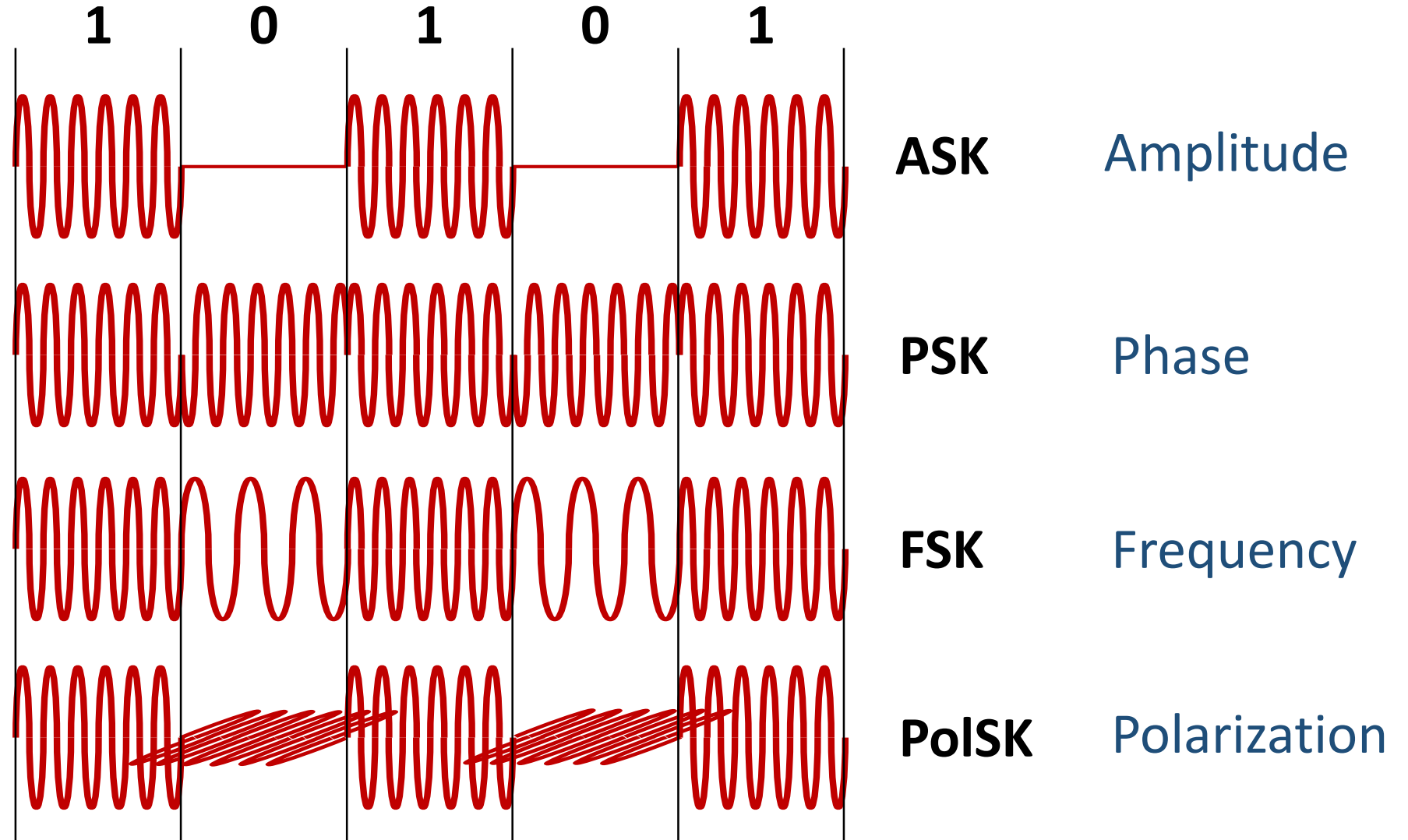
4. EXTERNAL MODULATORS

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INTRODUCTION

MODULATION OF LIGHT PROPERTIES

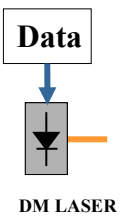


Modulation/ Detection Schemes

Modulation

Direct

Intensity
Frequency
Phase



External

EAM

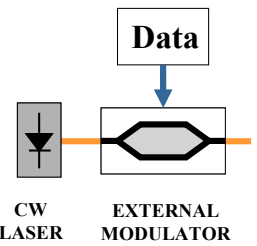
Intensity

ERM

Phase
Polarization

Mach-Zehnder

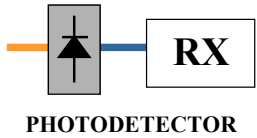
Intensity
Phase



Detection

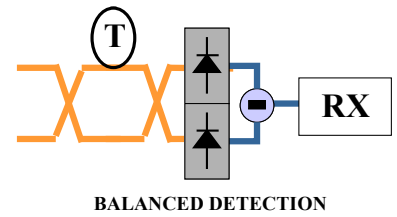
Direct

Intensity



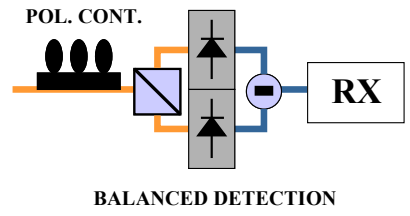
Differential

Phase
Frequency
Polarization



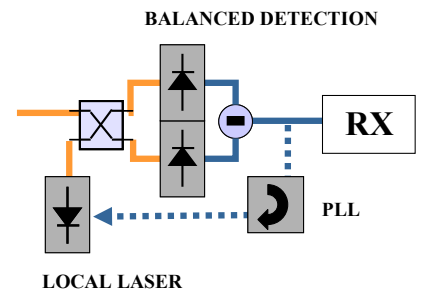
Polarization

Polarization



Synchronous

Intensity
Phase
Frequency
Polarization



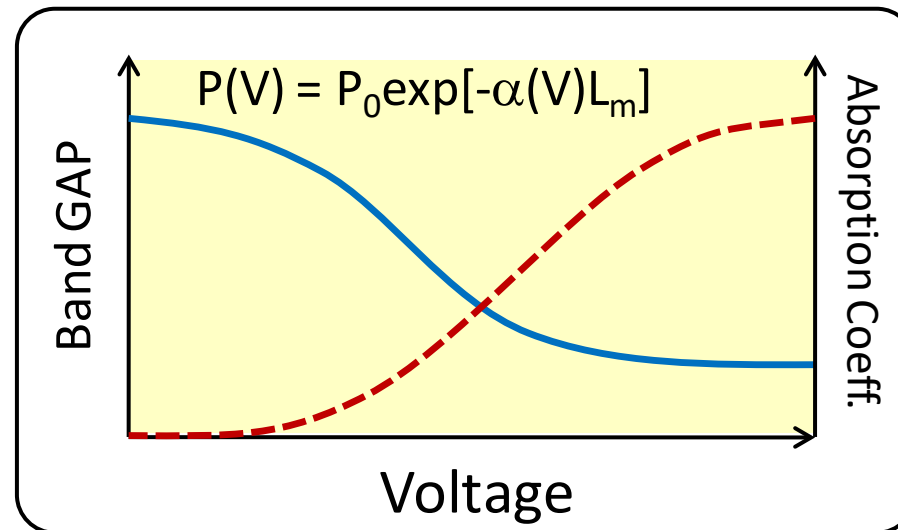
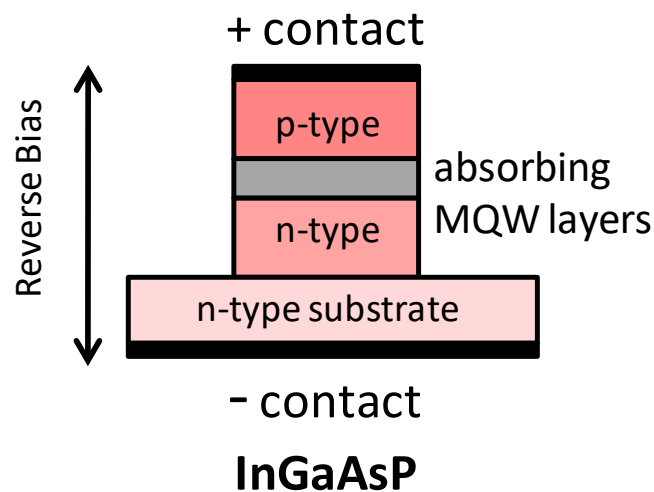
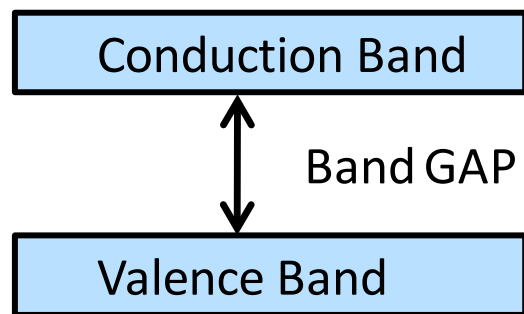
DESIRABLE CHARACTERISTICS

- ✓ **HIGH MODULATION SPEED (EO BANDWIDTH)**
- ✓ **NO FREQUENCY CHIRP**
- ✓ **LINEAR LIGHT-CURRENT RESPONSE**
- ✓ **WORKING TEMPERATURE AND STABILITY**
- ✓ **LOW INSERTION LOSS**
- ✓ **SMALL DRIVING CURRENT**
- ✓ **POLARIZATION INDEPENDENCY**
- ✓ **SMALL SIZE AND CONSUMPTION (INTEGRATION)**
- ✓ **REDUCED COST**

ELECTRO-ABSORPTION MODULATOR

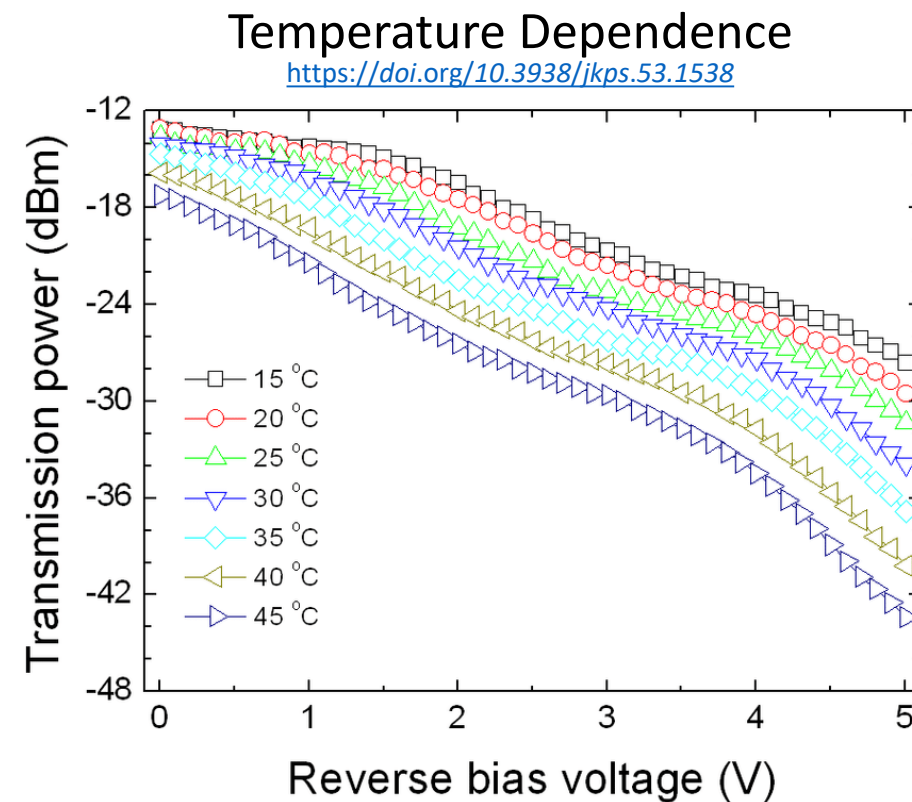
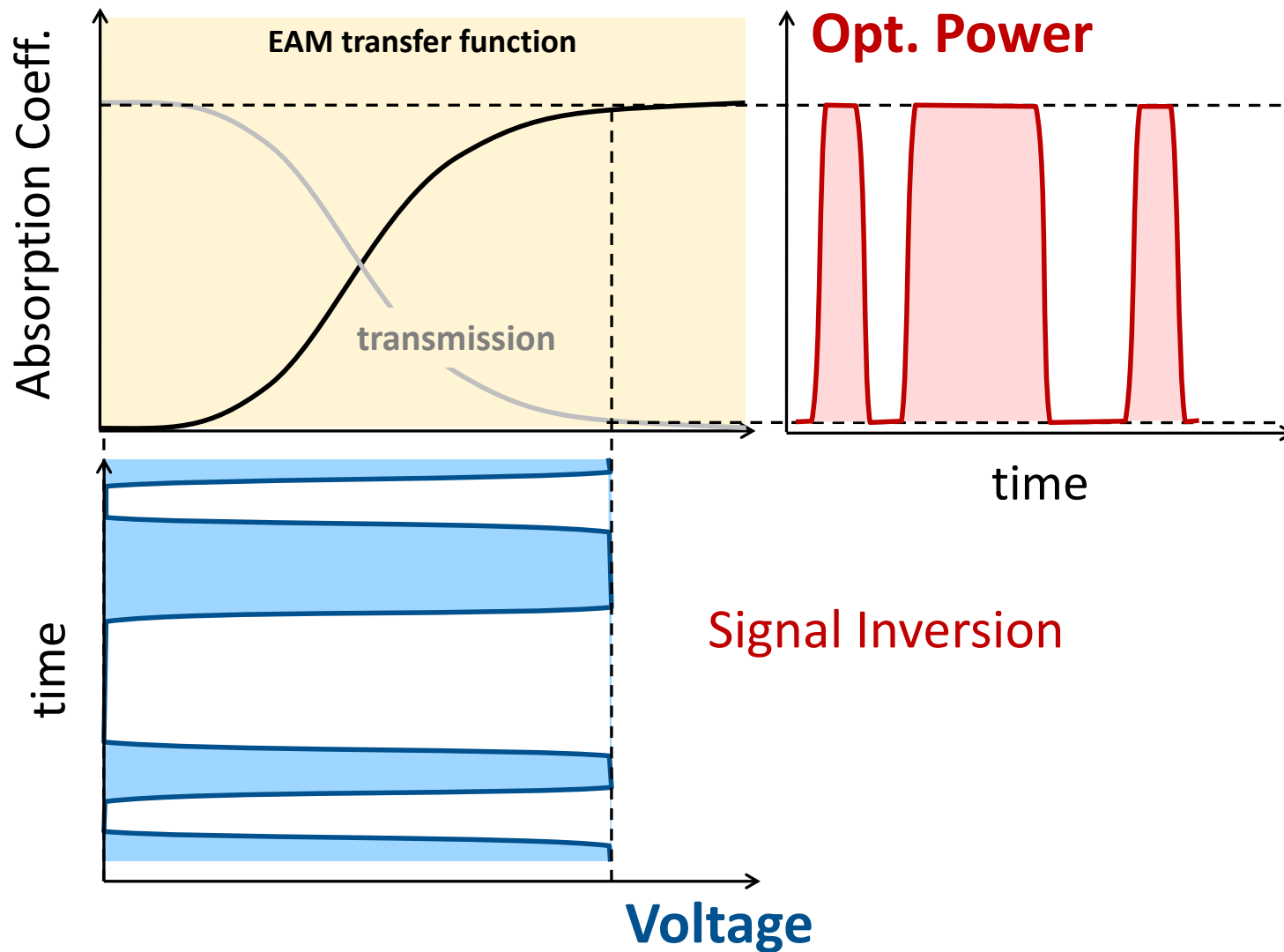
Electro-Absorption Modulators (EAM)

