



Sandia
National
Laboratories

SAND2019-5190C

Silicon Photonic Single-Sideband Generation with Dual-Parallel Mach-Zehnder Modulators



PRESENTED BY

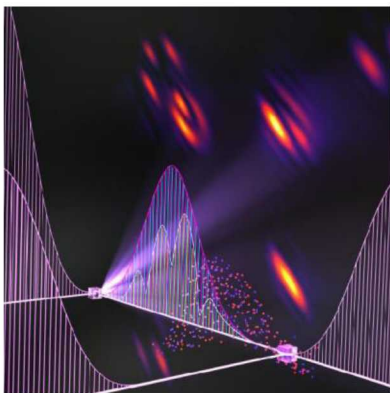
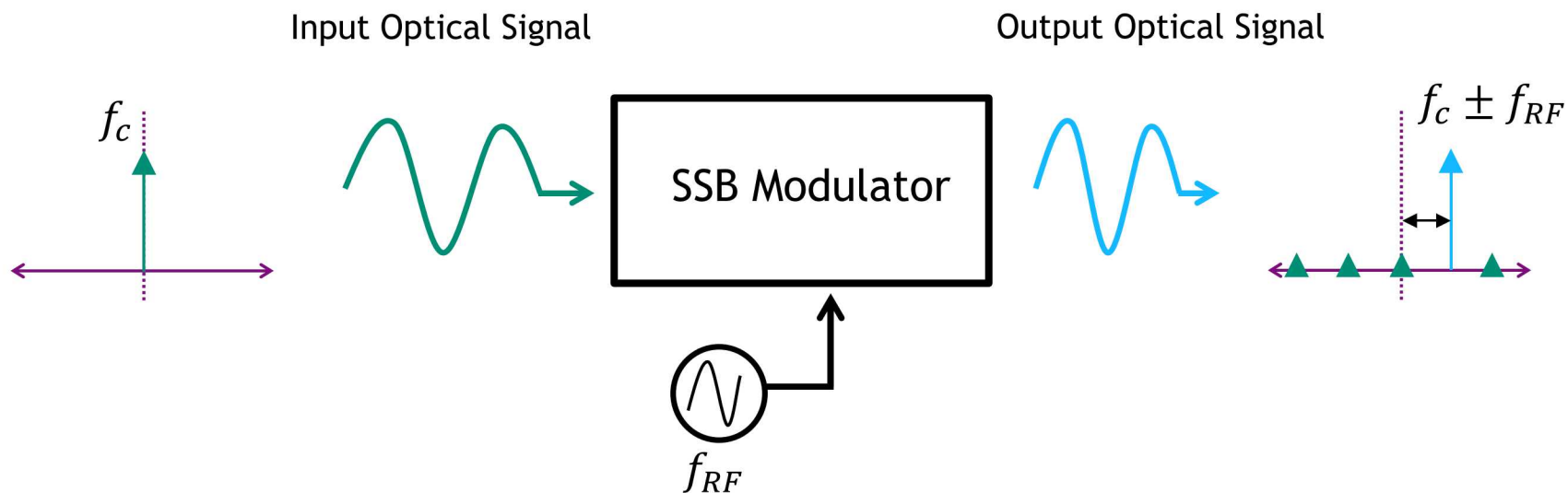
Ashok Kodigala, Michael Gehl, Chris T. DeRose, Dana Hood, Andy T. Pomerene, Christina Dallo, Douglas Trotter, Penny Moore, Andrew L. Starbuck, Jongmin Lee, Grant Biedermann, and Anthony L. Lentine



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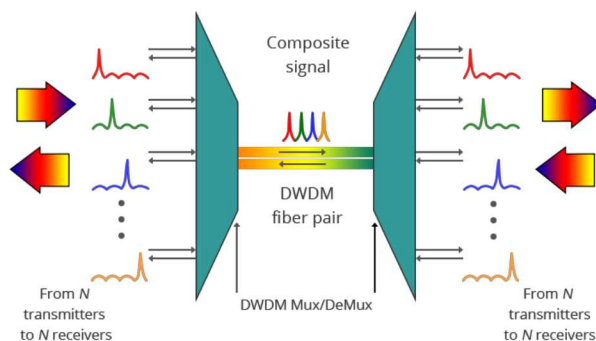
SAND#

2 Single-Sideband Modulator



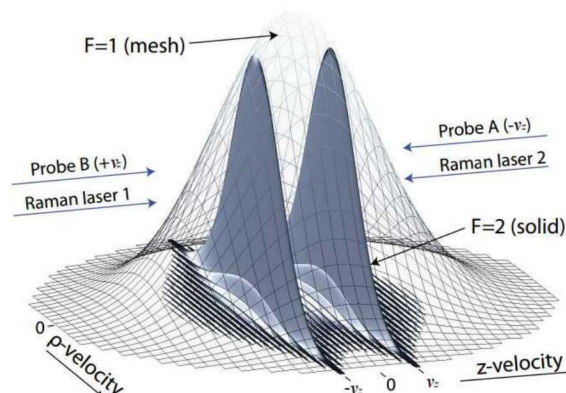
High-Resolution Spectroscopy

Photo credits: Cundiff Laboratory (Univ. of Michigan)



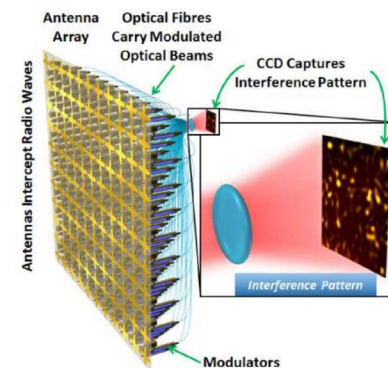
D-WDM Networks

FS.com



Atom Interferometry

Biedermann et al, PRL (2017)



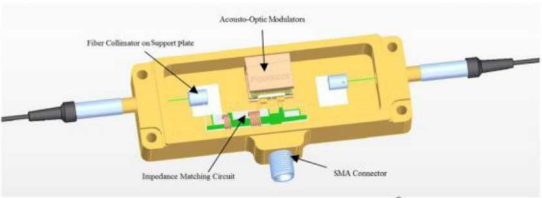
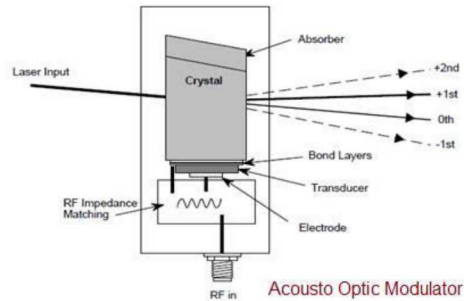
Microwave Photonics

Murakowski et al, Opt. Exp. (2017)

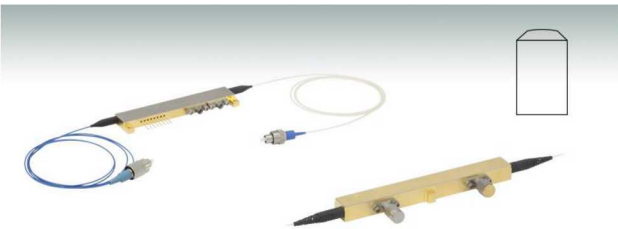
Kodigala et al, CLEO (2019)

3 Single-Sideband Modulator

Commercial:

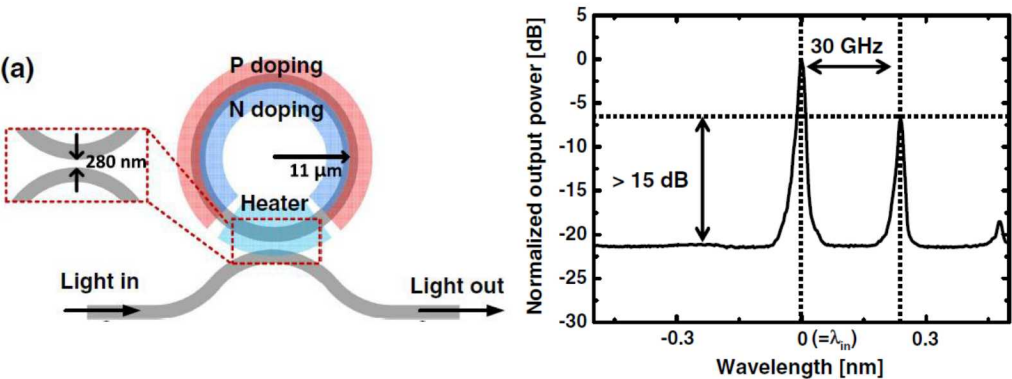


Acousto-optic Modulator (AOMs)



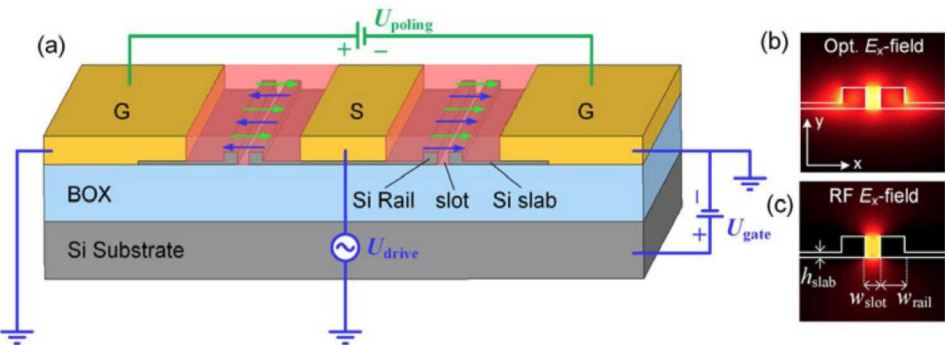
Lithium Niobate (LiNbO3): QPSK (I/Q) modulators

Silicon Photonics:



Yu et al, Phot. Research 6 (2018)

