

# Opportunities and Challenges in the Evolution beyond F5G

High speed PON evolution, and why it's (really) needed

Ed Harstead, Nokia Fixed Networks, [ed.harstead@nokia.com](mailto:ed.harstead@nokia.com)

ECOC 2022

# Directions in PON technology evolution

## Capacity

25G+

- 25Gb/s today
- 100Gb/s demo

## SDN



- Network slicing
- Automation

## Low latency



- 1 ms
- Industry 4.0, Anyhaul

## Reliability



- Mission critical
- Minimum five nines

## Green



- 6-8x lower carbon footprint than copper, coax or wireless

# Sample headline speed announcements in 2022

## AT&T upgrades its fiber network to offer 2-Gig, 5-Gig speeds

By Linda Hardesty · Jan 24, 2022 02:29pm

## Bell to deliver 8Gbps symmetrical internet speeds next month

Toronto residents in select parts of the city will have access first

By Nida Zafar @nida\_zafar | AUG 2, 2022

## Init7 Fiber7-X2

Fibre-optic Internet

Max: 25/25 Gbit/sec (download/upload)

● speed test  
Search term



+ Compare

Worldwide ▾

2004 - present ▾

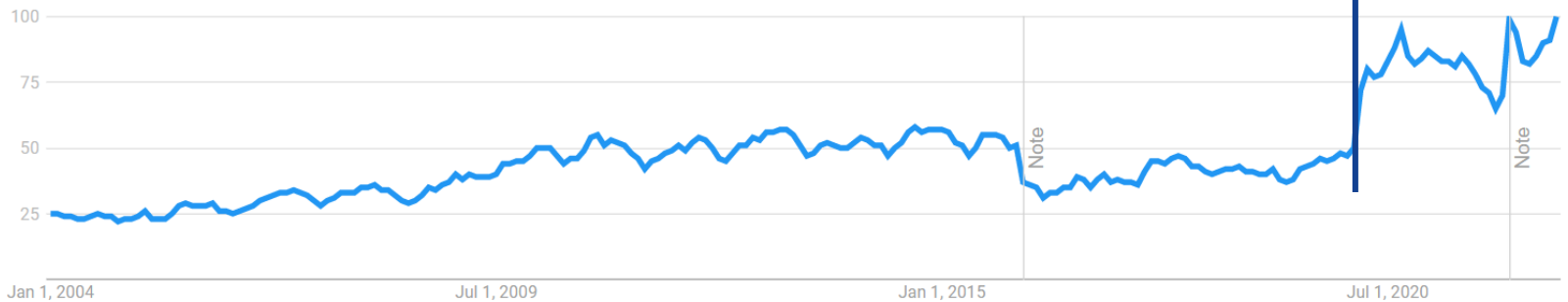
All categories ▾

Web Search ▾

Interest over time



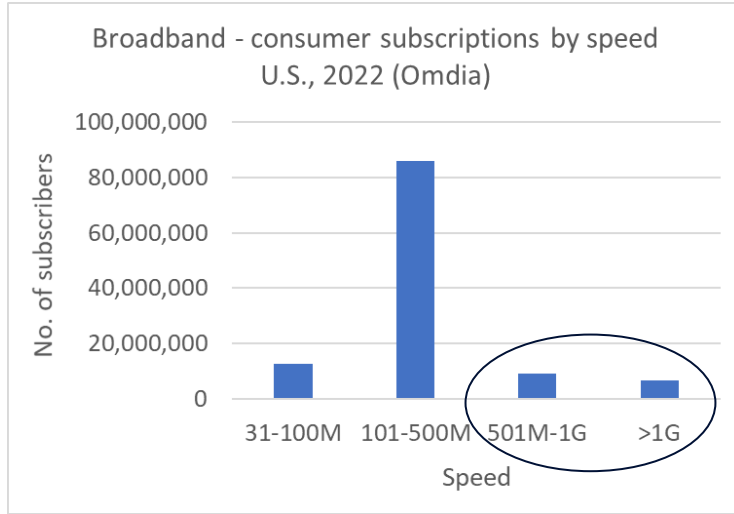
March 2020



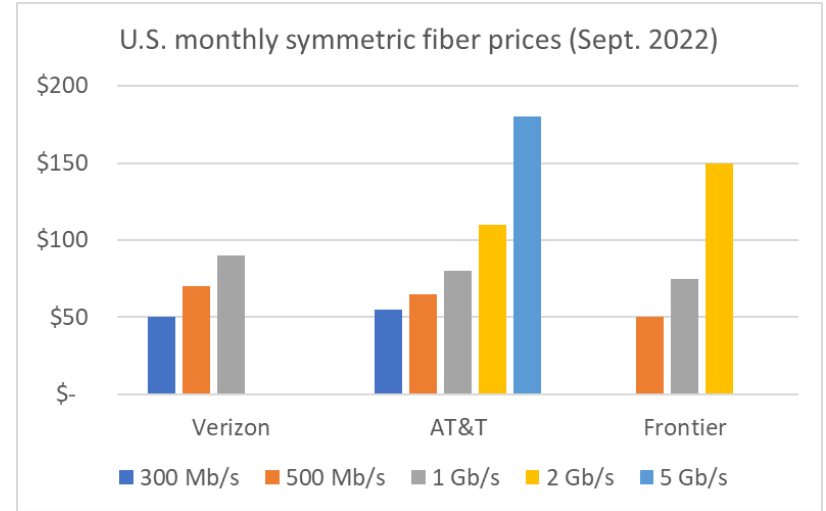
Notes: an improvement to our data collection system was applied



# Bandwidth can be monetized!



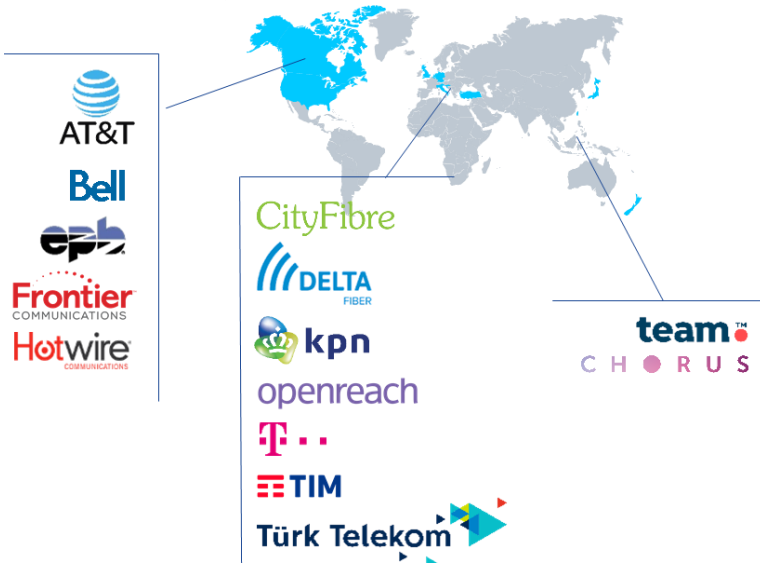
X



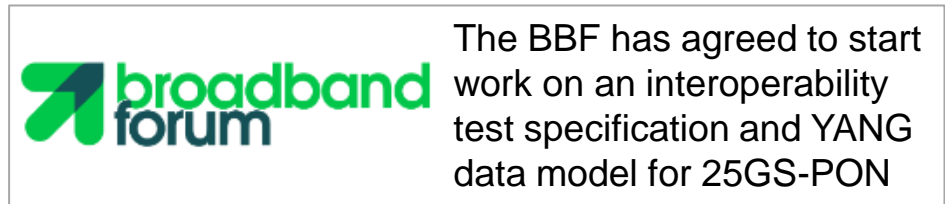
U.S. operators are receiving about **\$8B annual revenue** just for upgrading subscribers from 500M to 1G+ service.

# Delivering 10G+ services: the 25GS-PON rollout

## 14 publicly-announced 25GS-PON trials



- The [25GS-PON MSA](#) membership is >50:
  - silicon, optics, CPE, system + test equipment vendors
  - 12 operators.
- More than 500,000 25GS-PON-ready OLT ports in operator networks today.