Semiconductors Electro-absorption → Franz-Keldysh Effect Agrawal, "Components and Devices", pg. 225.

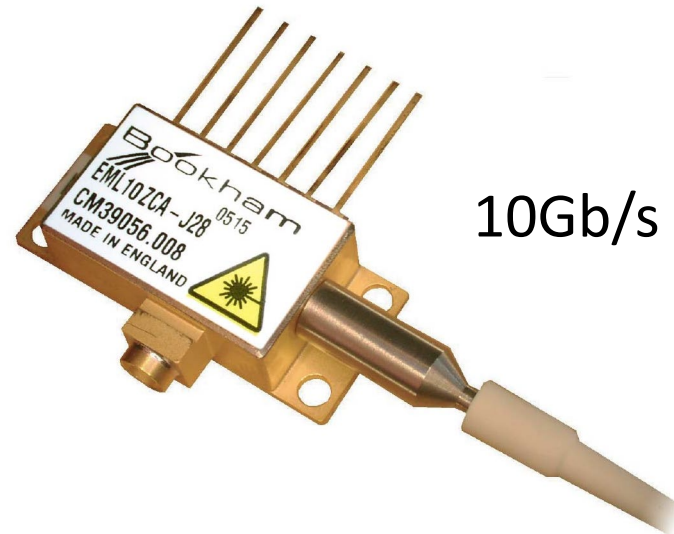
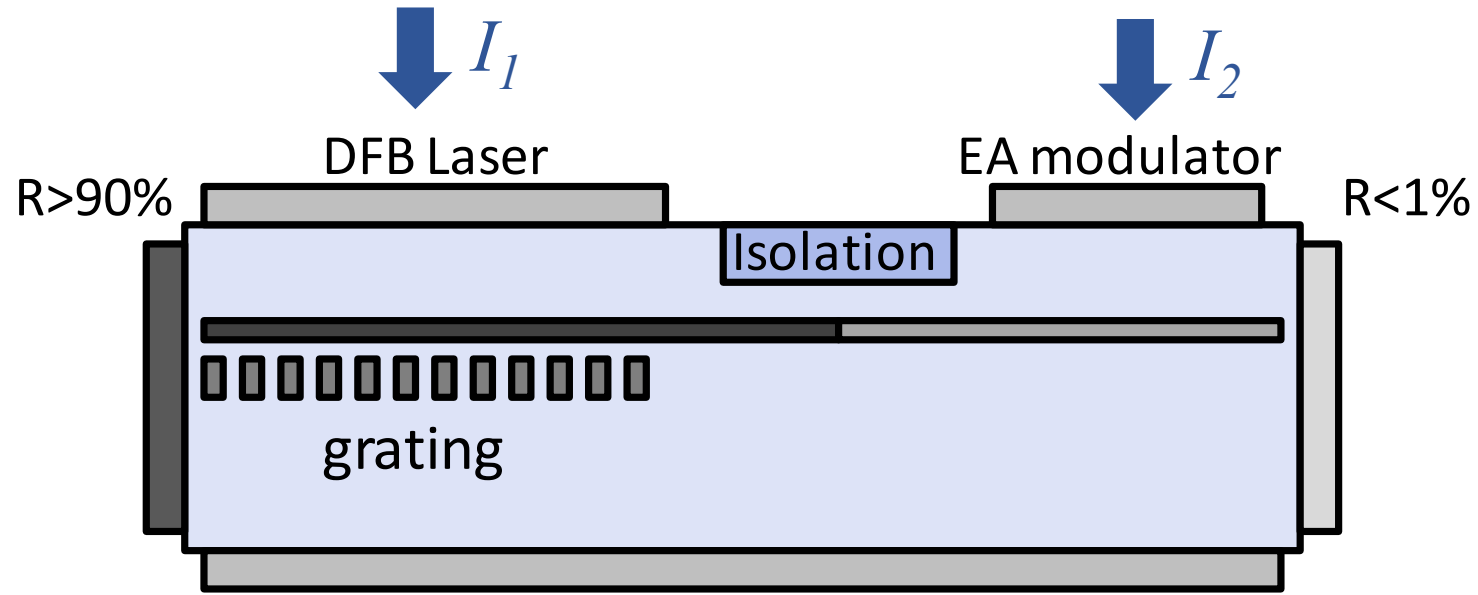


- EO Bandwidth → 30-50 GHz
- Temporal Response → 10 ps (40 Gb/s → 25 ps)
- Extinction Ratio → 15 dB
- Wavelength Range → 20 nm (1550 nm)
- Insertion Loss → 5 dB
- Residual Chirp → Kramers-Kronig Relation
- Temperature Sensitivity → Very high

INTENSITY MODULATION USING AN EAM



DFB Laser-EAM Integration



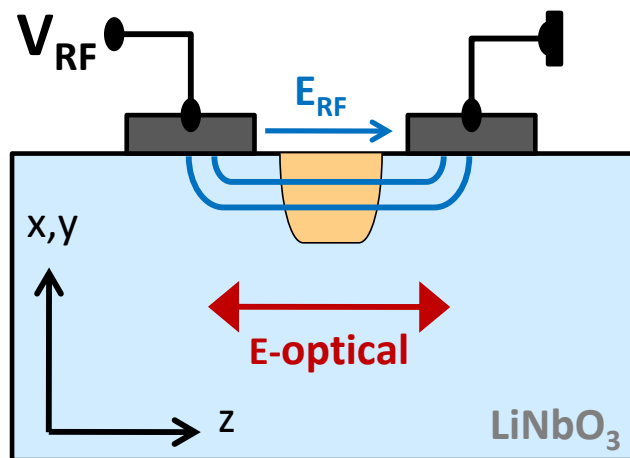
10Gb/s EA Modulator and DFB Laser

MACH-ZEHNDER MODULATOR

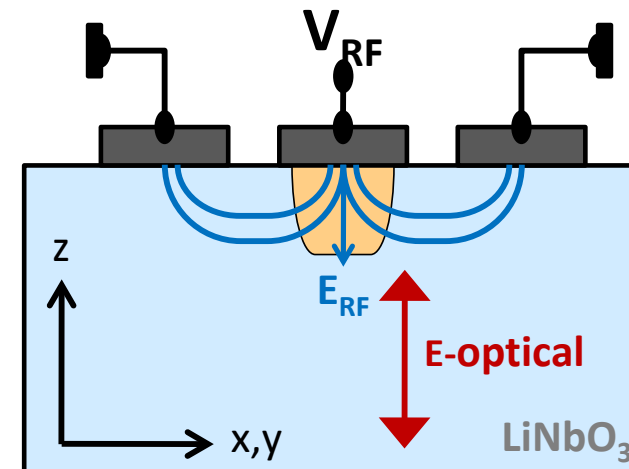
MACH-ZEHNDER MODULATORS (MZM)

Crystals Electro-refraction → Pockels Effect

Agrawal, "Components and Devices", pg. 227.