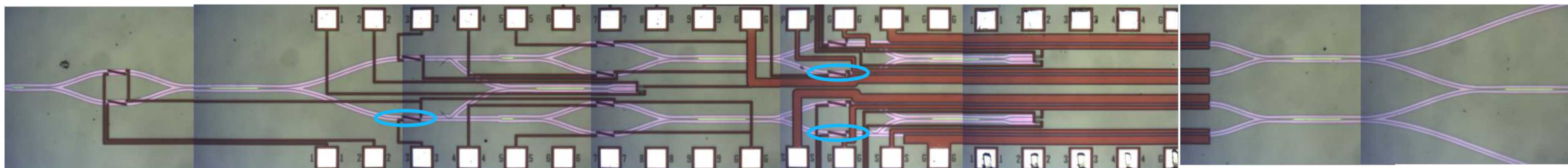
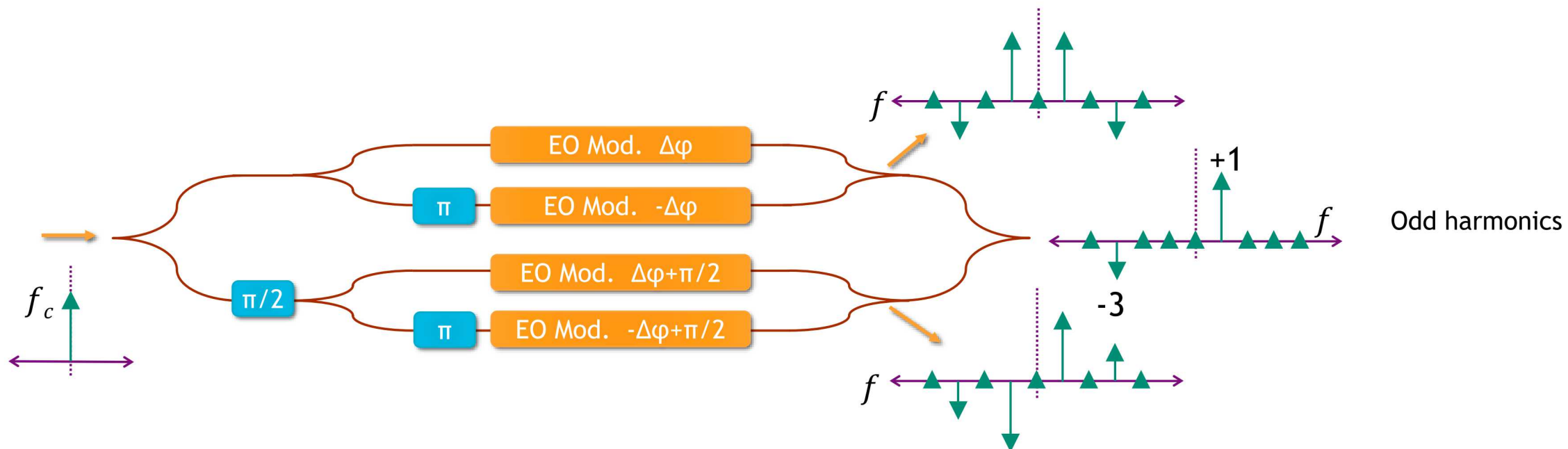
Silicon Ring Modulators



Lauermann et al, Opt. Exp. 24 (2016)

Silicon Organic Hybrid (SOH) SSB Modulator

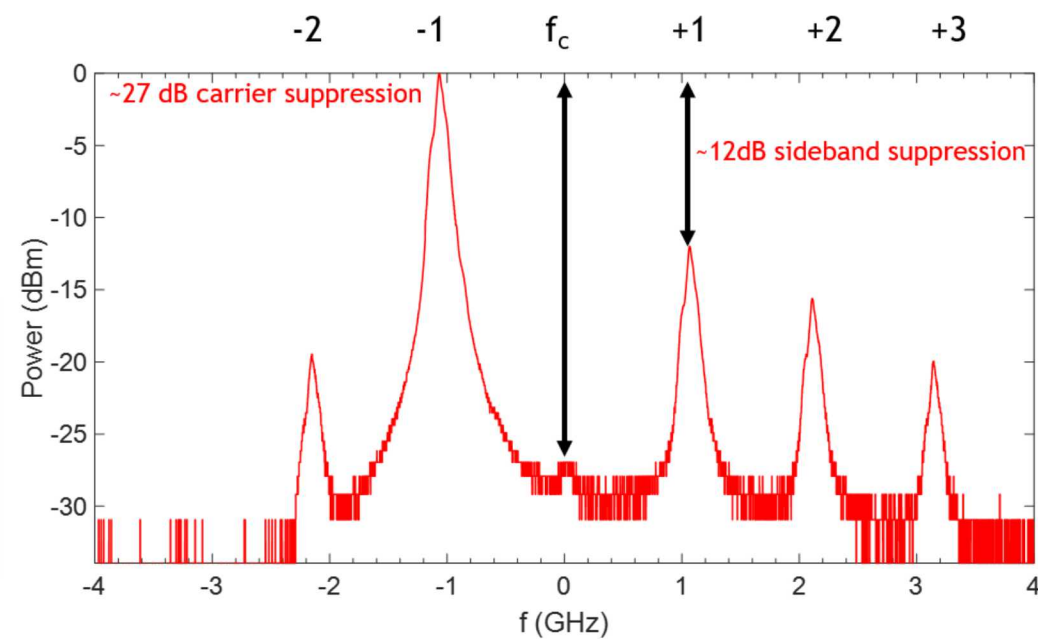
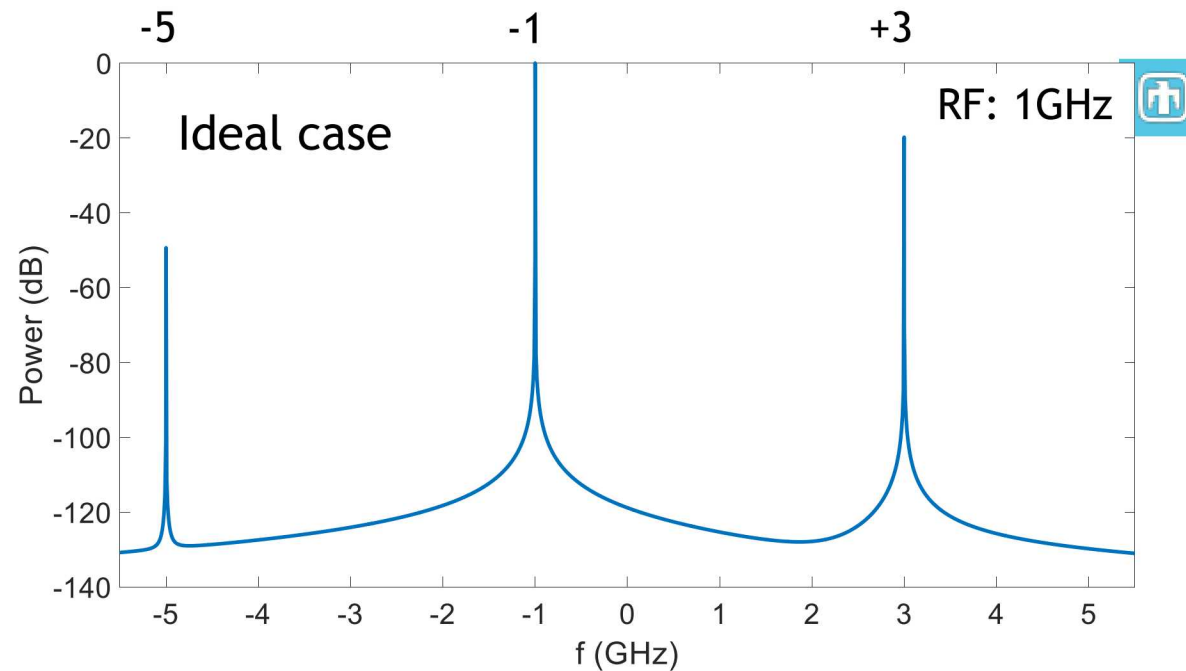
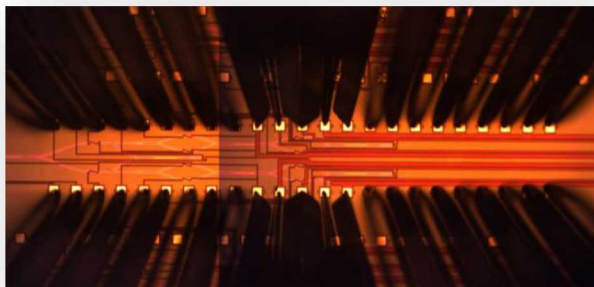
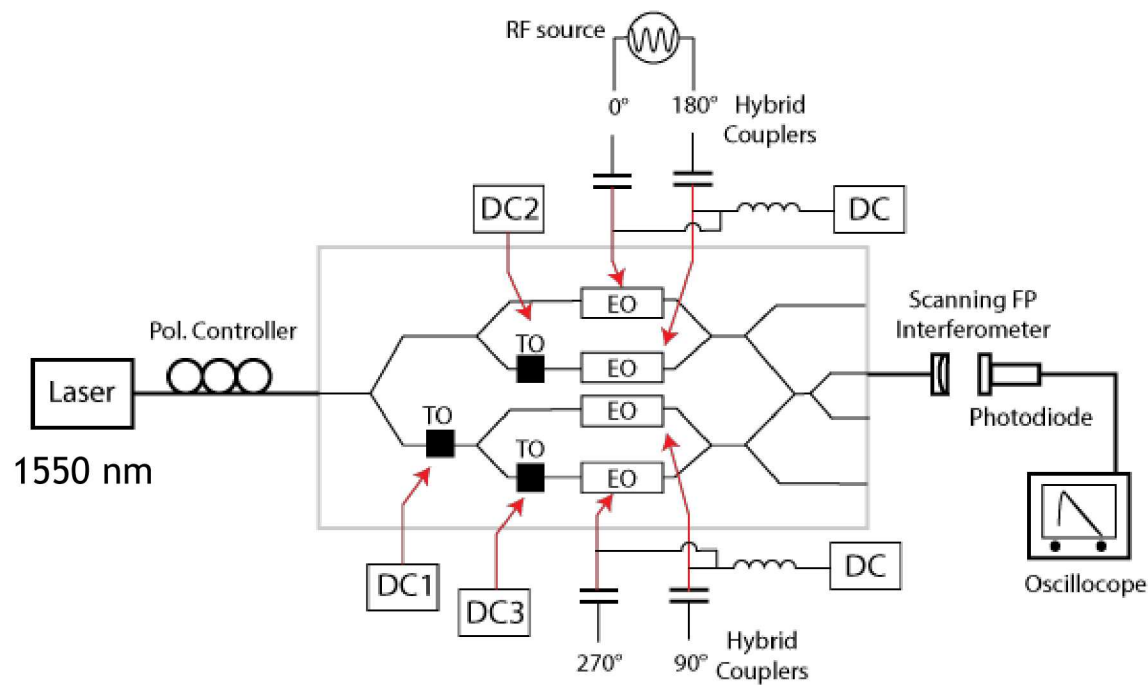
Dual-parallel MZI



