Empowering Future Al Compute with Co-Packaged Optics

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Data – Key Driver for Electronics, Semiconductors & Optics





Photonics is a Key Enabler of 5G, Data Centers, Al and More



- Dense wavelength division multiplexing (DWDM) fiber optic connections

Source: "Exploring 5G Fronthaul Network Architecture Intelligence Splits & Connectivity" 5G Wireless Communications – Silicon Photonics, Intel



https://spectrum.ieee.org/tech-talk/computing/hardware/buildingquantum-computers-with-photons Image: Xiaogang Qiang/University of Bristol Y. Shen et al. Deep learning with coherent nanophotonic circuits, Nature Photonics, <u>https://doi.org/10.1038/nphoton.2017.93</u> MIT and DARPA Pack Lidar Sensor Onto Single Chip <u>https://spectrum.ieee.org/tech-talk/semiconductors/optoelectronics/mit-lidar-on-a-chip</u> Image: Christopher V. Poulton



Why Co-Packaged Optics?

- Co-packaged optics (CPO) considered as a promising solution for data center interconnects
 - Increasing traffic at data center
 - Conventional pluggable optics facing challenges to keep pace
- Replace the electrical links with optical links, move the optical I/O closer to the ASIC and bring down the power and cost.
- Closer integration of photonic and electronic dies introduces new challenges such as heat transfer from one die to a neighboring die.





A Comprehensive Suite of Leading Photonic Design Tools

PHOTONIC INTEGRATED CIRCUIT SIMULATION

INTERCONNECT



CML Compiler









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Ansys Comprehensive Solution



Multi-Platform Approach Combining Best-in-Class



SOI wafers, fab equipment, test, assembly, and packaging, MPW service providers, design houses, IP, academic community ...

Co-Packaged Optics - Challenges

- Multi-physics and multi-scale problems
- A holistic workflow is desired to ensure their performance in the full package





Modern Optical Product Design requires Multiphysics Simulation

- Customizable solutions is required. No single solution that fits all problems.
- Ansys provides Best-of-Breed simulation across all major physics.
- Ansys is a dedicated collaboration partner for the development and continuous improvement of leading-edge multiphysics and multi-scale workflows for optical/photonic components and systems.





Optical I/O Coupler Simulation

- Goal: Robust and efficient coupling of photonic components to optical fiber or another photonic components
- Ansys **Lumerical** and **Zemax** offer interoperability that enable engineers to accurately account for both nano-scale and macro-scale optical effects in their devices, using wave-optics and ray-tracing simulation tools.





Thermal Analysis

- Proximity of photonic and electrical dies makes the thermal effects very important, especially as the size becomes smaller.
 - PIC components such as resonance of micro-ring is very sensitive to the temperature
 - Assessment and stabilization of PIC elements considering the heat coming from the rest of the system (for example EIC)
 - The performance of EIC and the overall 3D IC package can be also affected by the heat generated from the PIC
- Ansys Icepak and RedHawk-SC Electrothermal together with Lumerical for thermal analysis of 3D-IC designs including photonic integrated circuits.







RF analysis

- The high-speed data transfer in CPO pushes the limits of the performance of RF connectors
- HFSS for RF connector design and S-parameter extraction
- S-parameters used in PIC simulation
- Ansys Lumerical/HFSS workflow provides a full picture of parasitic and loading effects
 - Minimize signal degradation
 - Optimize the overall functionality of the integrated circuit.









- Mach-Zehnder modulator optimization requires multi-physics and multi-solver workflow.
- Ansys optiSLang:
 - Automated workflow
 - Integrates with other Ansys tools and third-party tools
 - State-of-the-art optimization algorithmss and sensitivity/robustness analysis







Key Takeaways

- Ansys Lumerical offers best-in-class solutions for PIC design through a multi-platform approach.
- Ansys Lumerical offers workflows with other Ansys tools for multiphysics and multi-scale simulations for advancing co-packaged optics.