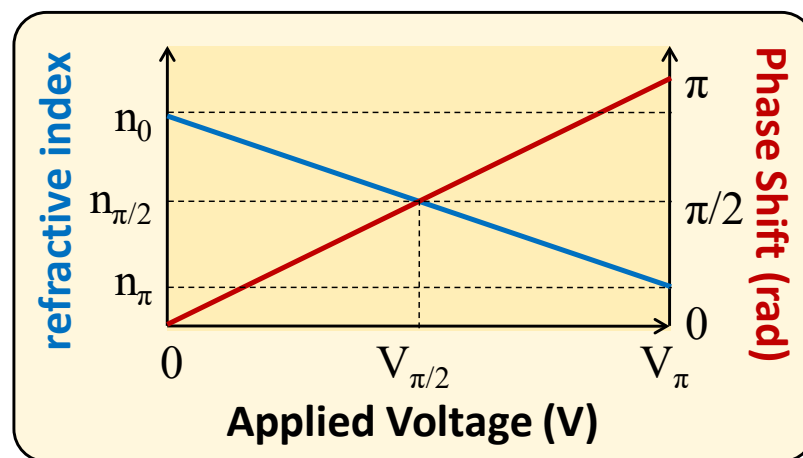


x,y-cut



z-cut

Phase Modulation



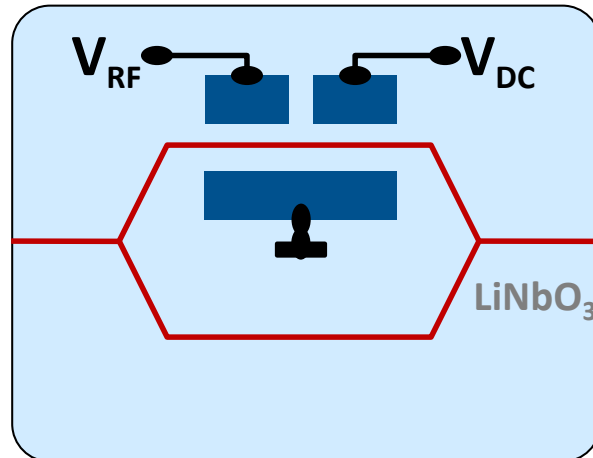
Phase Shift

$$\Delta\phi = \pi \frac{V_{RF}}{V_{\pi}}$$

V_{π} : Required driving voltage for a π radians phase shift

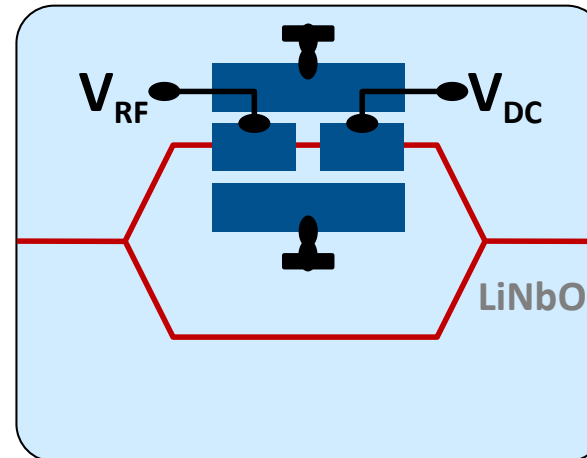
Mach-Zehnder Structures

unbalanced drive



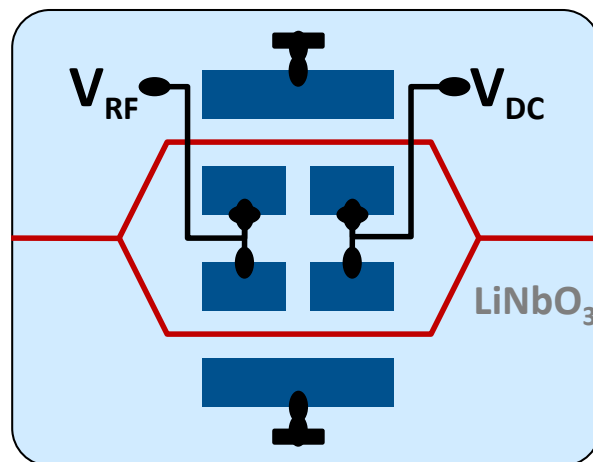
x,y-cut

unbalanced drive



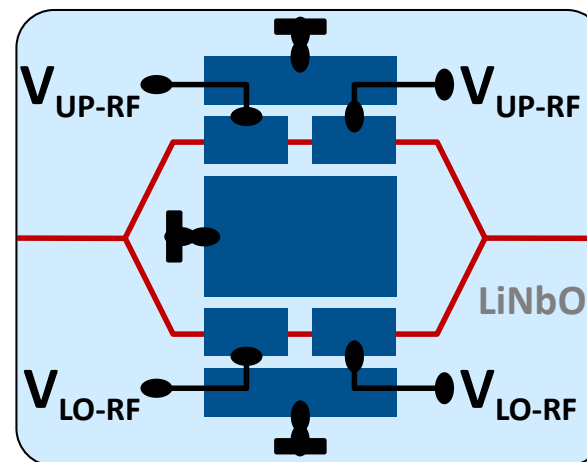
z-cut

balanced drive



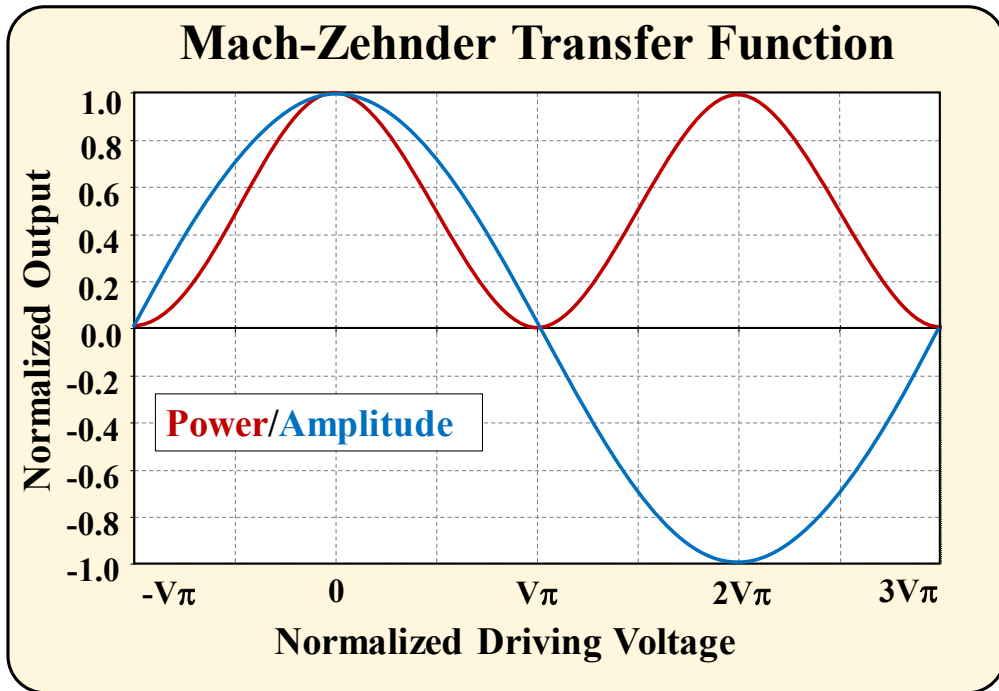
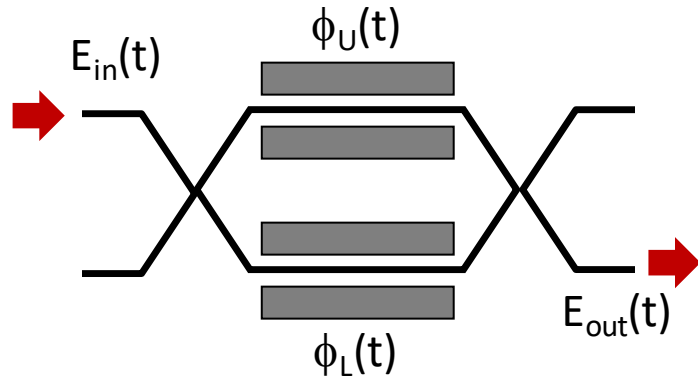
x,y-cut

differential drive



z-cut

MACH-ZEHNDER TRANSFER FUNCTION



$$E_{in}(t) = E_0 e^{j\omega t}$$

$$E_{out}(t) = E_0 \cos\left(\frac{\phi_U(t) - \phi_L(t)}{2}\right) e^{j\frac{\phi_U(t) + \phi_L(t)}{2}} e^{j\omega t}$$

$$P_{out}(t) = P_0 \cos^2\left(\frac{\phi_U(t) - \phi_L(t)}{2}\right) = P_0 \cos^2\left(\pi \frac{V_U(t) - V_L(t)}{2V_\pi}\right)$$

$$\phi_{out}(t) = \frac{\phi_U(t) + \phi_L(t)}{2} = \pi \frac{V_U(t) + V_L(t)}{2V_\pi}$$

Driving Voltage $V_U(t) - V_L(t)$

$$\phi_U(t) = \pi \frac{V_U(t)}{V_\pi}$$

$$\phi_L(t) = \pi \frac{V_L(t)}{V_\pi}$$

Proof



$$\begin{pmatrix} E_{out,1} \\ E_{out,2} \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & j \\ j & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{coupler}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} e^{j\phi_U} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{j\phi_L} \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{delay}} \underbrace{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & j \\ j & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{coupler}} \begin{pmatrix} E_{in,1} \\ E_{in,2} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} e^{j\phi_U} - e^{j\phi_L} & j(e^{j\phi_U} + e^{j\phi_L}) \\ j(e^{j\phi_U} + e^{j\phi_L}) & e^{j\phi_L} - e^{j\phi_U} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_{in,1} \\ E_{in,2} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[E_{in,2}=0]{E_{in,1}=E_0 e^{j\omega t}} \frac{E_0}{2} \begin{pmatrix} e^{j\phi_U} - e^{j\phi_L} \\ j(e^{j\phi_U} + e^{j\phi_L}) \end{pmatrix} e^{j\omega t}$$

$$E_{out,1}(t) = \frac{E_0}{2} e^{j\frac{\phi_U + \phi_L}{2}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} e^{j\frac{\phi_U - \phi_L}{2}} & -e^{-j\frac{\phi_U - \phi_L}{2}} \end{pmatrix}}_{j2 \sin\left(\frac{\phi_U - \phi_L}{2}\right)} e^{j\omega t} = E_0 \sin\left(\frac{\phi_U - \phi_L}{2}\right) e^{j\frac{\phi_U + \phi_L + \pi}{2}} e^{j\omega t}$$

$$P_{out,1}(t) = P_0 \sin^2\left(\frac{\phi_U(t) - \phi_L(t)}{2}\right) = P_0 \sin^2\left(\pi \frac{V_U(t) - V_L(t)}{2V_\pi}\right)$$

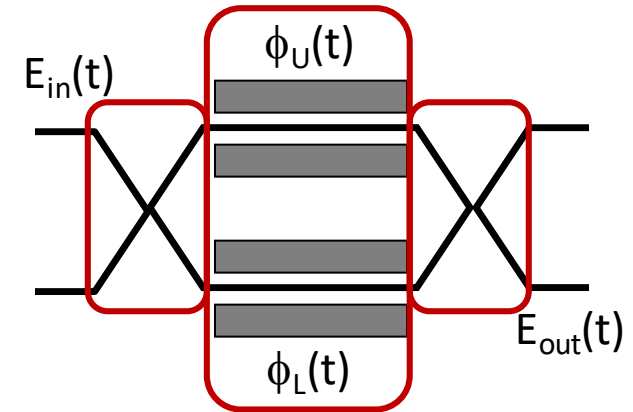
$$\phi_{out,1}(t) = \frac{\phi_U(t) + \phi_L(t)}{2} + \frac{\pi}{2} = \frac{\pi}{2} \left(\frac{V_U(t) + V_L(t)}{V_\pi} + 1 \right)$$

$$E_{out,2}(t) = \frac{E_0}{2} e^{j\frac{\phi_U + \phi_L}{2}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} e^{j\frac{\phi_U - \phi_L}{2}} & +e^{-j\frac{\phi_U - \phi_L}{2}} \end{pmatrix}}_{2 \cos\left(\frac{\phi_U - \phi_L}{2}\right)} e^{j\frac{\pi}{2}} e^{j\omega t} = E_0 \cos\left(\frac{\phi_U - \phi_L}{2}\right) e^{j\frac{\phi_U + \phi_L + \pi}{2}} e^{j\omega t}$$

$$P_{out,2}(t) = P_0 \cos^2\left(\frac{\phi_U(t) - \phi_L(t)}{2}\right) = P_0 \cos^2\left(\pi \frac{V_U(t) - V_L(t)}{2V_\pi}\right)$$

$$\phi_{out,2}(t) = \phi_{out,1}(t)$$

Complementary outputs

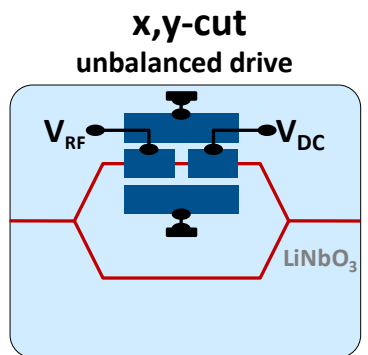
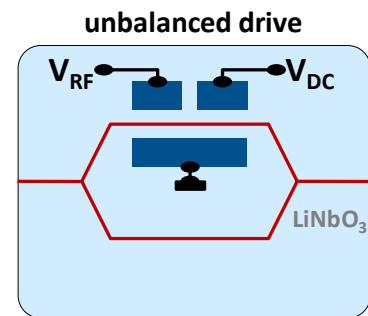


Push-Pull Operation (Chirp-free)