Optical single-sideband (OSSB) modulator fabricated at Sandia National Lab's Silicon Fab

TO phase shifters (blue)
Phase modulators (depletion-mode)
High-contrast MMI splitter

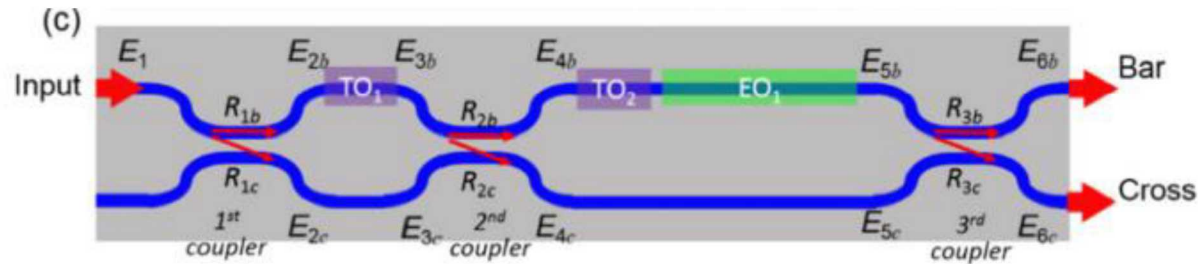
Experimental Setup



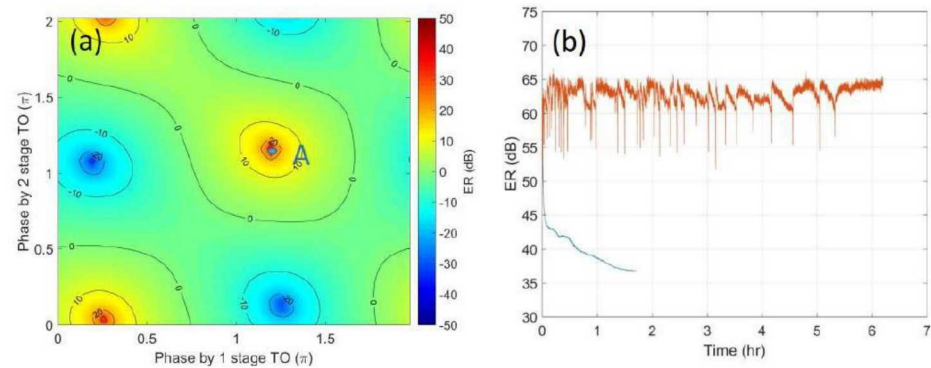
High carrier (27 dB) and sideband suppression (12 dB)

6 High Extinction MZIs

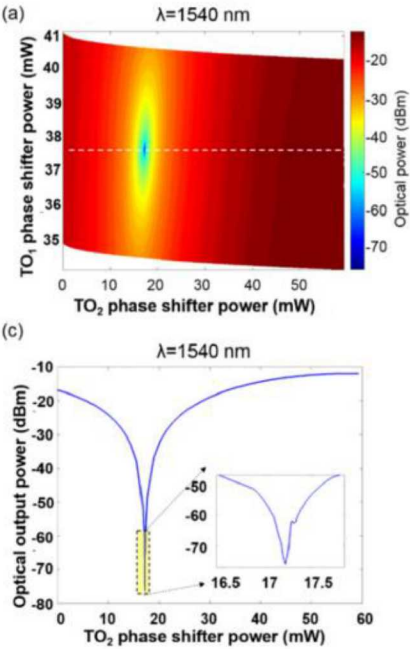
Cascaded MZI (CMZI): High contrast and broadband



S. Lui, et. al. *Opt. Express* 25, 11254 (2017)



H. Cai et al., *OIC* (2018)



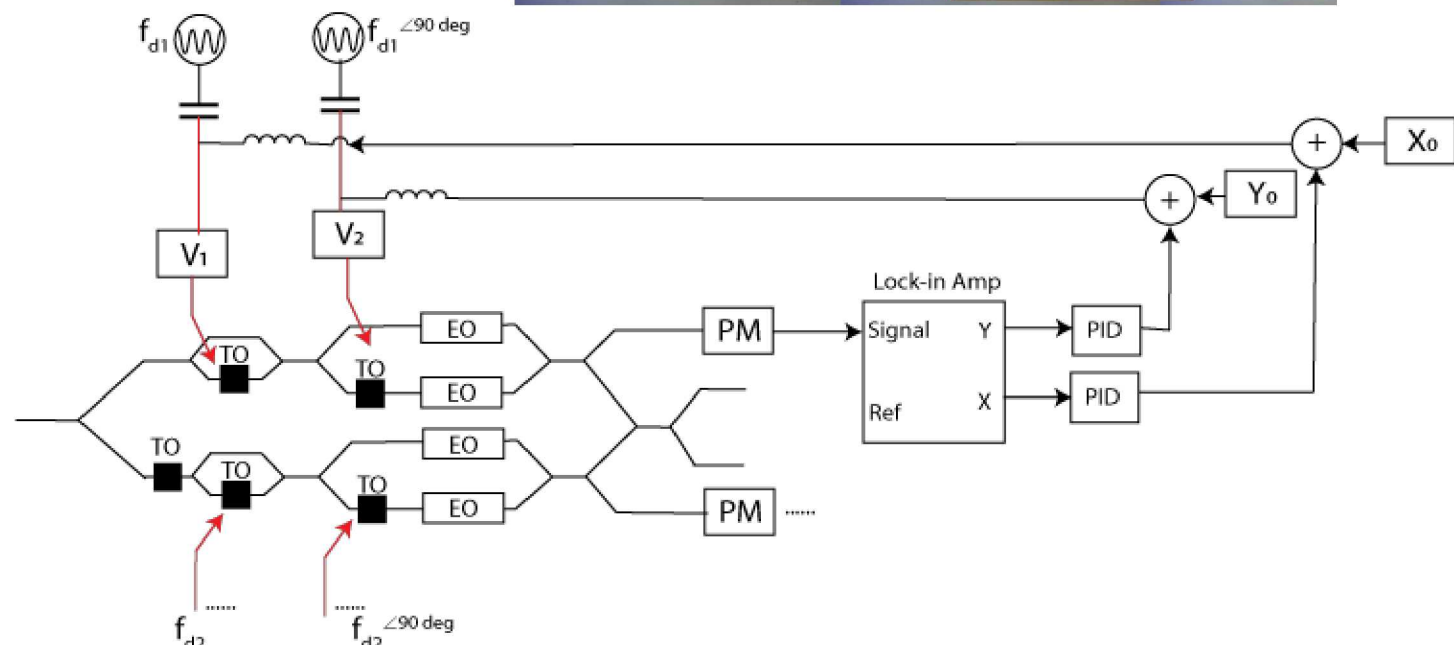
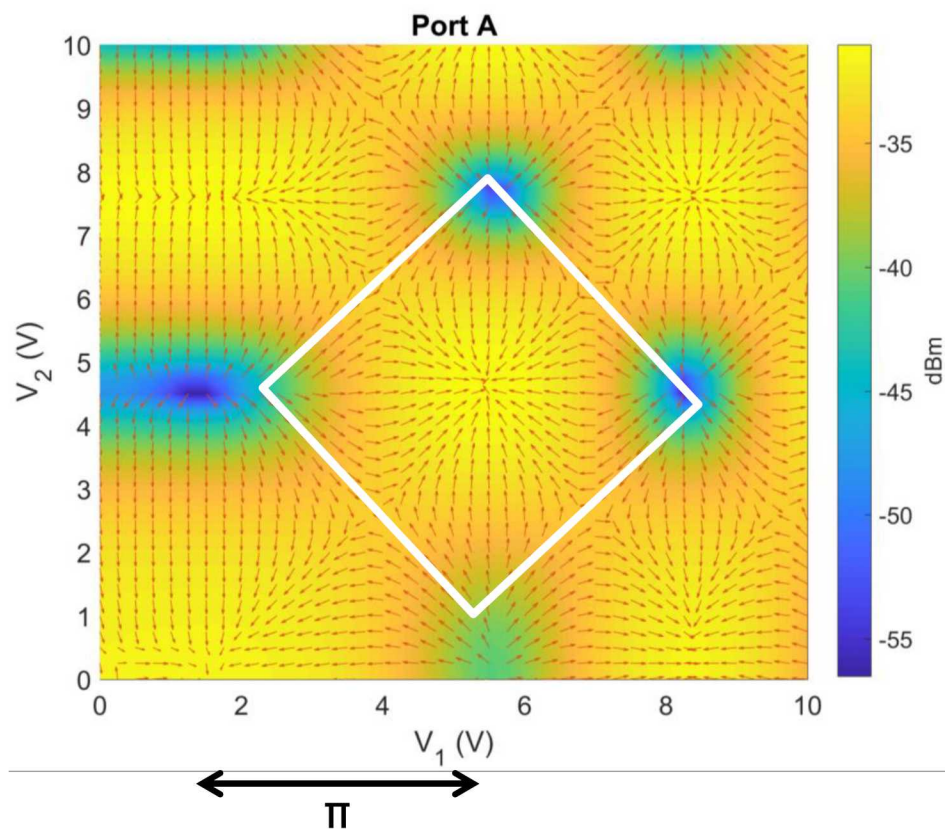
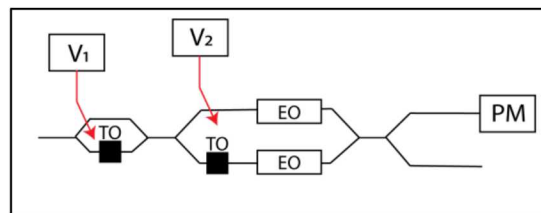
Extinction: ~60 dB