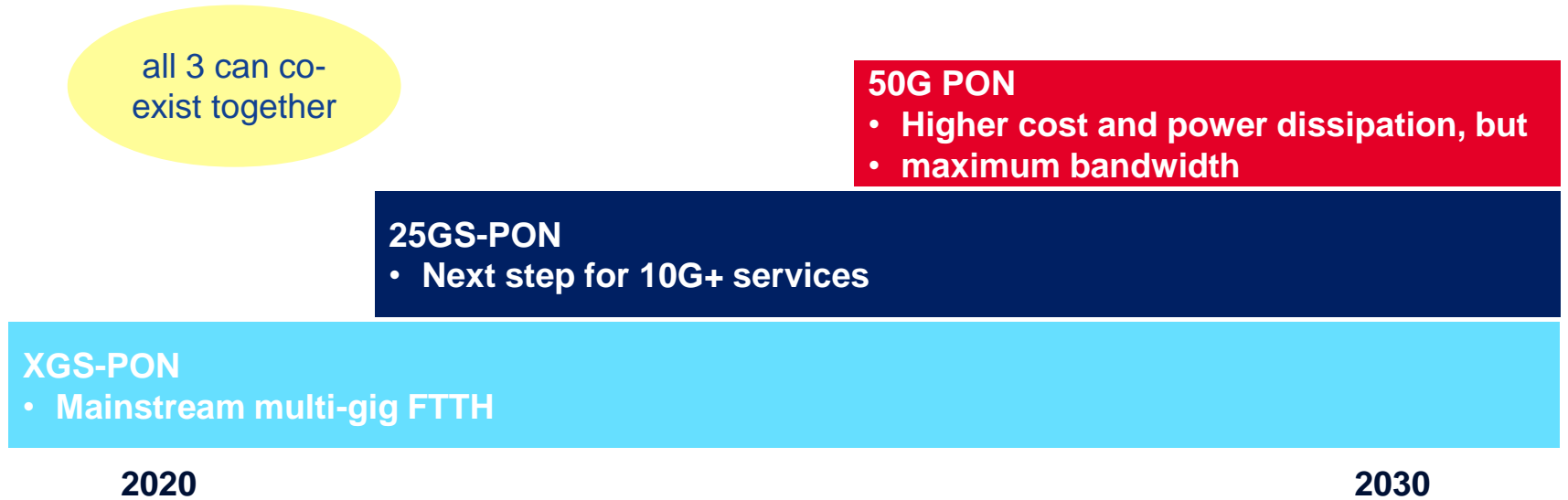


## Chattanooga's EPB boosts its speed to 25G across its footprint

Chattanooga boasts fastest communitywide internet service in the world The latest upgrade uses 25GS PON

August 24, 2022 at 7:31 p.m.

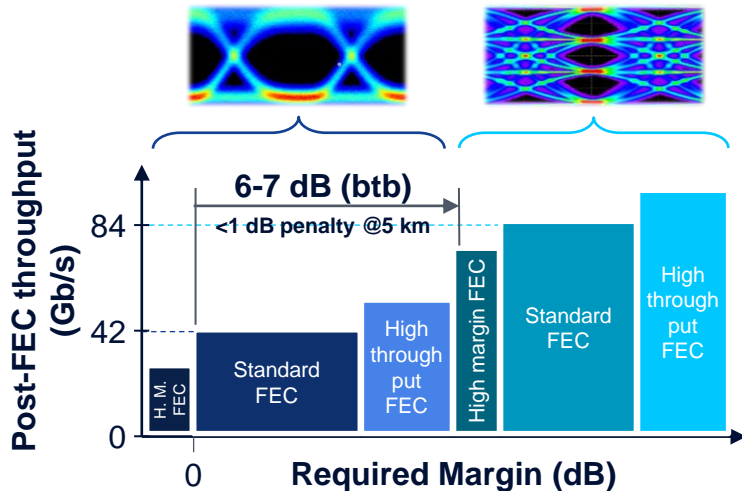
# PON capacity roadmap for this decade



- There are 100s of operators in the world, all with different pressures, strategies and timelines.
- The \$10B PON industry is big enough for 3 tools in the toolkit.