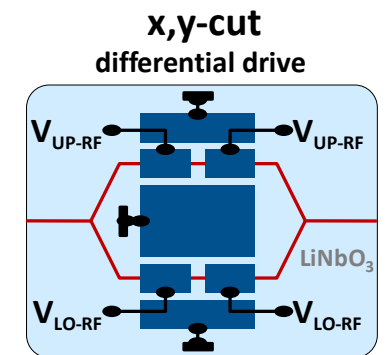
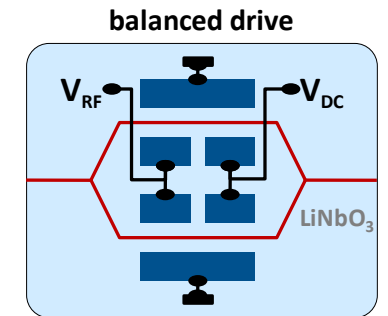
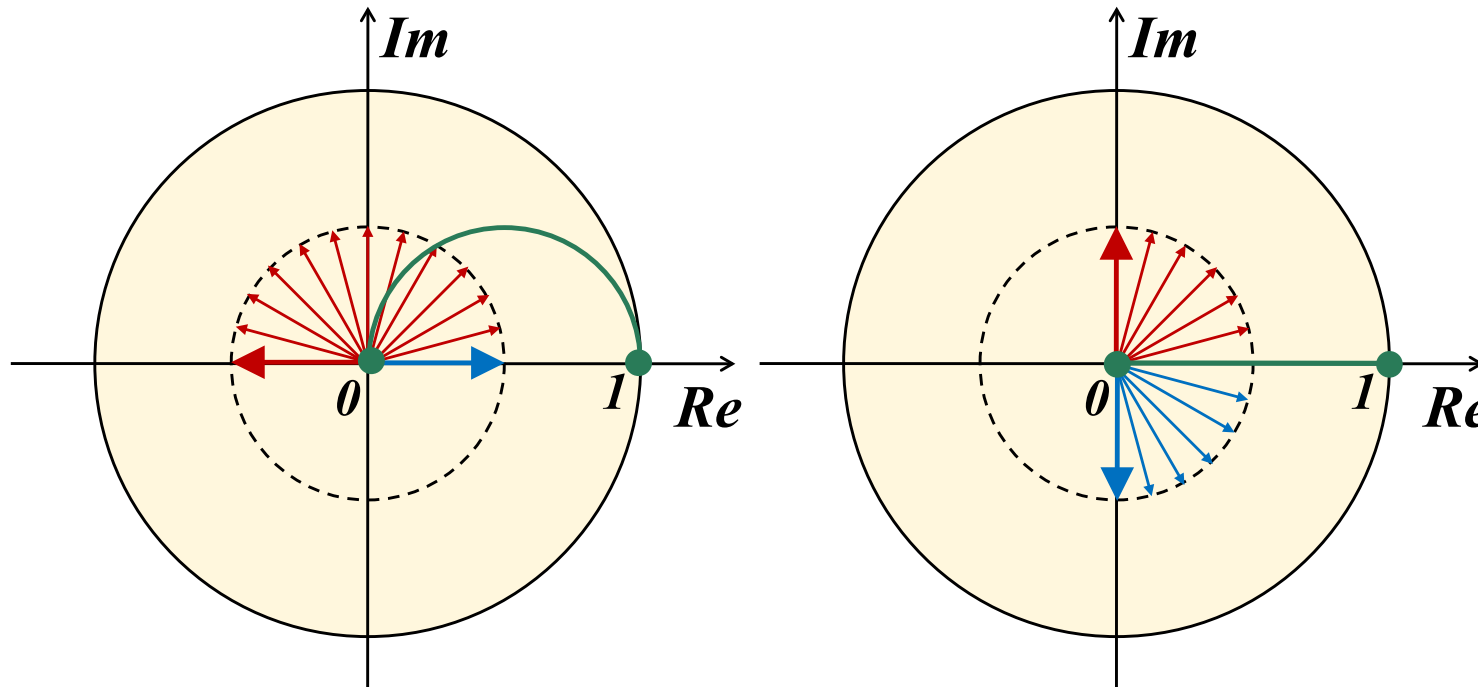
$$\phi_{out}(t) = \frac{\phi_U(t) + \phi_L(t)}{2} = \pi \frac{V_U(t) + V_L(t)}{2V_\pi} \xrightarrow{V_U(t) = -V_L(t)} 0$$

Frequency Chirp (transient chirp)

Chirp parameter $\alpha \equiv -2P(t) \frac{\frac{\partial \phi(t)}{\partial t}}{\frac{\partial P(t)}{\partial t}}$



z-cut



z-cut

Extinction Ratio

ϵ_i : coupler-i offset parameter

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_{out,1} \\ E_{out,2} \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{1+\epsilon_2} & j\sqrt{1-\epsilon_2} \\ j\sqrt{1-\epsilon_2} & \sqrt{1+\epsilon_2} \end{pmatrix}}_{coupler_2} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} e^{j\phi_U} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{j\phi_L} \end{pmatrix}}_{delay} \underbrace{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{1+\epsilon_1} & j\sqrt{1-\epsilon_1} \\ j\sqrt{1-\epsilon_1} & \sqrt{1+\epsilon_1} \end{pmatrix}}_{coupler_1} \begin{pmatrix} E_0 e^{j\omega t} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

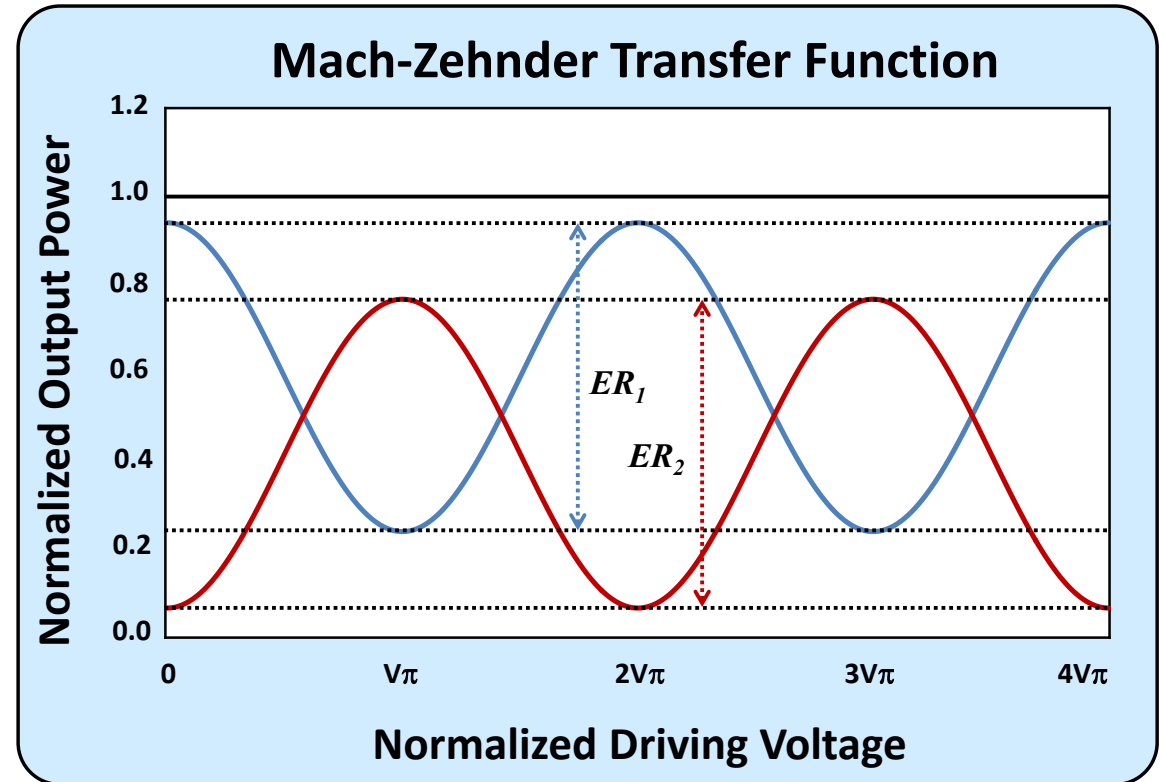


$$\frac{|E_{out,2}(t)|^2}{E_0^2} = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \epsilon_1\epsilon_2) + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{(1 - \epsilon_1^2)(1 - \epsilon_2^2)} \cos(\phi_U - \phi_L)$$

$$ER_2 = \frac{1 - \epsilon_1\epsilon_2 + \sqrt{(1 - \epsilon_1^2)(1 - \epsilon_2^2)}}{1 - \epsilon_1\epsilon_2 - \sqrt{(1 - \epsilon_1^2)(1 - \epsilon_2^2)}}$$

$$\frac{|E_{out,1}(t)|^2}{E_0^2} = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \epsilon_1\epsilon_2) - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{(1 - \epsilon_1^2)(1 - \epsilon_2^2)} \cos(\phi_U - \phi_L)$$

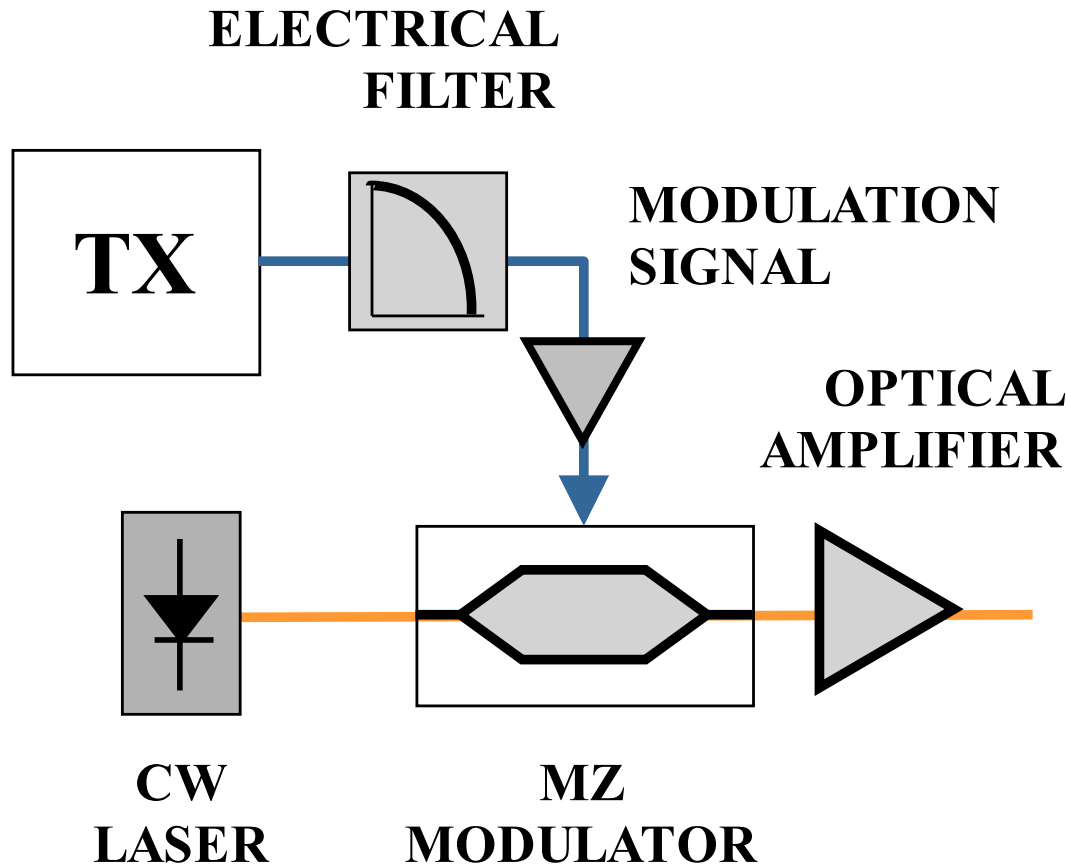
$$ER_1 = \frac{1 + \epsilon_1\epsilon_2 + \sqrt{(1 - \epsilon_1^2)(1 - \epsilon_2^2)}}{1 + \epsilon_1\epsilon_2 - \sqrt{(1 - \epsilon_1^2)(1 - \epsilon_2^2)}}$$



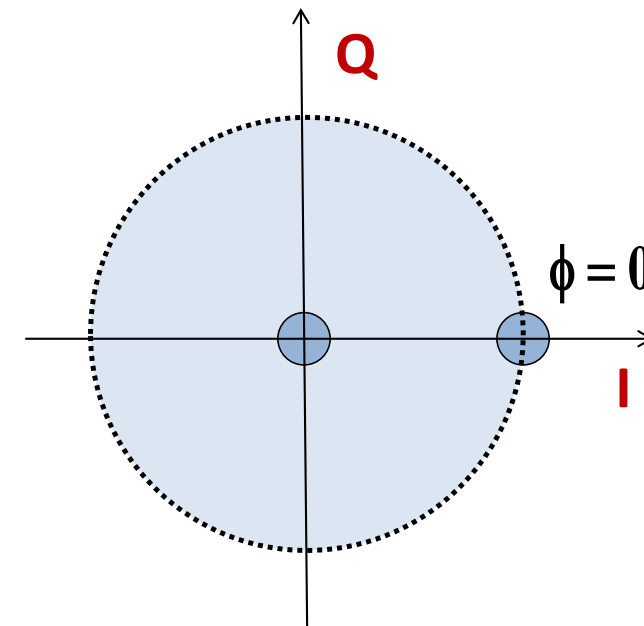
INTENSITY MODULATION (IM)

