

Flexibly Scalable Energy Efficient Networking

INTRODUCTION TO FLEX-SCALE PROJECT

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www.6G-flexscale.eu

OVERVIEW

- Introduction to FLEX-SCALE project:
 - Overall Scope
 - Consortium Composition
 - Project Coordination Structure
 - Innovation Areas of FLEX-SCALE project
 - Management of Workplan
 - Project Objectives/KPIs





FLEX-SCALE SCOPE: END-TO-END 6G NETWORKING RELYING ON ADVANCED OPTICAL NETWORKING

- FLEX-SCALE consortium develops innovations that will enable flexible capacity scaling of 6G x-haul networks, while ensuring security and reducing costs & energy consumption per packet-flows, by utilizing:
 - Optoelectronic interfaces of linesystems to scale to ≥10 Tb/s,
 - Network link capacities to scale ≥1 Pb/s by utilizing UWB/SDM multiplexing schemes
 - Optical switching node capacities to scale to ~tens Pb/s
 - Optical layer security solutions
 - SDN management of the packetoptical x-haul networks

FLEX-SCALE



TRANSPORT NETWORK (TN)

FLEX-SCALE PROJECT CONSORTIUM

Work programme **Programme Topic** Type of action **Project acronym:**

HORIZON-JTI-SNS-2022 STREAM-B-01-03 HORIZON-JU-RIA FLEX-SCALE

Contact person: List of participants:

Prof. Ioannis Tomkos (UPAT)

UNIVERSITY OF PATRAS

CONSORZIO NAZIONALE INTERUNIVERSITARIO PER LE TELECOMUNICAZIONI CENTRE TECNOLOGIC DE TELECOMUNICACIONS DE CATALUNYA HUBER+SUHNER POLATIS LIMITED FRAUNHOFER GESELLSCHAFT ZUR FOERDERUNG DER ANGEWANDTEN FORSCHUNG E.V. THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM LIONIX INTERNATIONAL BV **OPSYS SENSING TECHNOLOGIES LTD** PICADVANCED, SA ERICSSON TELECOMUNICAZIONI SPA **TELEFONICA INVESTIGACION Y DESARROLLO SA** UBITECH **VPIPHOTONICS GMBH** EIDGENOESSISCHE TECHNISCHE HOCHSCHULE ZUERICH

POLARITON TECHNOLOGIES AG







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PROJECT COORDINATION STRUCTURE: BODIES AND ROLES



- The General Assembly (GA) managed by the Project Coordinator (PC), UPAT, and composed by one member of each beneficiary.
- The Technical Management Board (TMB) is managed by the Technical Manager (TM), HUJI, and is composed by the WP2,3,4,5,6 leaders, the Exploitation IPR and Standardization Manager (EISM), TEI, and the Dissemination Manager (DCM), UPAT.
- The Advisory Board (AB) is established by M06, with the scope to guide the project vision and activities
- Quality Manager (QM): CTTC



INNOVATION AREA-1: SCALING OPTICAL X-HAUL FOR 6G

- In future 6G networks, information should seamlessly flow across wireless access and optical x-haul networks, from end-users to datacentres, whether they are located nearby or anywhere around the globe.
- The required x-haul link capacities and switching nodes throughput are expected to exceed in a few years 1 Pbit/s and 10 Pbit/s, respectively.
- Novel UWB and SDM multiplexing approaches are promising approaches to scale not only the total system capacity, but also the optical network node throughput.
- FLEX SCALE utilizes novel transmission and switching related innovations relying on UWB/SDM to efficiently utilize all available capacity scaling approaches, while also contributing to significant reductions in the power consumption of the entire network.





INNOVATION AREA-2: MULTI-GRANULAR OPTICAL NODE ARCHITECTURE AND WAVEBAND-SELECTIVE SWITCH

- The FLEX-SCALE Switching Node architecture is based on a novel Multi-Granular architecture (MG-ON) and a new switching subsystem that can realize reconfigurable WaveBand-Selective Switching (WBSS), in addition to Spatial and Spectral Lanes switching using enhanced Optical Xross Connects (OXCs) and conventional Wavelength Selective Switching (WSS)
- The WBSS is implemented as a compact programmable and rapidly reconfigurable PIC that is capable of dynamically processing the entire UWDM optical spectrum and as demanded dynamically carve portions of the spectrum into flexibly-defined, continuous, and flat spectral bands, which are subsequently switched to multiple output ports.
- The FLEX-SCALE MG-ON is a hierarchical network node that offers fast, route-and-select architecture at the band and fibre levels at the top tier, with a secondary route-andselect architecture implemented with todays per Band WSSs ensuring backwards compatibility with legacy transport schemes.