# Towards 100G PON: Flex rate PON

- Unused margins in the PON channel can be exploited for ~2x throughput
- Flex-rate PON is under study in ITU-T to allow 50G (NRZ) PON to flex up to 100G PAM4.
- Flexible FEC and flexible modulation, just like DSL, DOCSIS, cellular, WiFi



R. Borkowski et al., "FLCS-PON – A 100 Gbit/s Flexible Passive Optical Network: Concepts and Field Trial", JLT, Aug. 2021.



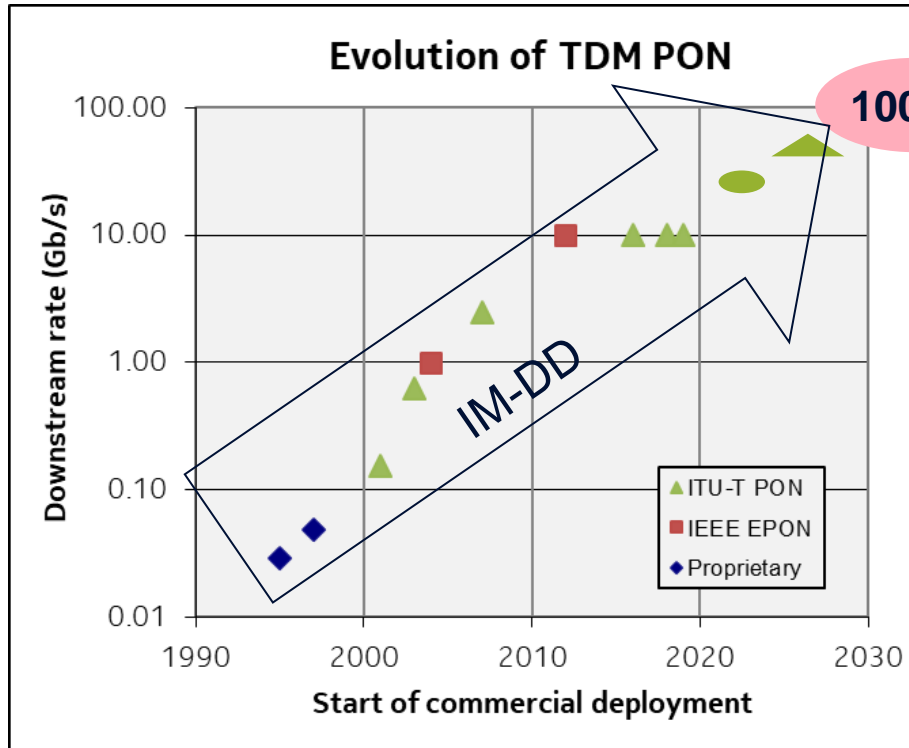
Bell Labs trial with Vodafone, Jan. 2021

- *Note that this higher throughput is opportunistic, it is not guaranteed.*
- Can IM-DD PON support guaranteed 100G, full loss budgets and 20 km?

- Rene Bonk, "Flexibility in PON - Enabler for New Use Cases", WS03, today, 14:00–17:30, Samarkand + Osaka
- Amitkumar Mahadevan, "Digital Signal Processing for Next Generation PONs", Tu4C.1