Intensity Modulation Transmitter

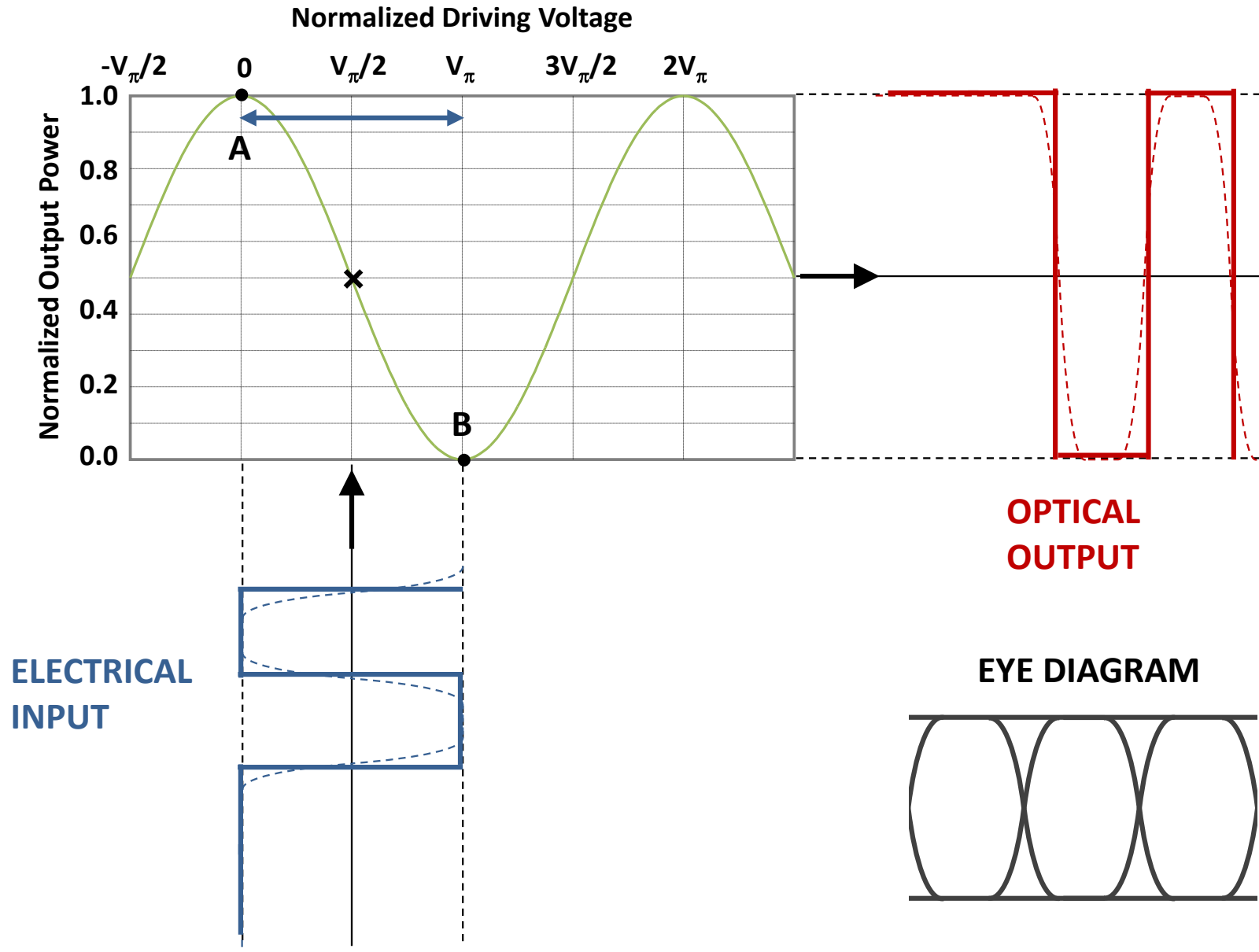
Also known as On-Off Keying (OOK)



phasorial diagram

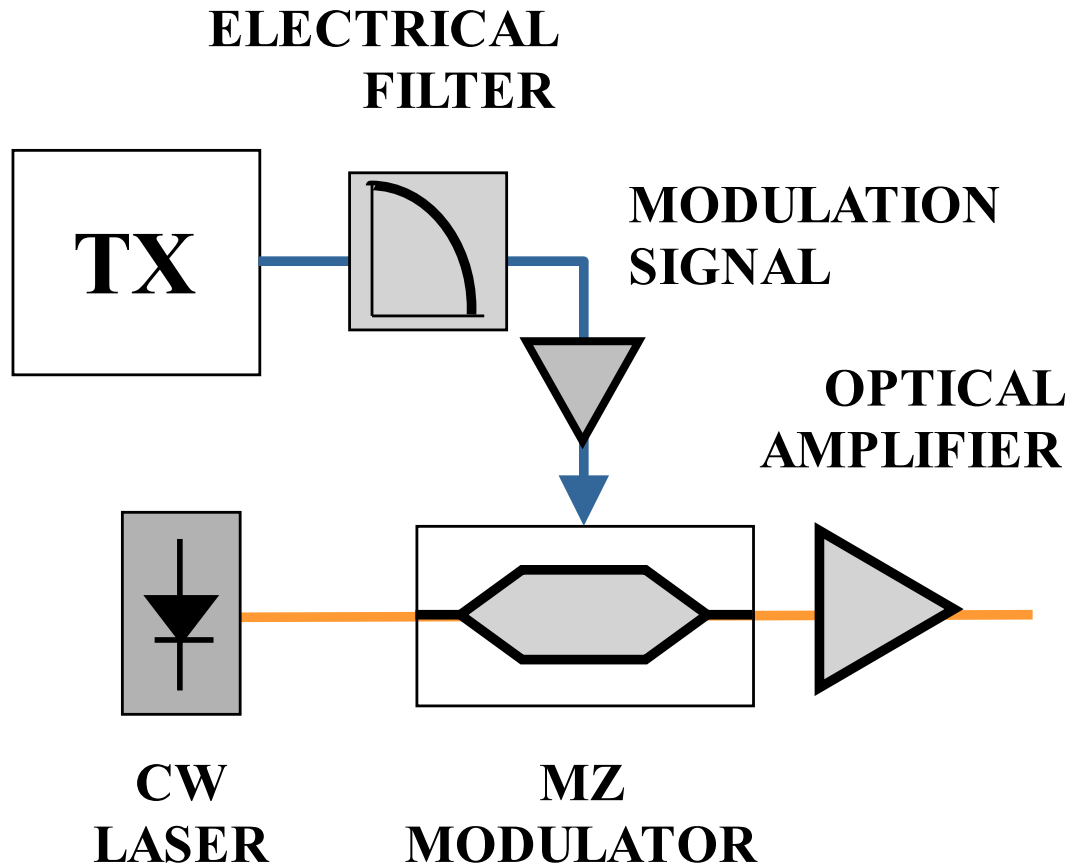


Non Return to Zero (NRZ)

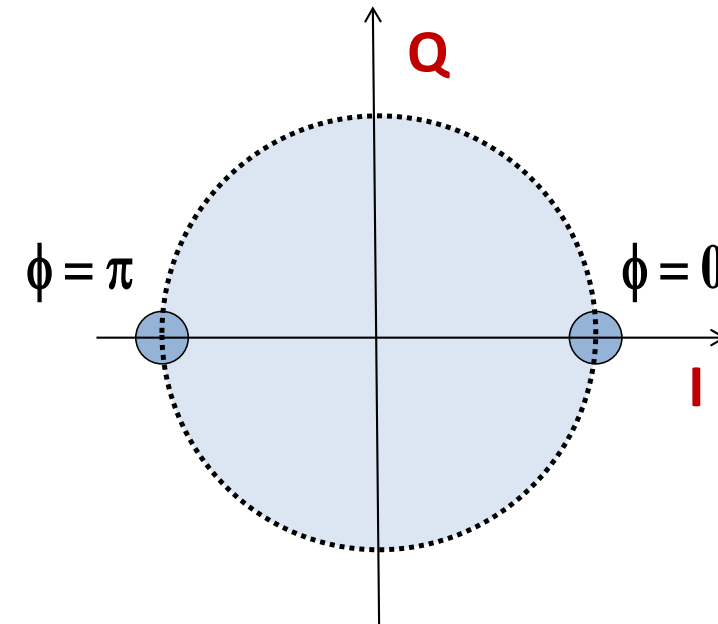


PHASE MODULATION (PM)

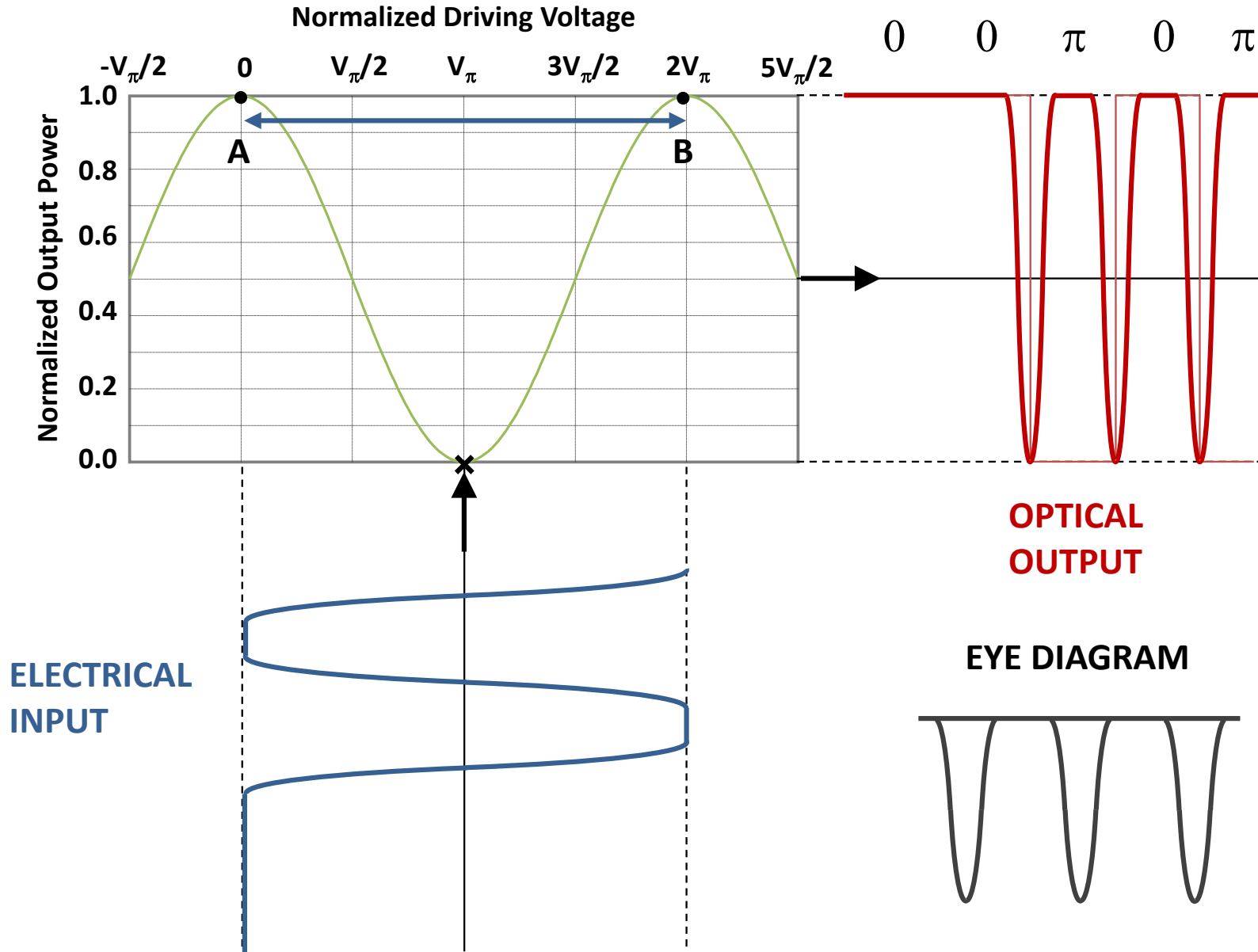
Binary Phase-Shift Keying (BPSK) Transmitter