-Biases differ with λ , f_{RF} , thermal crosstalk

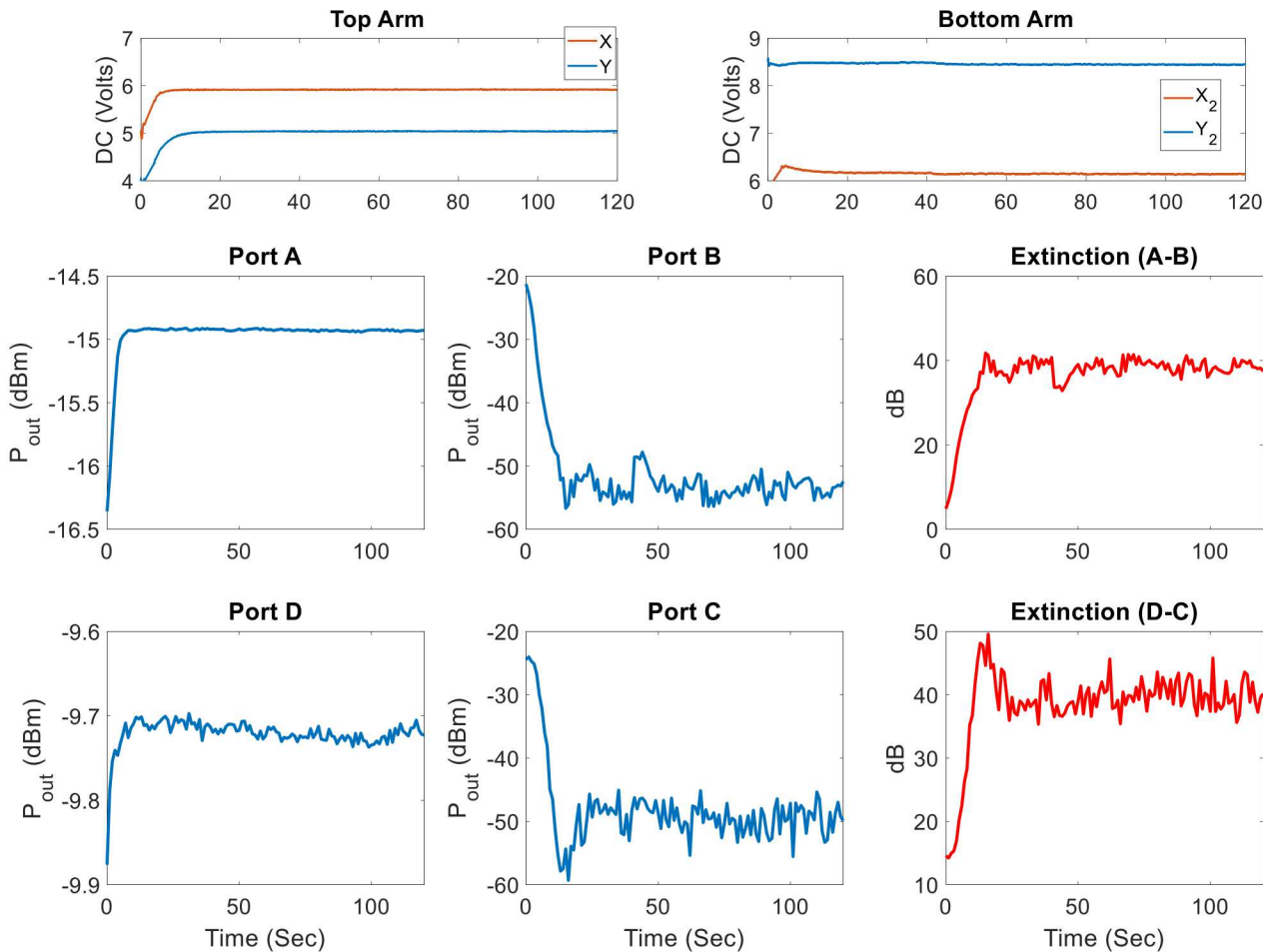
-Drift: Also true for LiNbO_3 modulators

Salvestrini et al, 'Analysis and control of the DC Drift in LiNbO_3 -Based Mach-Zehnder Modulators' *JLT* 29 (2011)

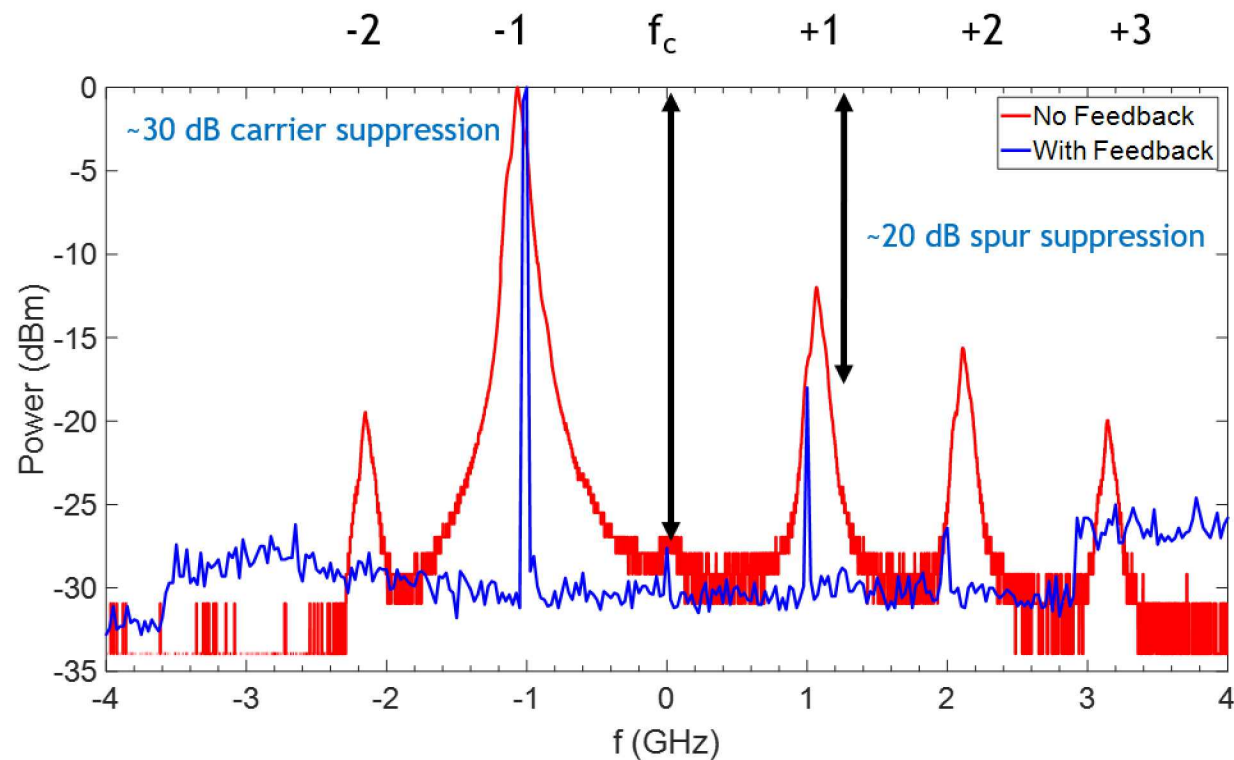
Active Feedback



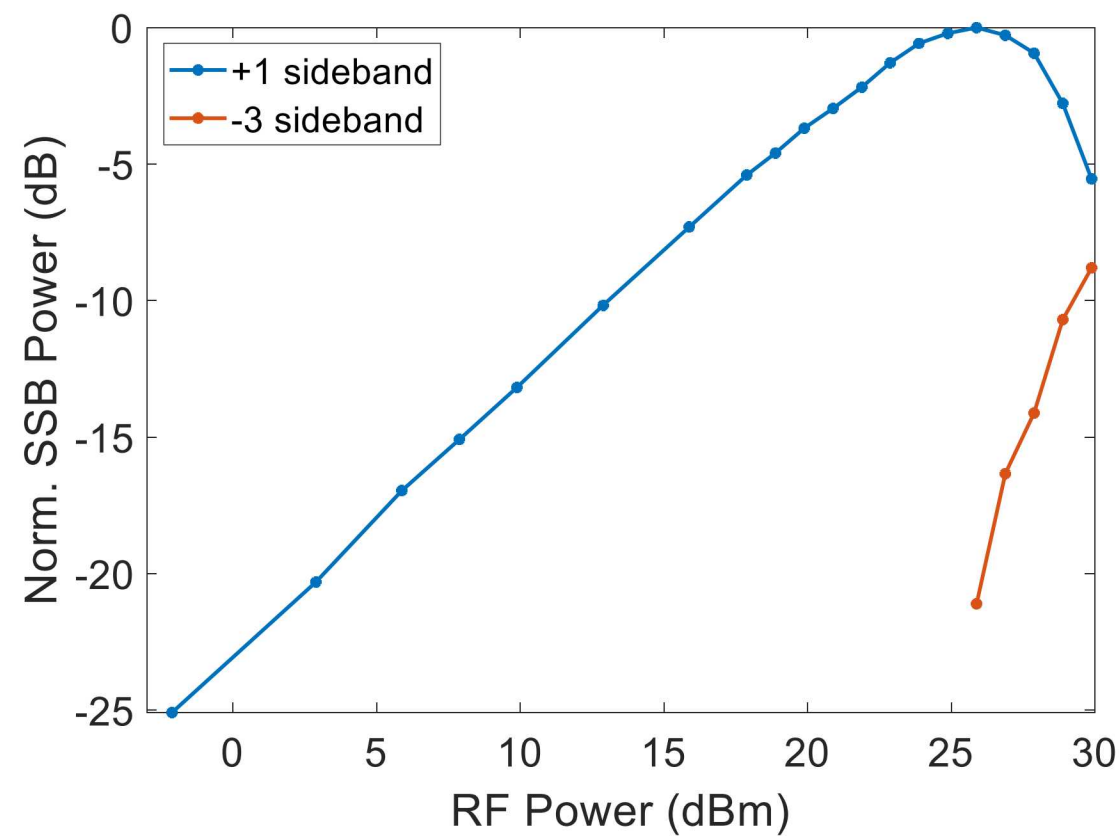
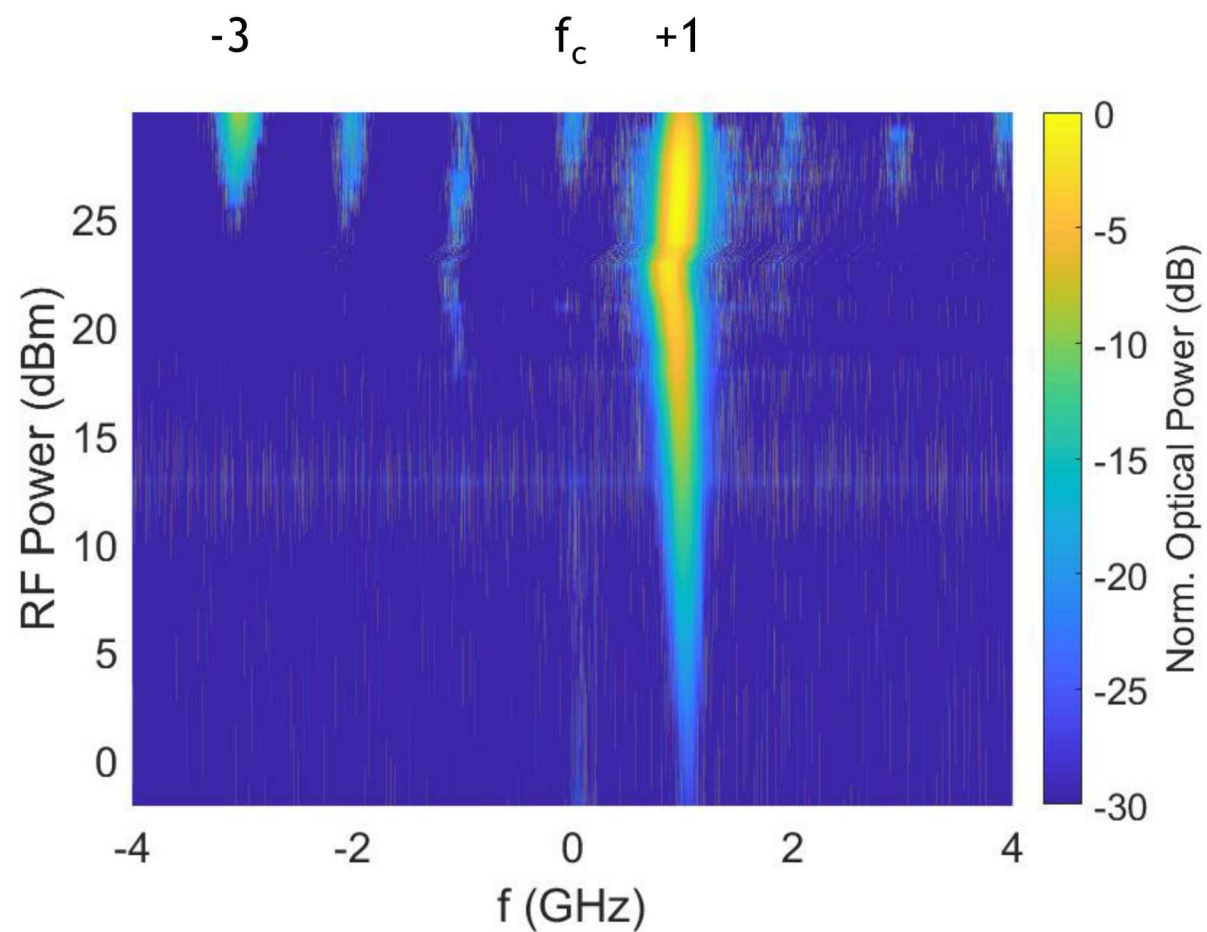
Implemented with DAQ (Simulink)