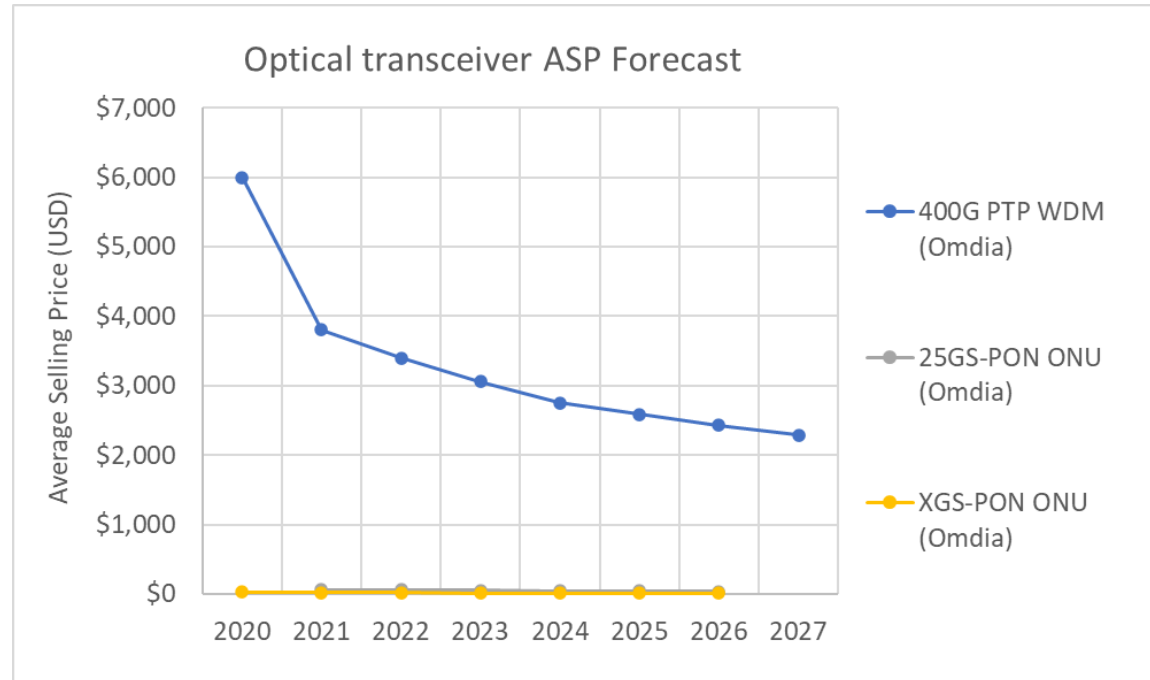
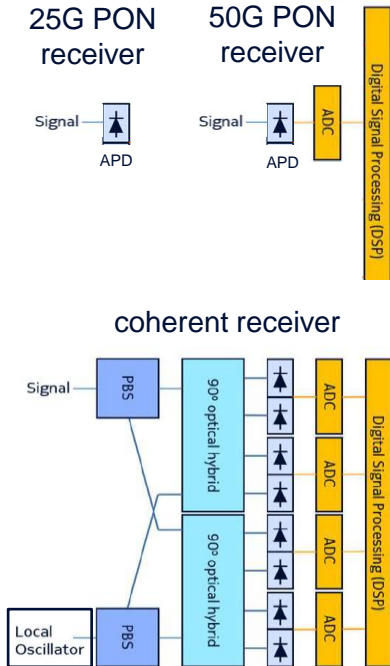
# TDM PON evolution: what comes after 50G?



Will 100G PON be IM-DD or coherent?

# Coherent PON: the challenge

- Coherent detection will help on power budget: ~10 dB improvement over best-case direct detection.
- But can it be cost-effective? And at what power dissipation?



# 100G IM-DD PON: the challenges can be overcome... in time.

Let's put ourselves in the year **2030** and see what is possible with NRZ modulation:

- Higher speed components: the intra-data center market is already driving 100 Gbaud.
- Increased fiber dispersion can be mitigated with
  - continuously improving DSP equalization
  - lower chirp transmitters
  - moving the downstream wavelength closer to the zero-dispersion wavelength.
- The power budget challenge can be met with an
  - SOA optically pre-amplified ONU receiver
  - stronger FEC.