phasorial diagram

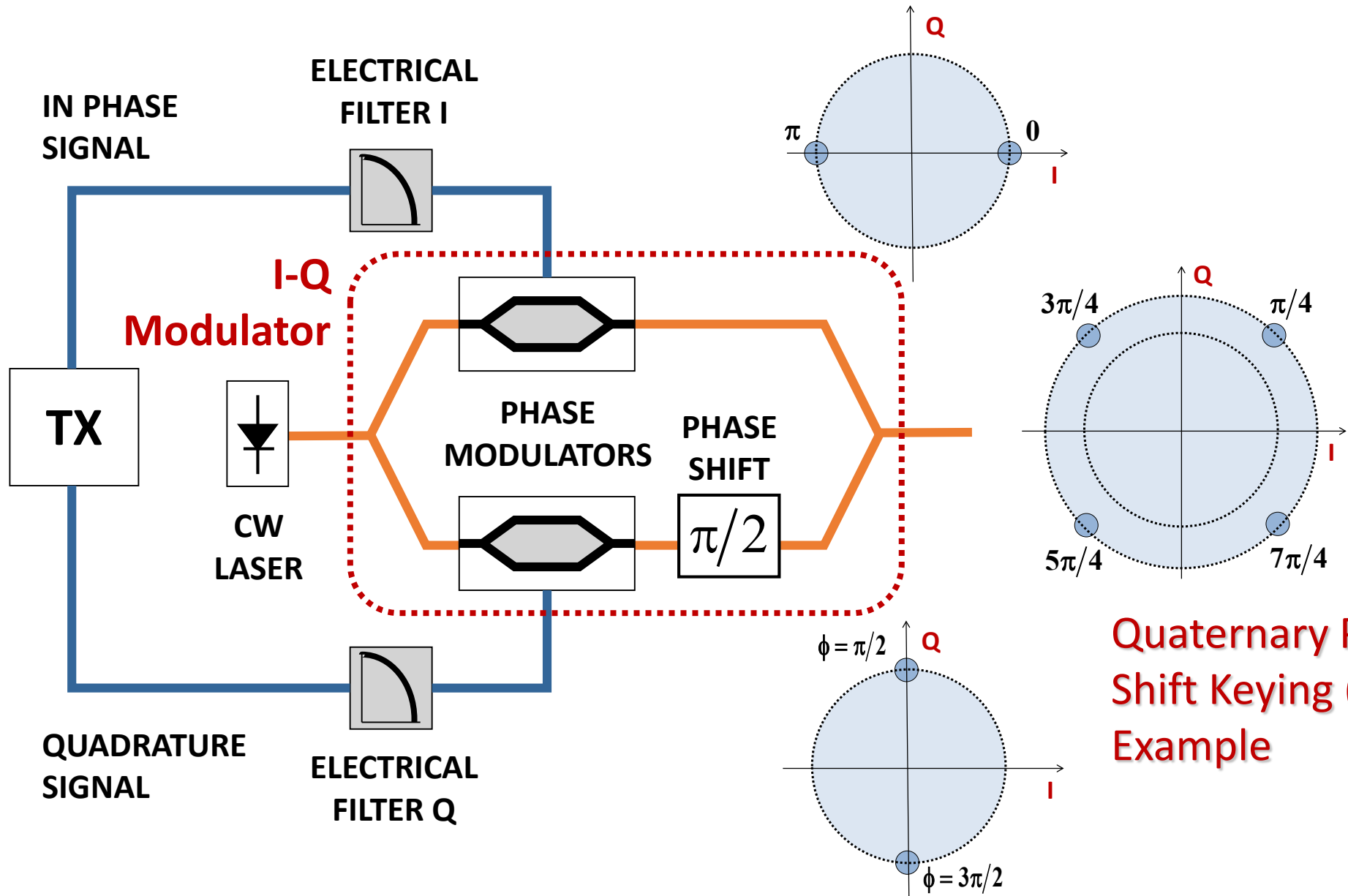


Non Return to Zero (NRZ)



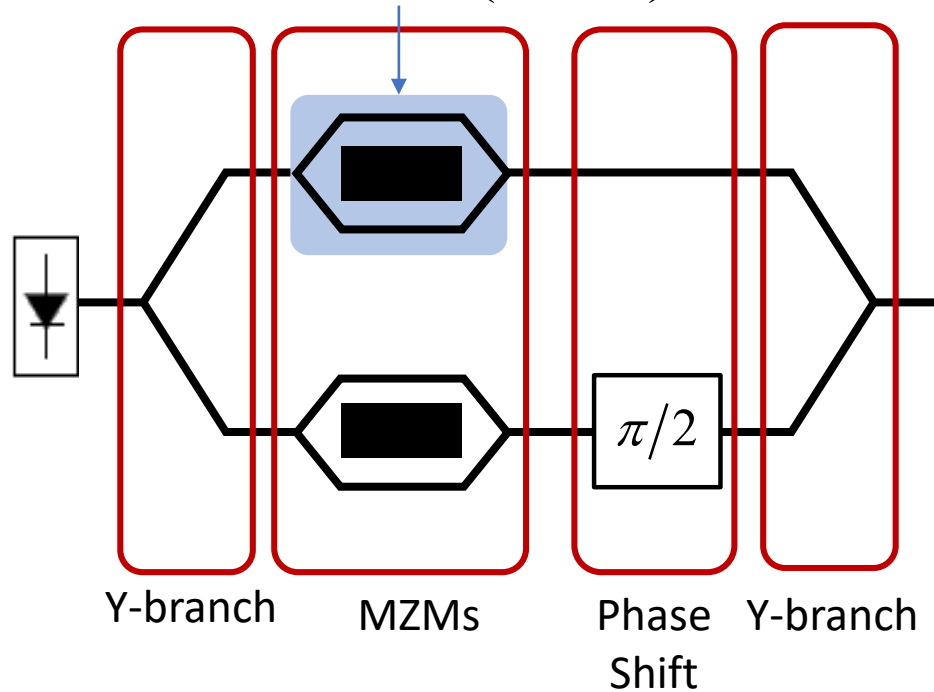
IQ MODULATOR

IN-PHASE/QUADRATURE MODULATOR (IQM)



Quaternary Phase-Shift Keying (QPSK) Example

$$E_{out}^{MZM} = \cos\left(\pi \frac{V(t)}{2V_\pi}\right) E_{in}^{MZM}$$

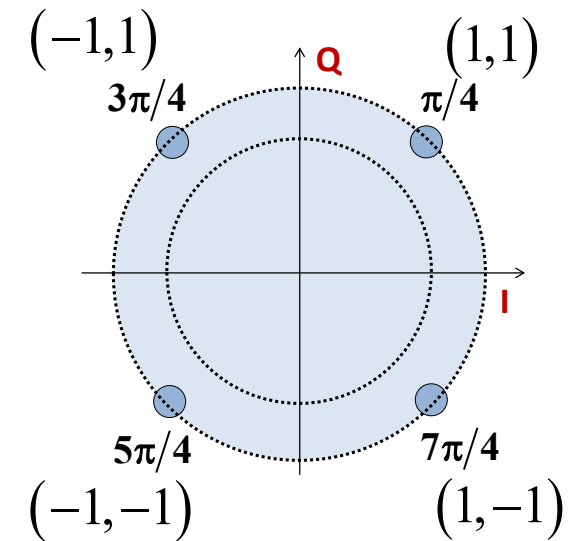


$$s(t) = s_I(t) + js_Q(t) = |A(t)|e^{j\phi(t)}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} |A(t)| &= \sqrt{s_I^2(t) + s_Q^2(t)} \\ \phi(t) &= \arctan\{s_I(t)/s_Q(t)\} \end{aligned} \right.$$

$$E_{out}^{IQM} = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \underbrace{\cos\left(\pi \frac{V_I(t)}{2V_\pi}\right)}_{\phi_I(t)} + j \underbrace{\cos\left(\pi \frac{V_Q(t)}{2V_\pi}\right)}_{\phi_Q(t)} \right\} E_{in}$$

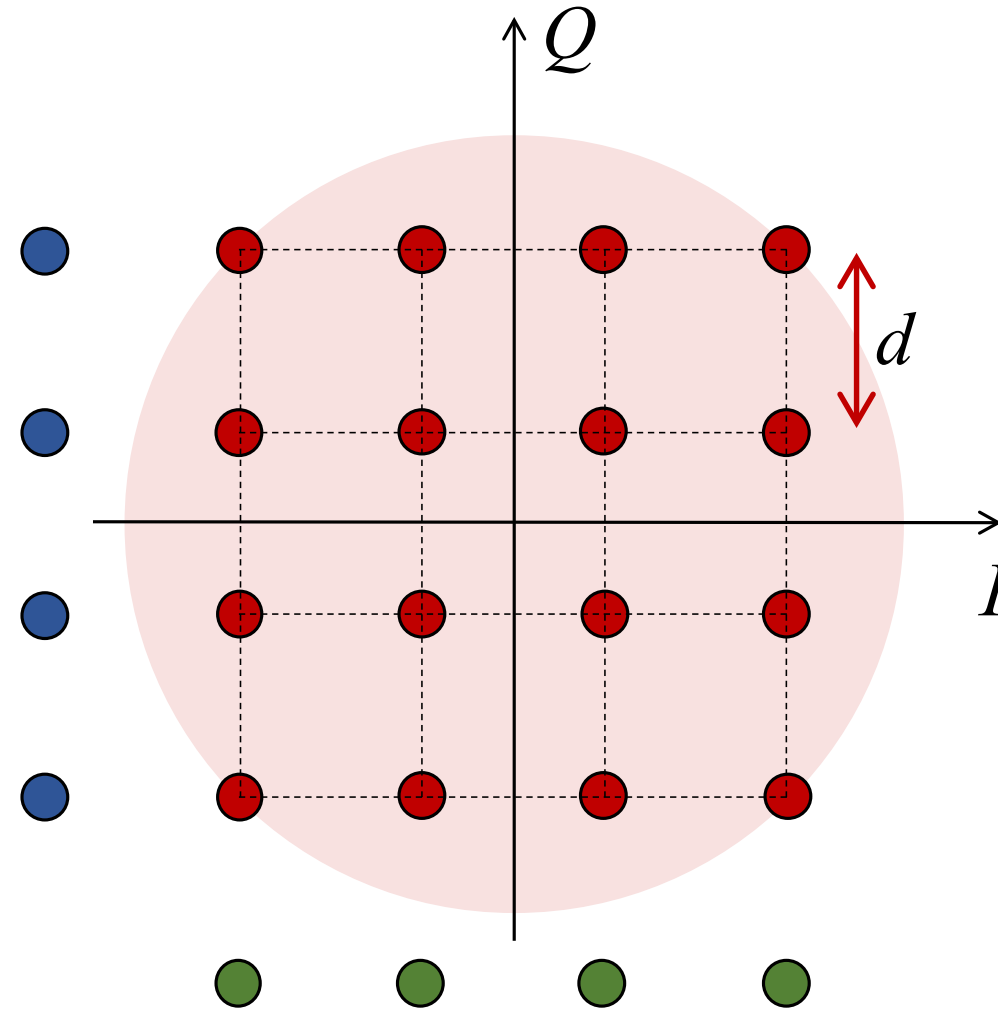
QPSK $\left\{ \begin{aligned} s_{I,Q}(kT_s) &= \{1, -1\} \\ \phi_{I,Q}(kT_s) &= \{0, \pi\} \\ V_{I,Q}(kT_s) &= \{0, 2V_\pi\} \end{aligned} \right.$



$$E_{out}^{IQM} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & j \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Y-branch_OUT phase_shift}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \cos\left(\pi \frac{V_I(t)}{2V_\pi}\right) & 0 \\ 0 & \cos\left(\pi \frac{V_Q(t)}{2V_\pi}\right) \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{MZMs}} \underbrace{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Y-branch_IN}} E_{in}$$

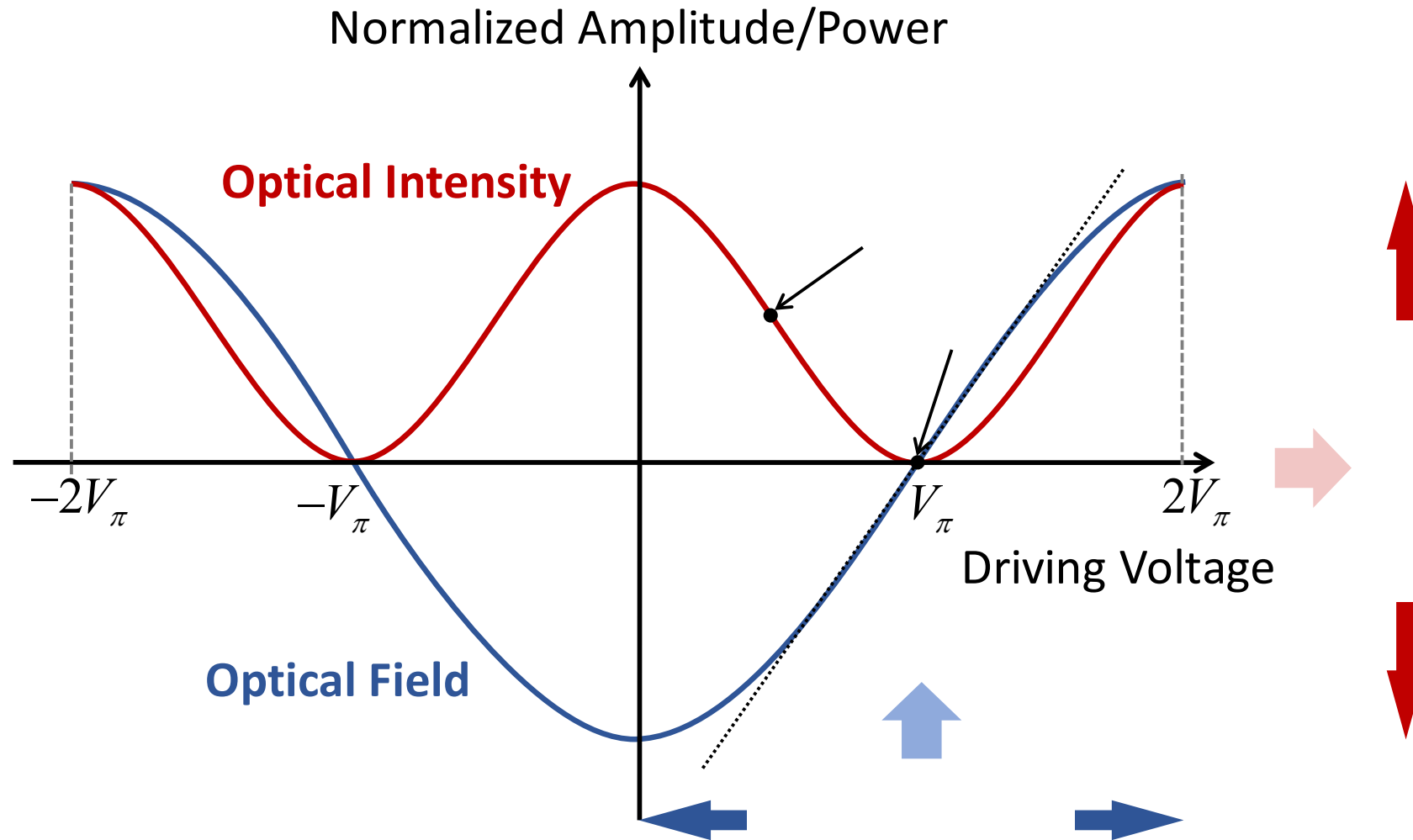
Quadrature Amplitude Modulation (QAM)