High Extinction: 40 dB (*Self-biased*)

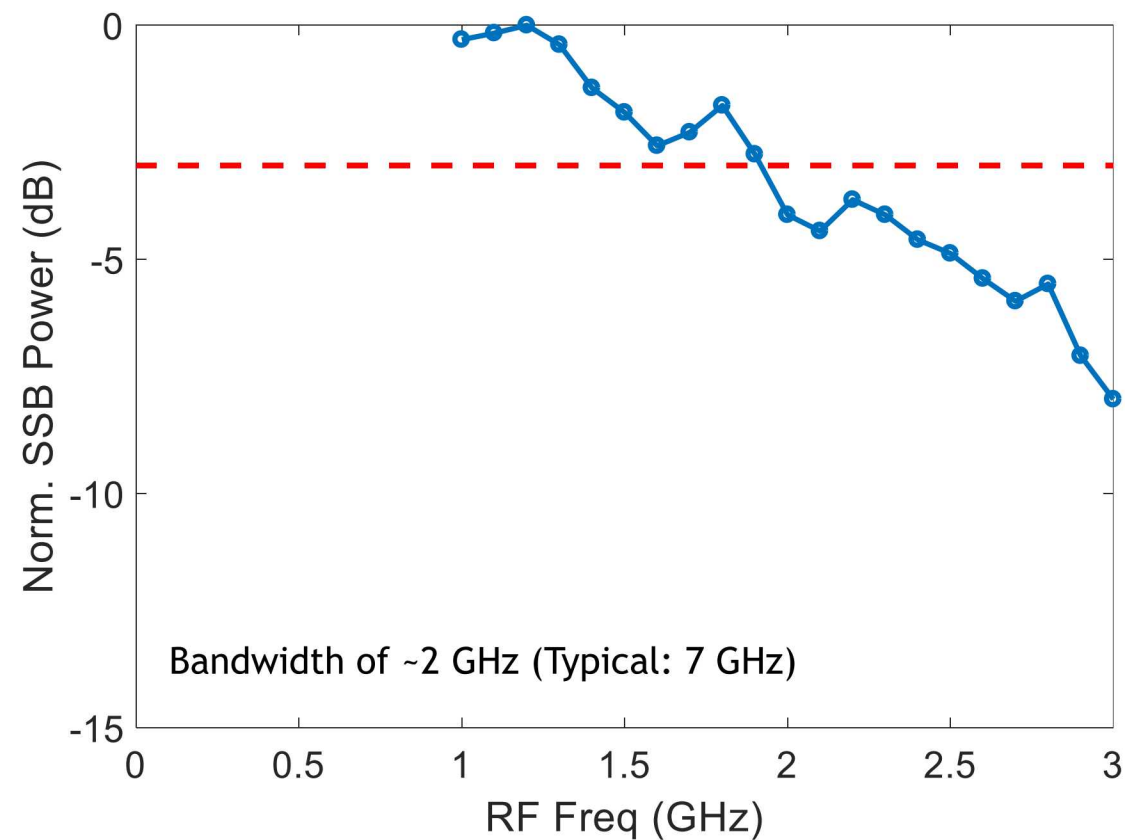
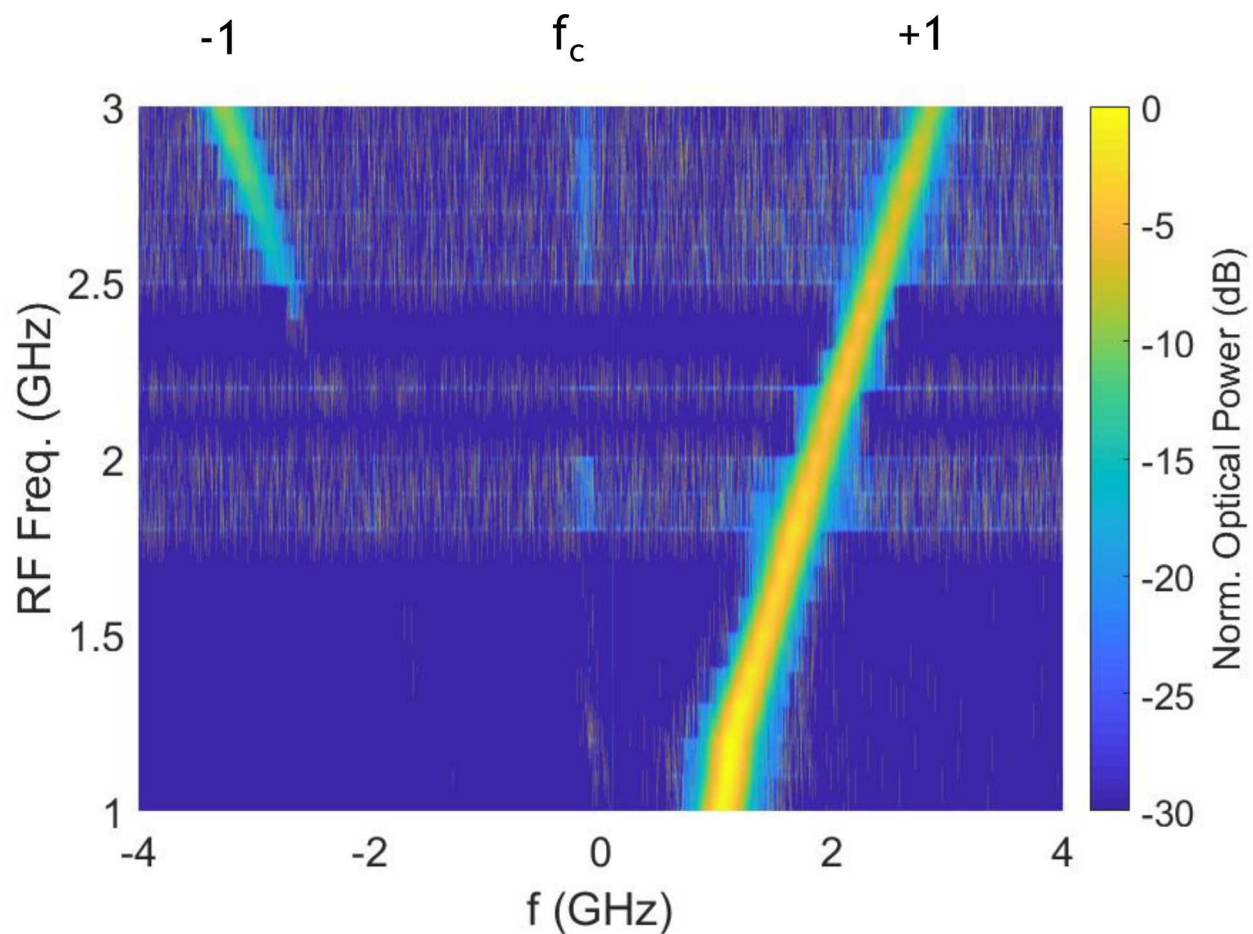


SSB operation with feedback

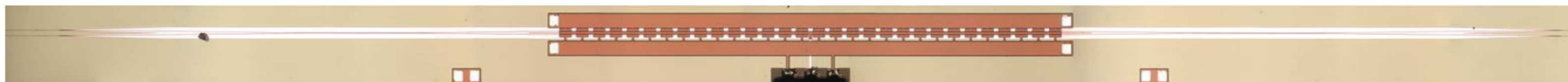


Optimum at RF powers close to ~400mW

RF Characterization (Frequency Response)