**Conclusion: a 100G PON using conventional IM-DD technology will be the most practical.**

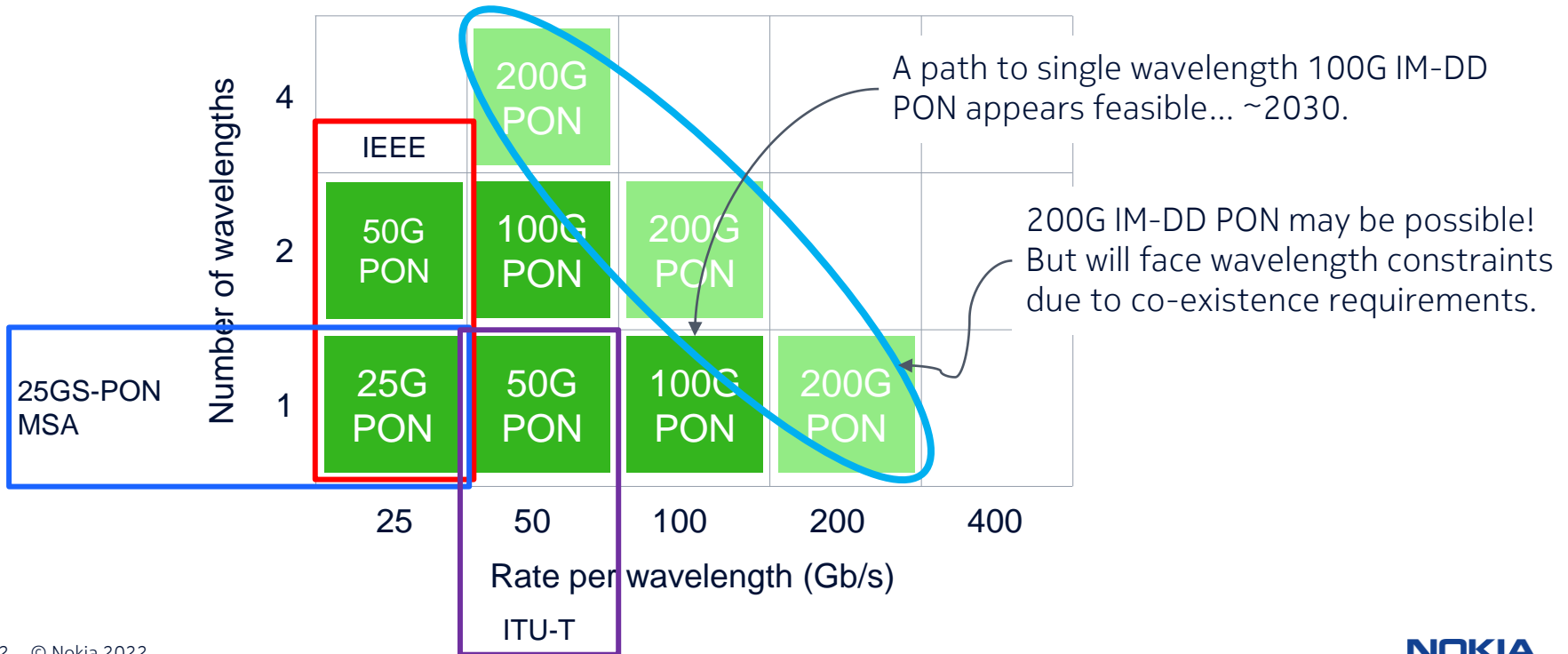
- Lower cost, lower power

Receiver Parameter	simulation	
	50G PON NRZ	100G PON NRZ
(Tx OMA	11.25 dBm	11.25 dBm)
Sensitivity, OMA, 20 km	-22.75 dBm	-22.75 dBm
Tx chirp alpha	0.5	0.3
Wavelength	1340-1344 nm	1318-1322 nm
SOA gain	-	20 dB
SOA NF	-	6 dB
SOA filter width	-	4 nm
PD gain	8 (APD)	1
Effective bandwidth	18.75 GHz	50 GHz
ADC resolution (ENoB)	5	6
ADC sampling rate	50 GSa/s	100 GSa/s
Input BER	1e-2	2e-2
Equalization	13FFE	21FFE/3DFE

E. Harstead, R. Bonk, "Progress and Limits of IM-DD PON, and Directions for Coherent PON", OFC 2022.

# A view of the future: IM-DD continues to successfully leverage

- the intra-DC ecosystem and
- decreasing CMOS node sizes.



**NOKIA**