INNOVATION AREA-3: ULTRA-HIGH-SPEED, ENERGY-EFFICIENT, FLEXIBLY PROGRAMMABLE TRANSCEIVERS

- FLEX-SCALE introduces novel optical-DAC based transmitters (oDACs) that improve the trade-offs between performance, energy efficiency, complexity and cost reduction for optical transmitters (Tx's) through direct D/O conversion, essentially eliminating the bandwidth-limited and power-hungry electronic DACs.
- This transmitter architecture is implemented based on the concepts of Programmable Photonics ICs and can be easily reconfigured to operate with either coherent-detect or directdetect systems
- It can realize (with today's commercially available electronics/photonics components) bit-rate scalability at multiples of what the conventional/alternative approaches can offer
- It achieves high energy-efficiency per bit, while the performance of the generated m-PAM or m-QAM signals exhibit enormous improvements in EVM





INNOVATION AREA-4: CONTROL, MONITORING AND STREAMING TELEMETRY FOR 6G TRANSPORT NETWORKS

- FLEX-SCALE develops an autonomous SDN control plane that acts as a network operating system
- It is based on a full-fledged closed-loop automation integration of disaggregated packet/optical networking.
- With the utilization of novel ML-enabled algorithms will ensure the optimization of joint management of packet flows and optical channels with the goal to reduce the energy consumption while maintaining a low blocking probability under dynamic traffic conditions.
- Configuration, monitoring, and streaming telemetry data models, as well as the associated protocols will be investigated for the key network devices such as the multi-Pb/s UWB/SDM optical node and the 10 Tb/s transceiver to become fully programmable and suitable monitoring and telemetry sources.





INNOVATION AREA-5: IMPLEMENTING PHYSICAL LAYER SECURITY USING OPTICAL STEGANOGRAPHIC SYSTEMS

• The gap between the data security requirements and the available security techniques calls for security approaches that are immune to traffic characteristics and provide stealthy data transmission. In addition, novel approaches to ensure network survivability needs to be developed.

• FLEX-SCALE develops optical steganographic systems that enable scalable and high key-change rates, and compatibility with today's flex-grid DWDM networks, based on off-the-shelf components.

• FLEX-SCALE also targets to develop optical performance monitoring (OPM) techniques agnostic to the modulation format, by reusing the coherent receivers at the network nodes, to provide proactive resiliency based on ML techniques to predict, detect/localize, and classify failures.





Flexibly Scalable Energy Efficient Networking

• <u>Objective 1:</u> Establish front-haul and back-haul 6G network requirements and system specifications to satisfy the 6G application needs, and identification of components' capabilities, supported by modelling and simulation studies to optimize the management of traffic flows across the network.

Implementation: O.1 is implemented by WP2, Tasks T2.1-T2.4 <u>KPI O.1.1</u>: Publishing of network traffic models in support of 6G services (T2.1) <u>KPI O.1.2</u>: Evaluation of FLEX-SCALE capabilities considering traffic requirements (T2.3) <u>KPI O.1.3</u>: Model 6G network traffic, estimate latency and energy consumption when using MG-ON (T2.3-T2.4)

• <u>Objective 2:</u> Implementation and evaluation of a Multi-Granular (MG) optical network node implemented by WBSS modules at ingress/egress fibre ports (top tier), augmented by OXC and WSSs in support of (i) full fibre routing, (ii) full band routing and (iii) legacy wavelength routing.

Implementation: O.2 is implemented in WP3 (architecture T3.1, HW control T3.4, assembly and test T3.5) and being fed by the tasks in WP2, T5.1 and T5.2.

<u>KPI 0.2.1</u>: Route and Select with WBSS at node's top tier for flexible band switching between ingress-egress fibres with total switching event times <10 ms (T3.1 and T3.3).

<u>KPI 0.2.2</u>: Hierarchical node simultaneously supporting full-fibre switching, flexible band switching and legacy traffic on other bands with transient strengths ≤ 1 dB and duration $\leq 10 \ \mu$ s (T3.1 and T3.5).

<u>KPI O.2.3</u>: Integration of WBSS into common control plane and communication port of network node (T3.4-3.5) <u>KPI O.2.4</u>: Flexible node supporting multiple data rates per channel up to 1 Tb/s. (T3.1, T3.2 and T3.4)



• Objective 3: Development of WaveBand Selective Switch (WBSS) on SiN PIC platform

Implementation: O.3 is implemented in WP3 (design+fab, packaging T3.2-T3.3) and fed by specs in WP2.