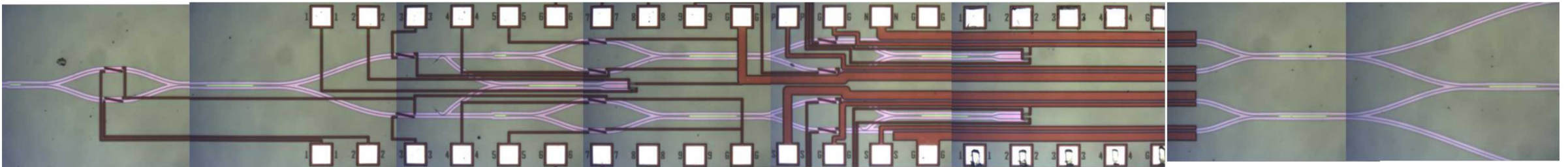
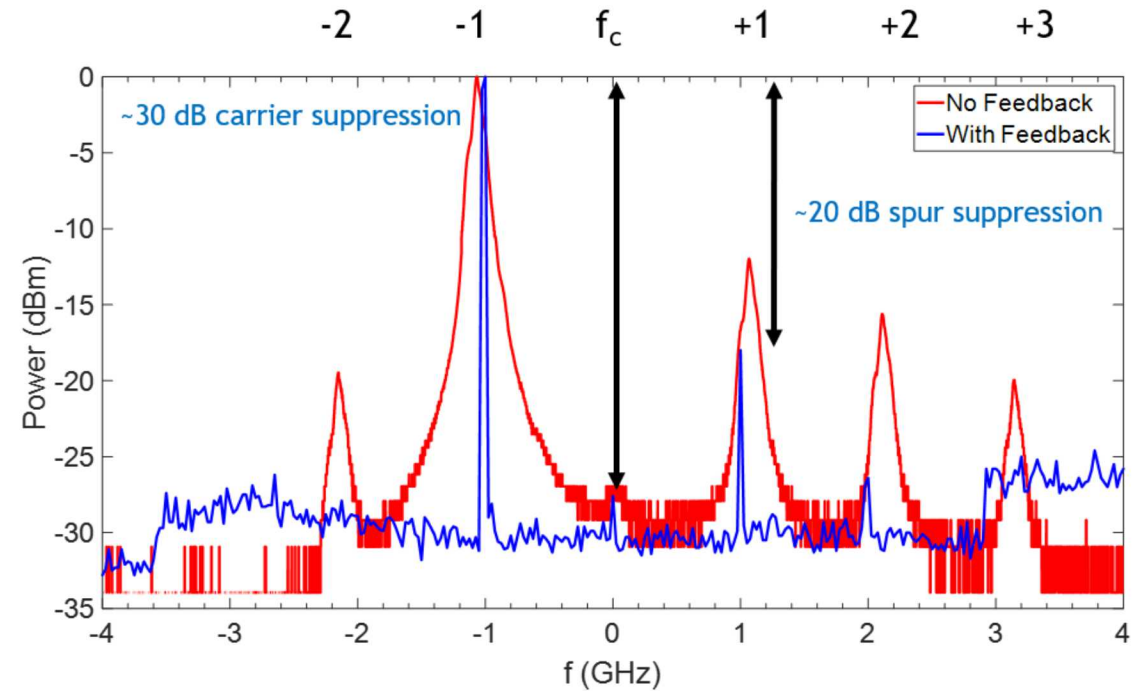
Traveling Wave Modulator: 24 GHz



C. DeRose, et. al., *Optical Interconnects Conference, IEEE* (2012)

Kodigala et al, *CLEO* (2019)

- Integrated silicon CS-SSB modulator (CMOS compatible)
- Active feedback (***Self-biased***):
 - 30 dB carrier suppression
 - >20 unwanted dB sideband suppression
- Current Bandwidth: ~2 GHz
 - Travelling wave design (24 GHz)
- RF Power: ~400 mW
- RF amplitude balancing (improve)





Sandia National Laboratories

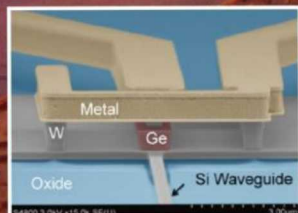


Sandia's Microsystems and Engineering Sciences Applications (MESA) for silicon photonics, III-V photonics, CMOS, and compound-semiconductor device fabrication, and heterogeneous integration

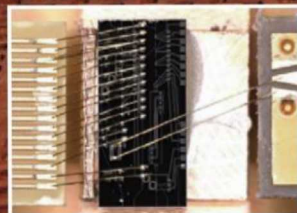
Learn about Photonics at Sandia:

National Security Photonics Center

sandia.gov/mstc/nspc



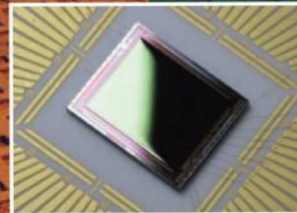
**Avalanche
Photodetector**



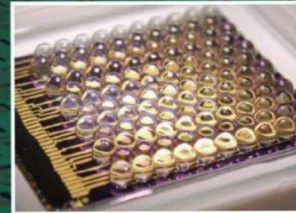
**QKD
Transceiver**



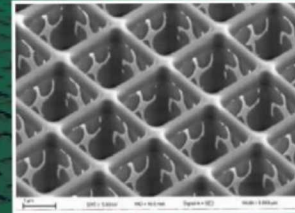
**AWG RF
Channelizer**



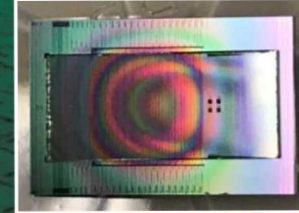
IR FPA with ROIC



**Photovoltaics
with Microlenses**



**3D
Metamaterials**



**TFLN on Silicon
Modulator**



$$Ae^{i\omega t + i\beta \sin(\Omega t)}$$

If beta is small, Taylor expand to:

$$Ae^{i\omega t} (1 + i\beta \sin(\Omega t))$$

Two sidebands:

$$Ae^{i\omega t} \left(1 + \frac{\beta}{2} (e^{i\Omega t} - e^{-i\Omega t}) \right) = A \left(e^{i\omega t} + \frac{\beta}{2} e^{i(\omega+\Omega)t} - \frac{\beta}{2} e^{i(\omega-\Omega)t} \right)$$

Jacobi-Anger expansion (All sidebands):

$$Ae^{i\omega t + i\beta \sin(\Omega t)} = Ae^{i\omega t} \left(J_0(\beta) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} J_k(\beta) e^{ik\Omega t} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (-1)^k J_k(\beta) e^{-ik\Omega t} \right)$$

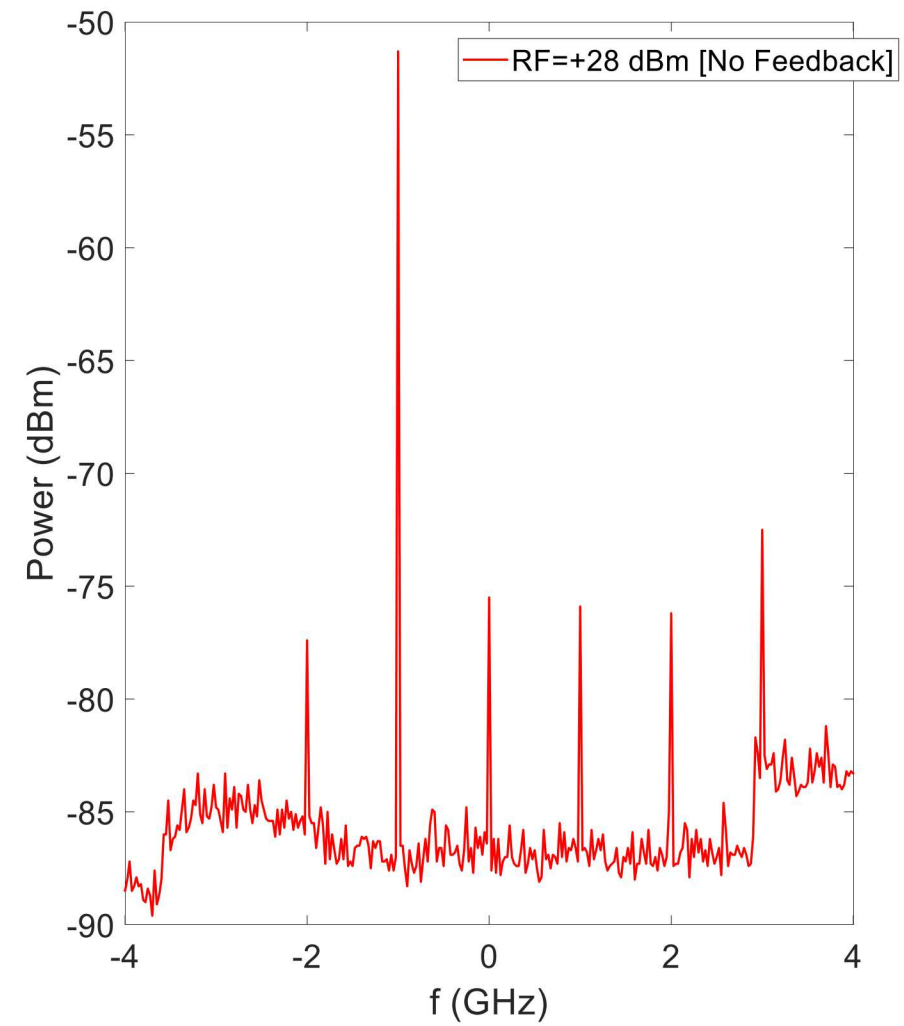
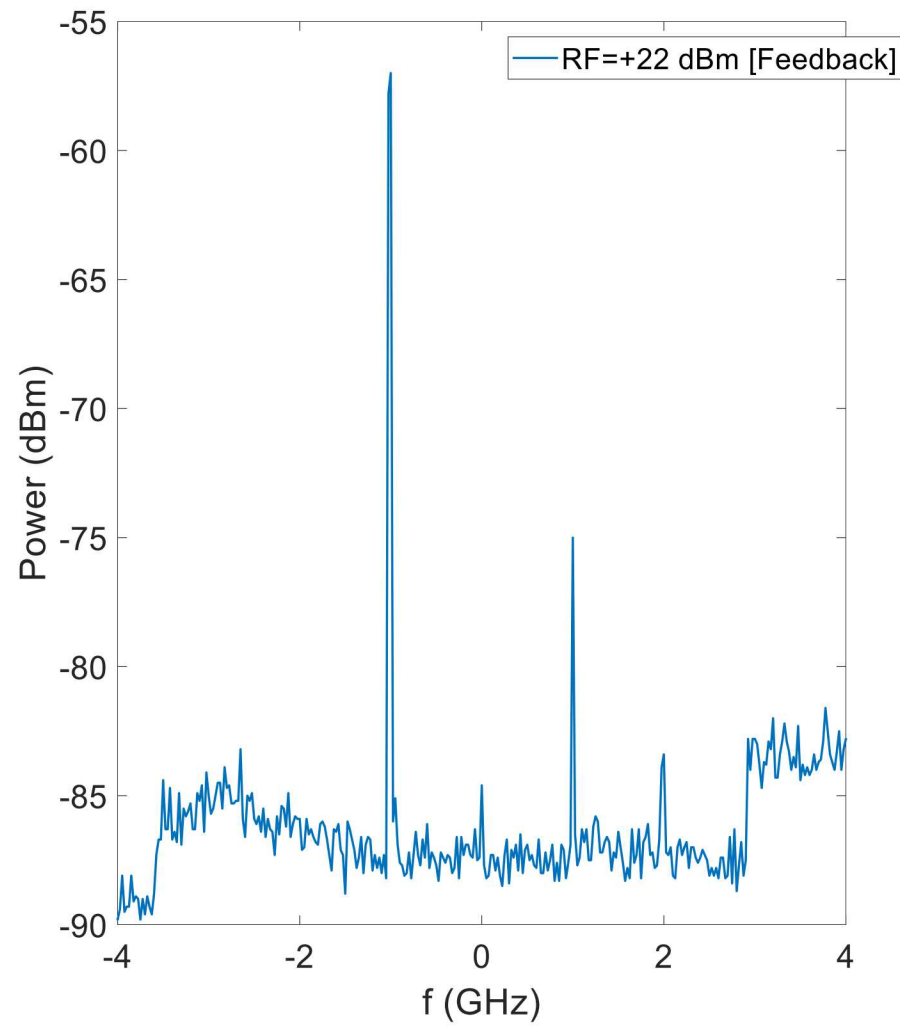
Amplitude Modulation (get only 1st sidebands):