QAM Modulation



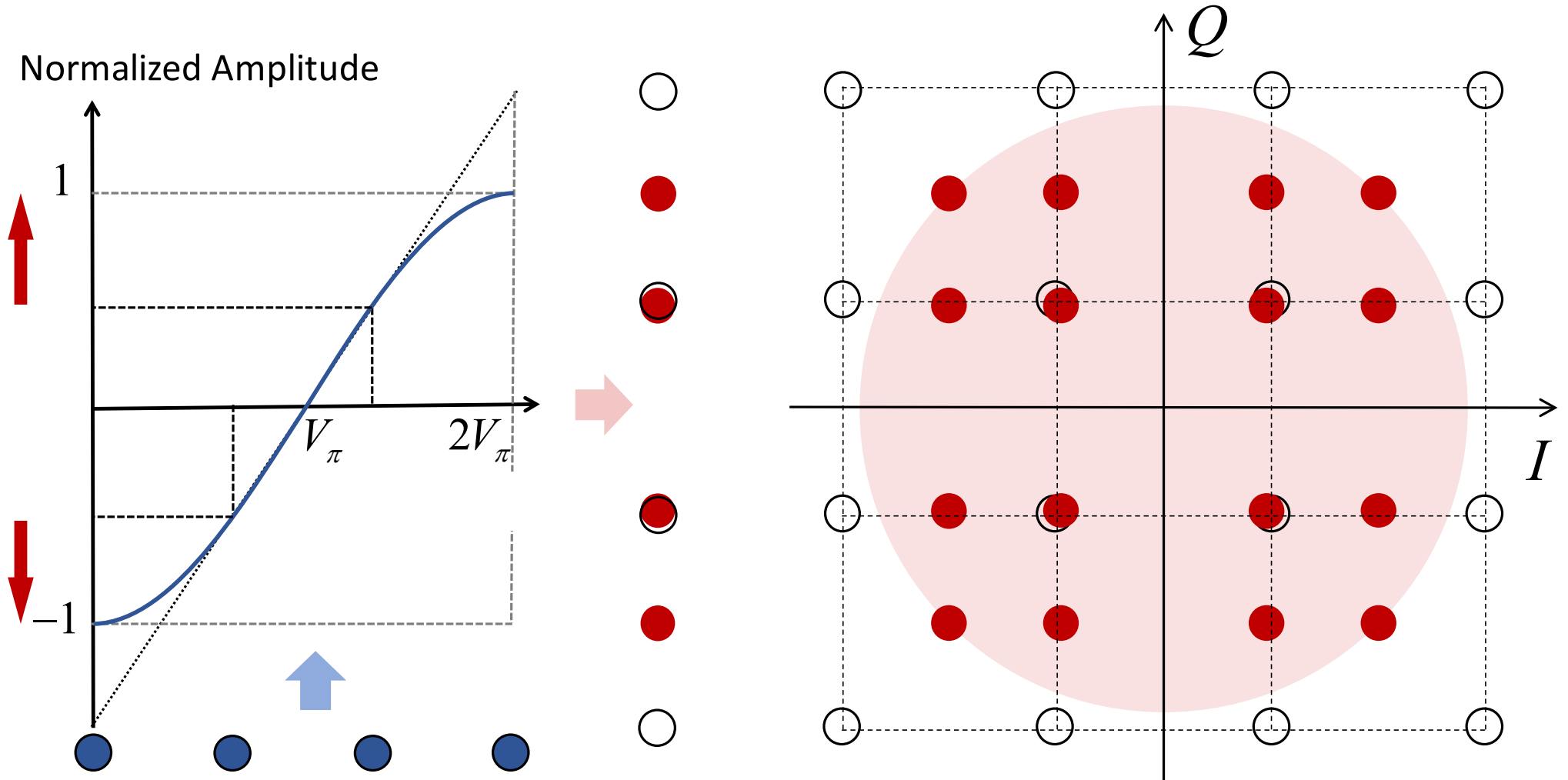
MZM (Nonlinear) Transfer Function

QAM Modulation



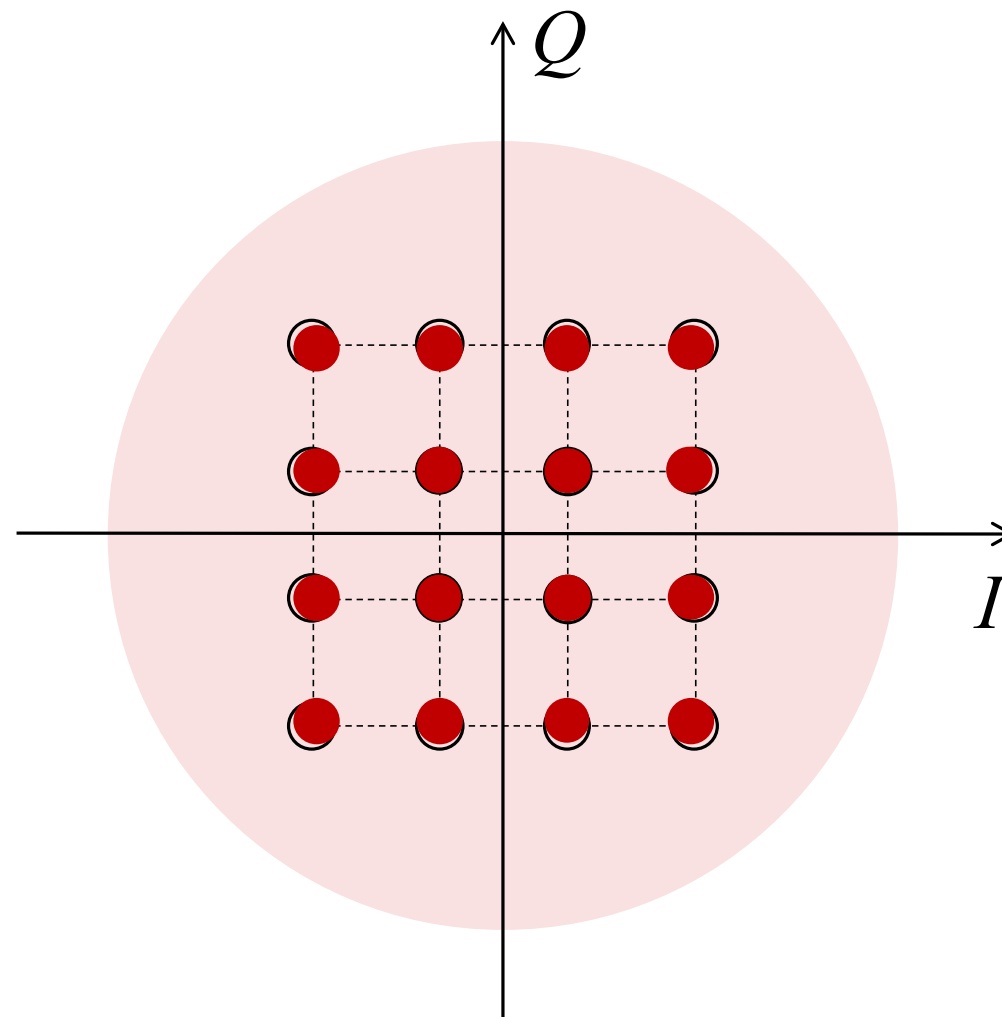
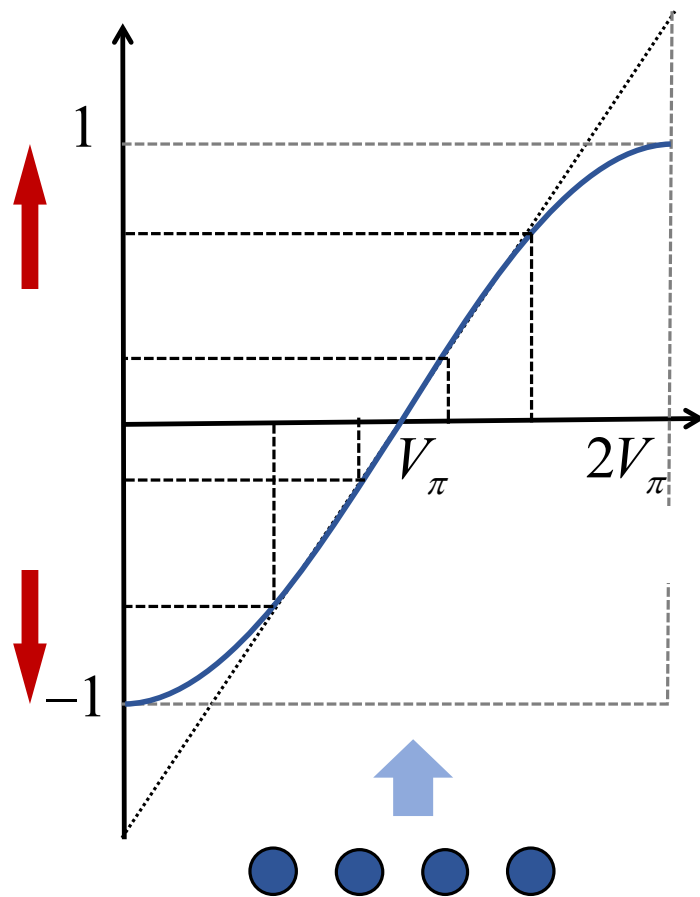
QAM Modulation