<u>KPI 0.3.1</u>: WBSS adaptive spectral filtering block based on FIR lattice filter with \geq 10 taps for independently routing flexibly-defined four bands with \geq 23dB crosstalk suppression and < 5 dB insertion loss (T3.2) <u>KPI 0.3.2</u>: WBSS crossbar switch block for independently routing four input channels to \geq 19 output ports, with \geq 20 dB port isolation and < 5 dB insertion loss (T3.2) <u>KPI 0.3.3</u>: WBSS compactly implemented in PIC with driver electronics, drawing \leq 3 W per switch/PIC (T3.3) <u>KPI 0.3.4</u>: Enhancement of LioniX SiN commercial platform with polarization independent directional couplers and phase modulators, as well as publishing of filter design and simulation tools (T3.2)

• <u>Objective 4: 10 Tb</u>/s-capable all-optical energy-efficient optical interconnects

Implementation: O.4 is implemented in WP4 (T4.1-T4.5) and being fed by specifications from WP2. <u>KPI O.4.1</u>: A photonic multiplexing option (oDAC) to leverage the plasmonics, delivering rate doubling and power efficiency tripling compared to equivalent electronic solutions (i.e., against an electronic DAC at same symbol rate). <u>KPI O.4.2</u>: Dual-polarization 1 Tb/s IQ data modulation with an electrical switching energy of <10 fJ/bit will be performed. The transmitter will offer fibre-to-fibre losses of <10 dB across the S-, C-, and L-bands. <u>KPI O.4.3</u>: Dual-polarization 1 Tb/s balanced photodetection in an optical hybrid will be performed. The detector will offer a responsivity of 0.5 A/W (50% external quantum efficiency) and operate across the S-, C-, and L-bands. <u>KPI O.4.4</u>: Scalability towards >10 Tb/s net data rate (considering FEC 20% overhead) in 12 parallel channels will be demonstrated by parallelizing transceivers.



• <u>Objective 5</u>: Development of an energy-efficient plasmonic optoelectronic platform

Implementation: O.5 is implemented in WP4 and being fed by all its tasks.

<u>KPI 0.5.1</u>: Monolithic plasmonic platform offering active components including modulators and detectors with 200 GHz opto-electrical bandwidth, dual-polarization functionality, and wideband low-loss silicon photonic passives (1 dB edge couplers, 1 dB polarization rotator and combiner).

KPI O.5.2: Wideband 1 Tb/s plasmonic modulators and detectors in a joint monolithic platform.

KPI O.5.3: Packaged monolithic plasmonic transceiver on silicon photonics for 10 Tb/s transmission.

KPI 0.5.4: Creation of a plasmonic device library and process design kit (PDK)

 <u>Objective 6</u>: Develop algorithms and implement sustainable transport network control to optimize traffic flows across network layers

Implementation: O.6 is implemented in WP2and WP5 and being fed by tasks T2.1, T2.2, T5.1 and T5.2KPI O.6.1:Provisioning of traffic flows achieving 50% reduction of the energy consumption.KPI O.6.2:Provisioning of traffic flows in less than 15 second, considering packet and optical layers.KPI O.6.3:Two energy-efficiency algorithms and/or heuristics for multi-layer (packet/optical) networks.KPI O.6.4:Integration of the transport SDN control with the 3GPP management for holistic management.

Objective 7: Integration of SDN controlled 10Tbps Transceivers & Pb/s UWB/SDM Nodes

Implementation: O.7 is implemented in WP5 and WP6 and being fed by tasks T5.1 and T6.1

KPI O.7.1: Provisioning of spectral and spatial optical channels at 10 Tb/s.

KPI 0.7.2: Provisioning of optical channels in less than 10 seconds.

KPI 0.7.3: Integration of the proposed optical SDN control plane with the prototypes of the 10Tb/s transceivers & Pb/s UWB/SDM Nodes.

KPI 0.7.4: Integration of the proposed optical SDN control plane with the sustainable transport (packet/optical) SDN control plane.