$$(1 + \beta \sin(\Omega t)) Ae^{i\omega t} = Ae^{i\omega t} + \frac{A\beta}{2i} (e^{i(\omega+\Omega)t} - e^{i(\omega-\Omega)t})$$

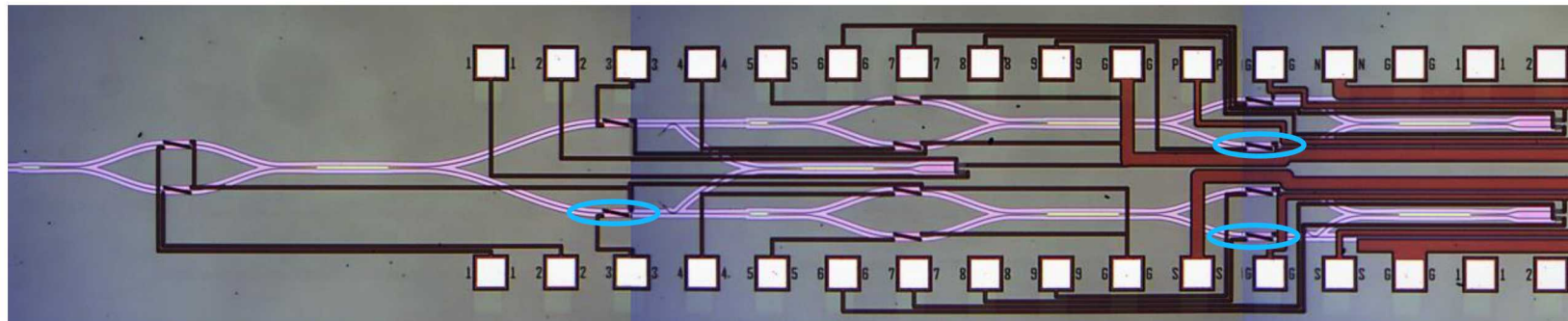
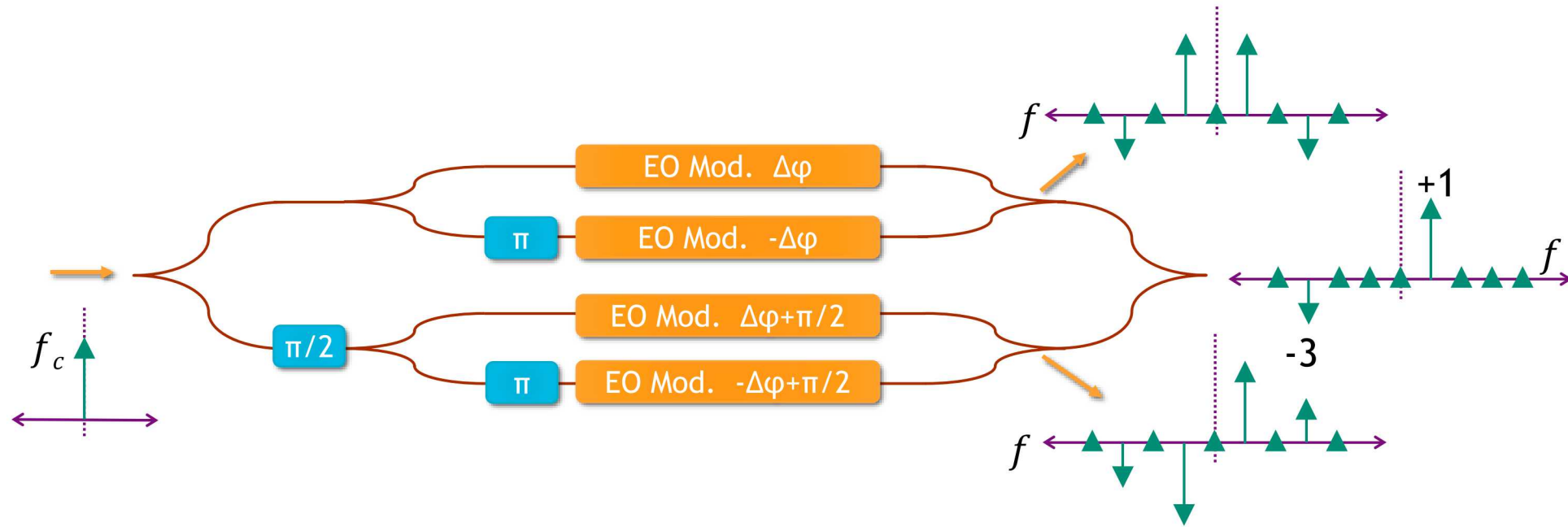
Taylor Series:

$$e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!} = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \dots$$

Heterodyne detection (w/ RF amp)



Dual-parallel MZI

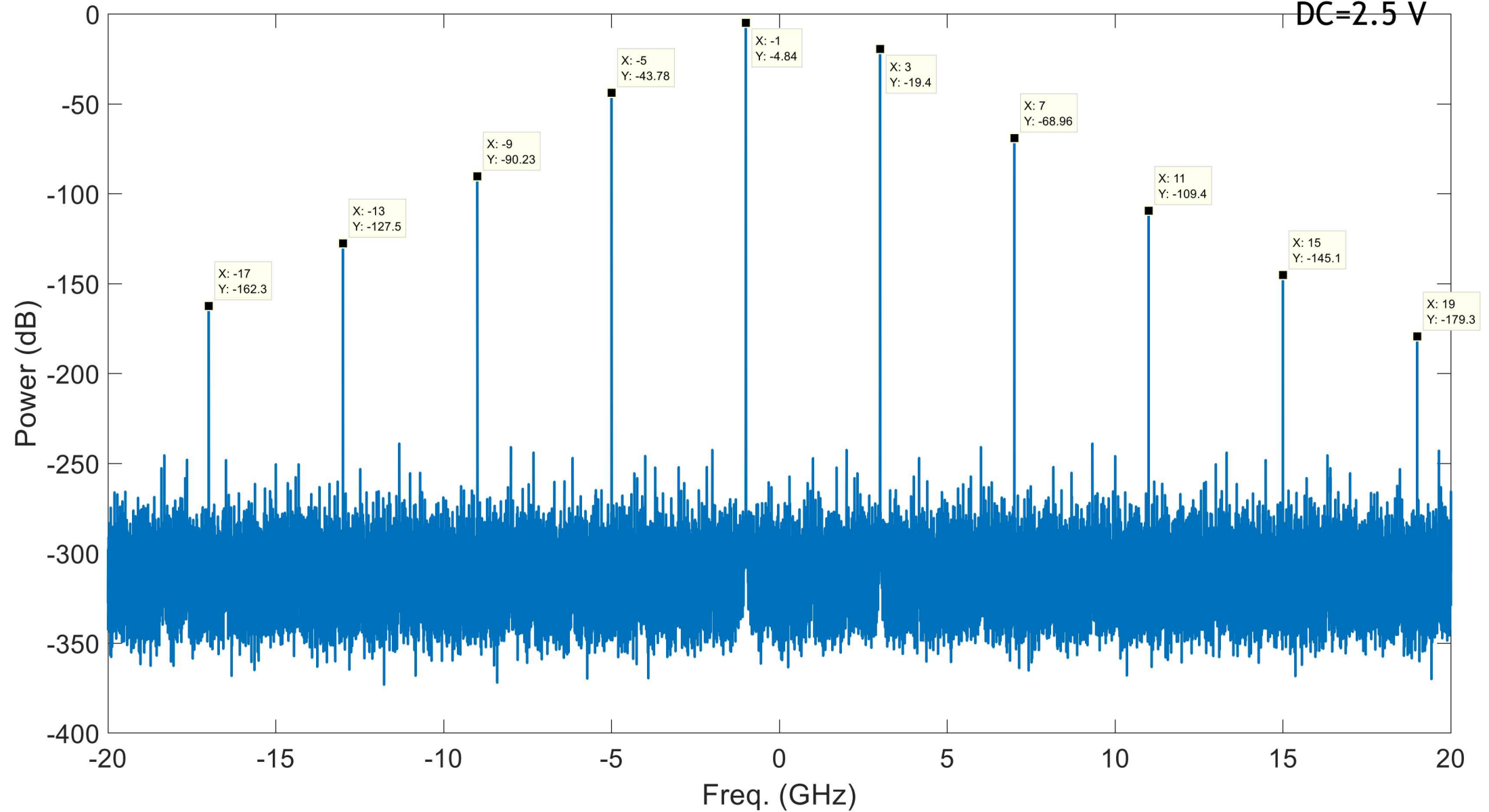


Optical single-sideband (OSSB) modulator fabricated at Sandia National Labs (Silicon Fab)

TO phase shifters (blue)
Phase modulators (depletion-mode)

Modeling (non-linear index model)

0 dB input
Mod=2.46 V
DC=2.5 V



Modeling (non-linear index model)