Full Swing \rightarrow Huge Distortion



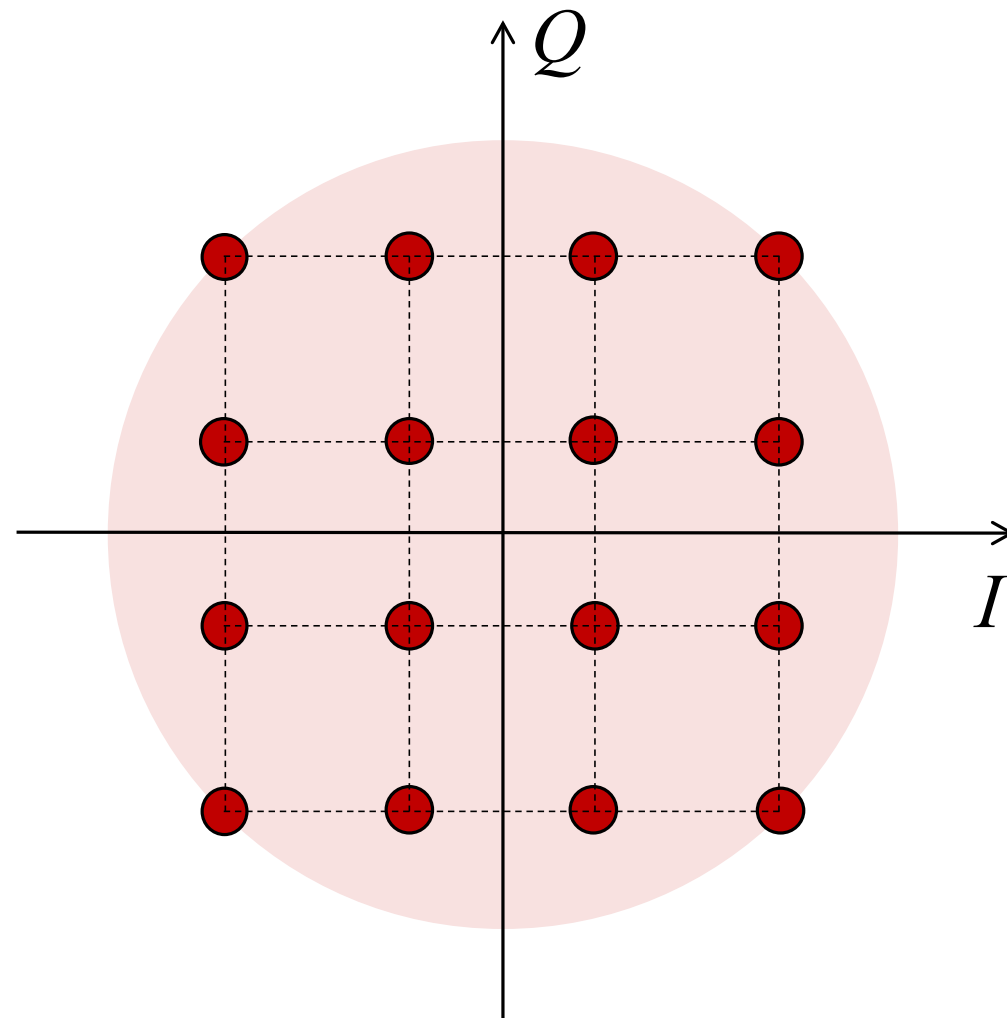
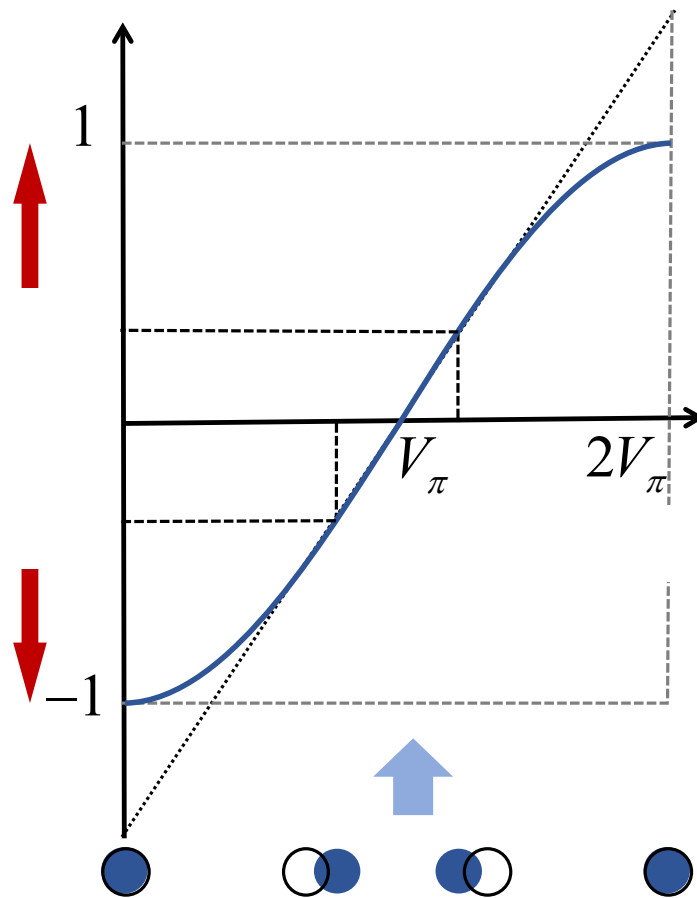
QAM Modulation

Reduced Swing \rightarrow Small Distortion

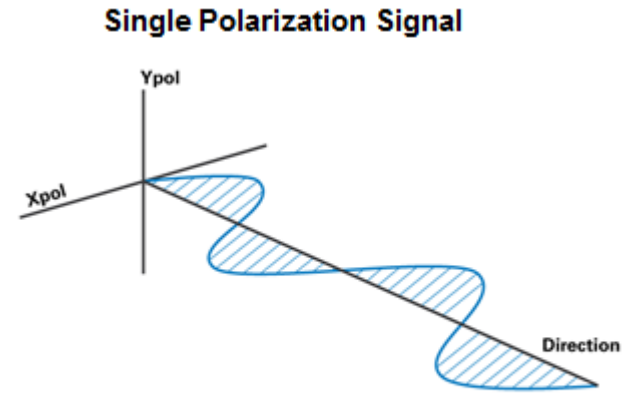
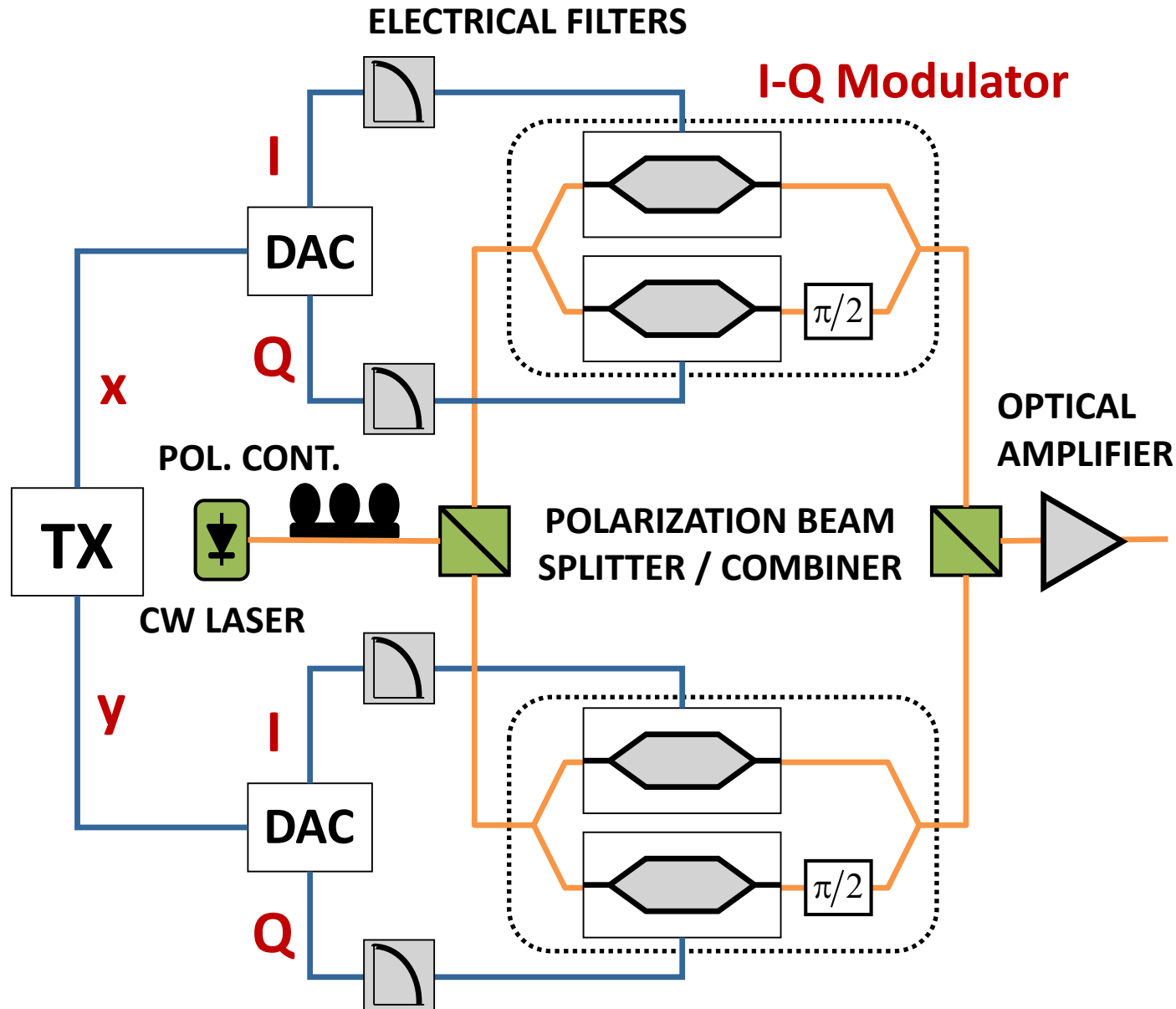


QAM Modulation

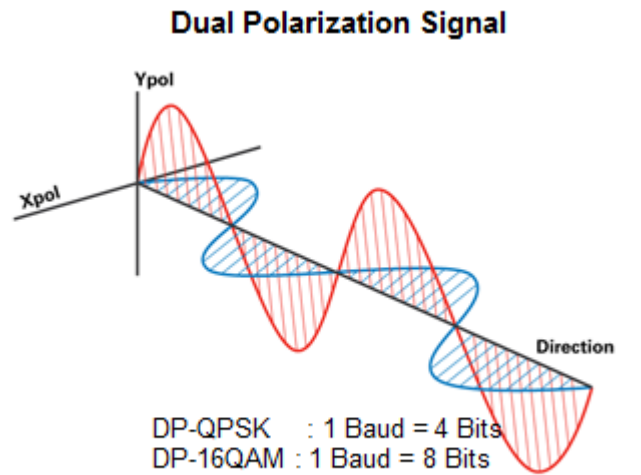
Predistortion → Full Swing



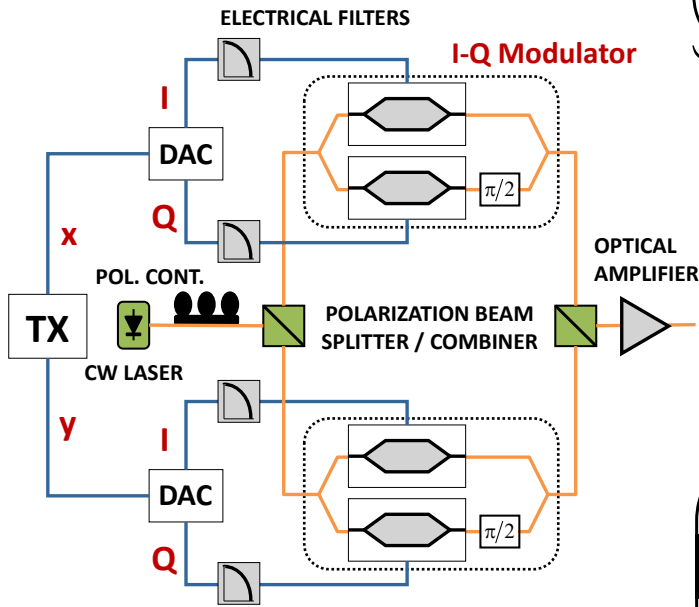
Polarization Multiplexing (PM)



QPSK : 1 Baud = 2 Bits
 16QAM : 1 Baud = 4 Bits
 64QAM : 1 Baud = 8 Bits



DP-QPSK : 1 Baud = 4 Bits
 DP-16QAM : 1 Baud = 8 Bits
 DP-64QAM : 1 Baud = 16 Bits



$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} E_{out-x}(t) \\ E_{out-y}(t) \end{pmatrix}}_{E_{out}(t)} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} s_{I-x}(t) + js_{Q-x}(t) & 0 \\ 0 & s_{I-y}(t) + js_{Q-y}(t) \end{pmatrix} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} E_{in-x}(t) \\ E_{in-y}(t) \end{pmatrix}}_{E_{in}(t)}$$

Linear 45° Polarization



$$E_{in}(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} A_L e^{j\omega_c t}$$

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} E_{out-x}(t) \\ E_{out-y}(t) \end{pmatrix}}_{E_{out}(t)} = \frac{A_L}{2\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} s_{I-x}(t) + js_{Q-x}(t) \\ s_{I-y}(t) + js_{Q-y}(t) \end{pmatrix} e^{j\omega_c t} = \frac{A_L}{2\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} A_x(t) \\ \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} |A_x(t)| e^{j\phi_x(t)} \\ |A_y(t)| e^{j\phi_y(t)} \end{pmatrix}}_{A_y(t)} \\ A_y(t) \end{pmatrix} e^{j\omega_c t}$$

Arbitrary Rotation



$$\begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\alpha} \cdot e^{j\theta} & \sqrt{1-\alpha} \\ \sqrt{1-\alpha} & -\sqrt{\alpha} \cdot e^{-j\theta} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_x(t) \\ A_y(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_x(t)\sqrt{\alpha}e^{j\theta} + A_y(t)\sqrt{1-\alpha} \\ A_x(t)\sqrt{1-\alpha} - A_y(t)\sqrt{\alpha}e^{-j\theta} \end{pmatrix}$$

Mixed Information