 <u>Objective 8</u>: Demonstration of the SDM/UWB fast switching using the abilities of the WBSS and demonstration of oDAC solution through lab trials

Implementation: O.8 is implemented in WP6 and being fed by tasks T2.2, T2.3, T3.5, T4.5, 5.4 <u>KPI O.8.1</u>: MG-ON addressable bandwidth spanning S+C+L bands (1460 – 1625 nm = 165 nm = 21 THz) <u>KPI O.8.2</u>: Per-band MG-node throughput (>80 Tb/s) <u>KPI O.8.3</u>: Long term operation, while rapidly and continuously switching (\geq 1 week) <u>KPI O.8.4</u>: Power consumption of WBSS normalized to traffic flow through it (<3W/(3.80 Tb/s)= 12.5 fJ/bit). <u>KPI O.8.5</u>: Switching granularity of the MG-ON: 50 GHz (single wavelength channel switching), 5-8 THz (single waveband switching), 21 THz (complete fibre switching)

• Objective 9: Techno-economic studies of the FLEX-SCALE network, subsystems and device

Implementation: O.9 is implemented in WP2(T2.4) and being fed by tasks T2.2, actual powers from T3.5, T4.5 KPL O.9.1: Network scaling study in back-baul and long-baul transmission using collected data and validating pe

KPI O.9.1: Network scaling study in back-haul and long-haul transmission using collected data and validating network reconfiguration in 10 ms meets requirements.

<u>KPI 0.9.2</u>: Energy and carbon footprint study of WBSS vs. WSS, demonstrating >50% reduction. <u>KPI 0.9.3</u>: Study of WBSS market to identifying price targets (e.g. 3000€) to overtake market.

• <u>Objective 10</u>: To maximise the impact and adoption of FLEX-SCALE results through wide dissemination, communication, standardisation and exploitation measure

Implementation: O.10 is implemented in WP7 and is fed by all tasks in WP2, WP3, WP4, WP5 & WP6. <u>KPI O.10.1</u>: Achieve the Dissemination and Communication target values as specified in Section 2.2.



OVERALL MANAGEMENT OF WORKPLAN





WP1: PROJECT ADMINISTRATIVE & TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT





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WP2: 6G REQUIREMENTS, NETWORK ARCHITECTURE AND OPERATION OPTIMIZATION



WP3: MULTIGRANULAR OPTICAL SWITCH NODE

WP4: ENERGY-EFFICIENT OPTOELECTRONIC TRANSCEIVERS FOR S-, C-, L-BANDS

2 Tasks Objectives Deliverables In progress 04.1 Multiband >10 Tb/s dua T4.1 Design & Validation of **D4.1** Definition of monolithic -polarisation coherent wideband passive optics. plasmonic platform specifications M01 M12 plasmonic transceiver. and process flow Leader: POL Task Partners: ETHZ, PICA, Delivering Month: 6. T4.2 Design & validation of In progress 04.2 Dual-polarisation energy-efficient high-speed **D4.2** Design and demonstration coherent 1 Tb/s plasmonic transmitter. M01 M24 of passive optical components. transmitter module for S-, C-Leader: ETHZ Task Partners: POL Delivering and L-bands. Month: 12. T4.3 Development of In progress **D4.3** Design and demonstration broadband and ultra-fast wide-band high-speed electro-04.3 Dual-polarisation M01 M24 optic modulator Leader: POL Task receiver. coherent 1 Tb/s plasmonic Partners: ETHZ, UPAT Delivering Month: 24. receiver module for S-, C- and **D4.4** Design and demonstration In progress L-bands. of plasmonic photodiodes Leader: **T4.4** Monolithic plasmonic ETHZ Task Partners: Delivering Month: 24. platform. M01 M30 D4.5 Demonstration of **04.4** Monolithic plasmonic monolithic plasmonic platform platform and process design Pending Leader: POL Task Partners: ETHZ Delivering **T4.5** Assembly, packaging & Month: 30. kit (PDK). testing of the plasmonic M33 **D4.6** Demonstration of packaged M13 transceiver platform. transceiver module Leader: PICA Task Partners: ETHZ, POL - Delivering Month: 33.

WP5: SUSTAINABLE CONTROL OF PACKET & OPTICAL TRANSPORT NETWORKS FOR 6G

WP6: INTEGRATION AND DEMONSTRATION

WP7: IMPACT MAXIMIZATION AND OUTREACH

ROADMAP FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF OUTCOMES & IMPACTS

•

Direct liaisons with expert groups business players [>2] Collaborate with standardization bodies (e.g., ETSI and IEEE) [>2]

• Five (5) Wider Impacts (related to WP KPIs)

From TRI 2-3 to TRI 4-5

THANK YOU ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE FLEX-SCALE CONSORTIUM!

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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