RF Phases

$$\Phi_a=0$$
$$\Phi_b=\pi/2$$

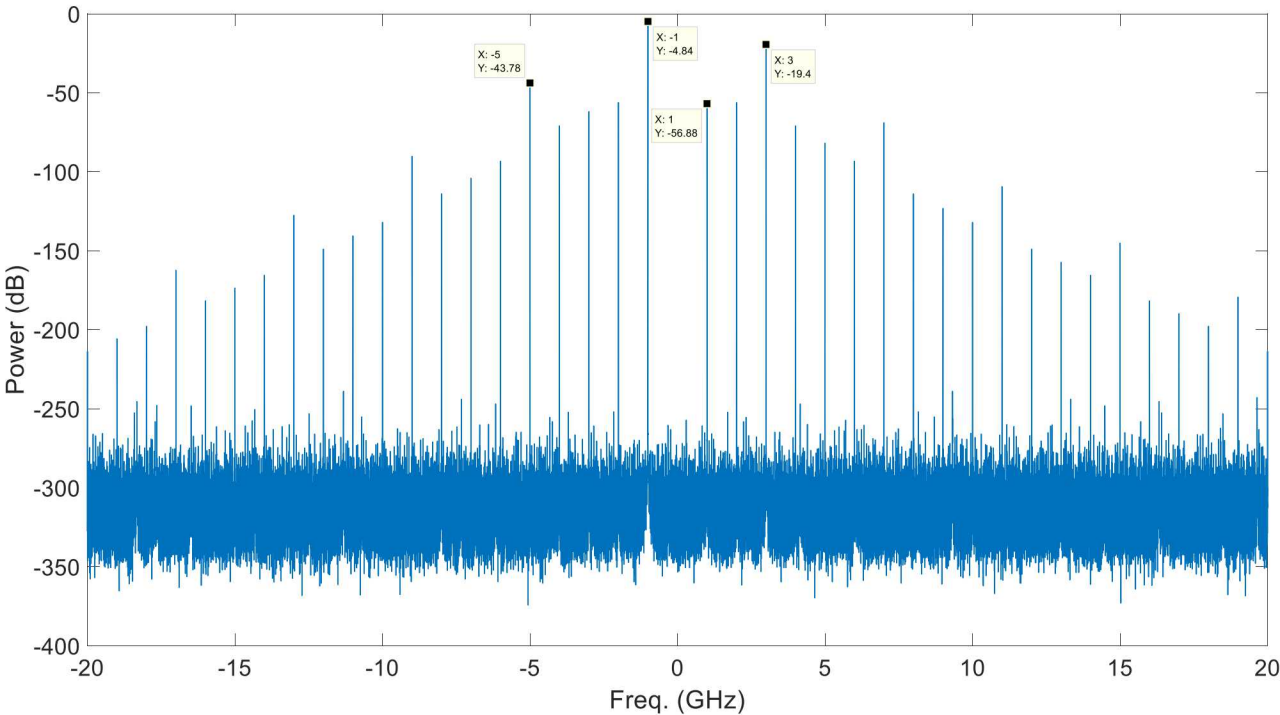
$$\Phi_1=0$$
$$\Phi_2=\pi$$
$$\Phi_3=0$$
$$\Phi_4=\pi$$

$$\varphi_{1RF}=0$$
$$\varphi_{2RF}=\pi$$
$$\varphi_{3RF}=\pi/2$$
$$\varphi_{4RF}=3\pi/2$$

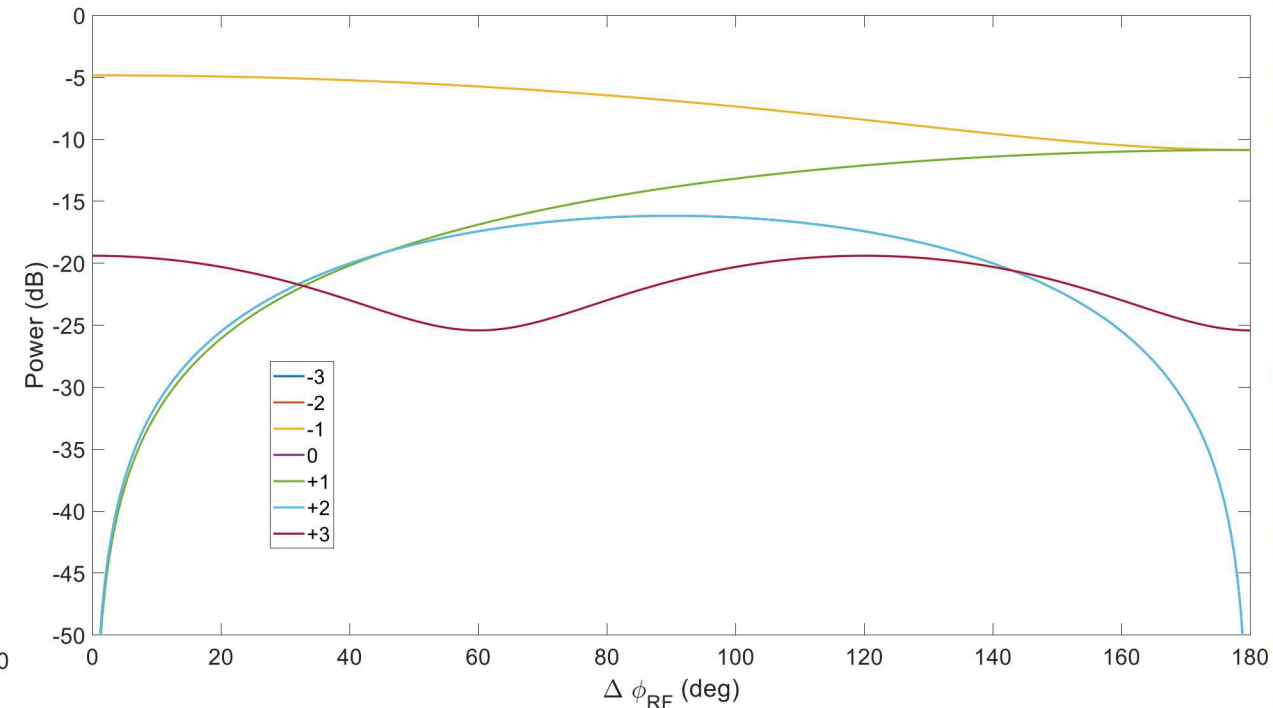
Pin=0 dB input
Mod=2.46 V
DC=2.5 V



$\Delta\varphi_{1RF}=0.01$ rad (0.57 deg)



$\Delta\varphi_{RF}$ =sweep



Any single RF phase needs to be **-30 deg** off for +/-2,+1 to grow pasts +3

RF phase has no effect on carrier suppression

Modeling (non-linear index model)

RF amplitude

$$\Phi_a=0$$
$$\Phi_b=\pi/2$$

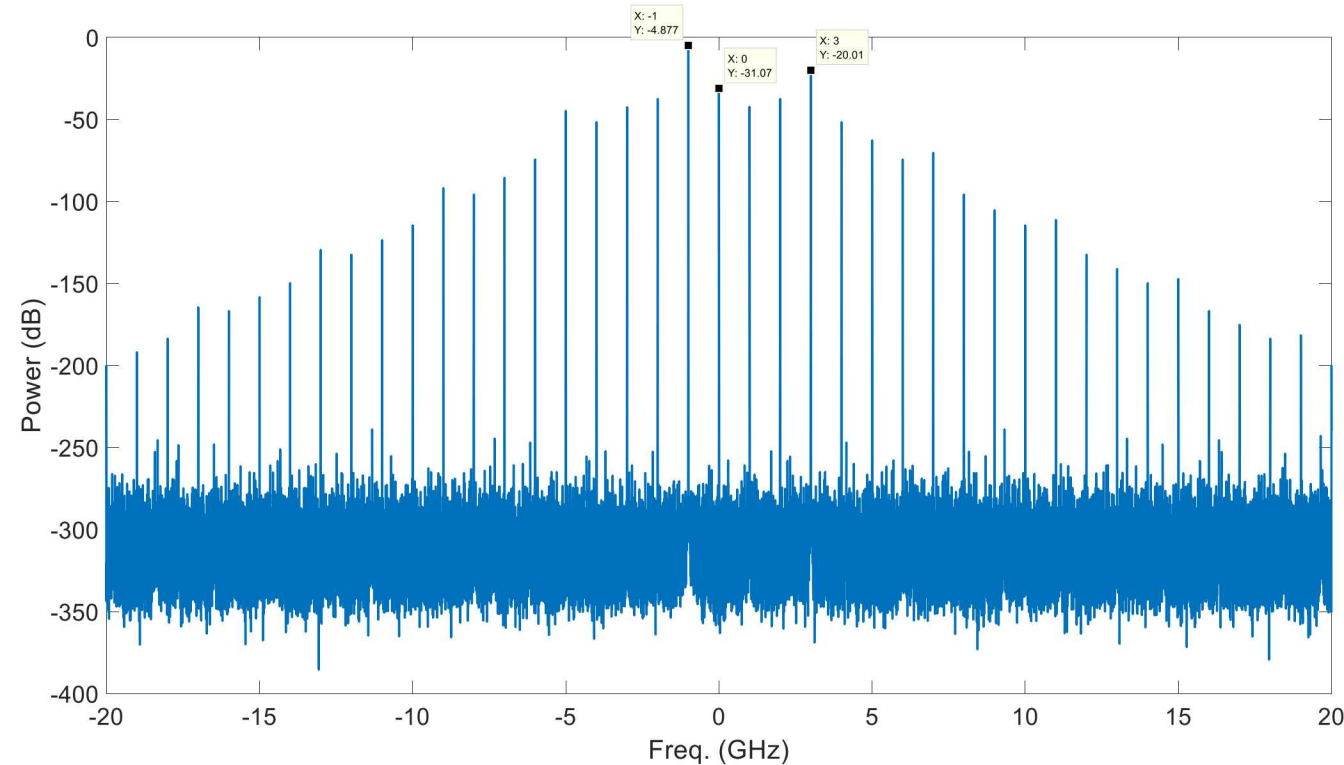
$$\Phi_1=0$$
$$\Phi_2=\pi$$
$$\Phi_3=0$$
$$\Phi_4=\pi$$

$$\varphi_{1RF}=0$$
$$\varphi_{2RF}=\pi$$
$$\varphi_{3RF}=\pi/2$$
$$\varphi_{4RF}=3\pi/2$$

Pin=0 dB input
Mod=2.46 V
DC=2.5 V

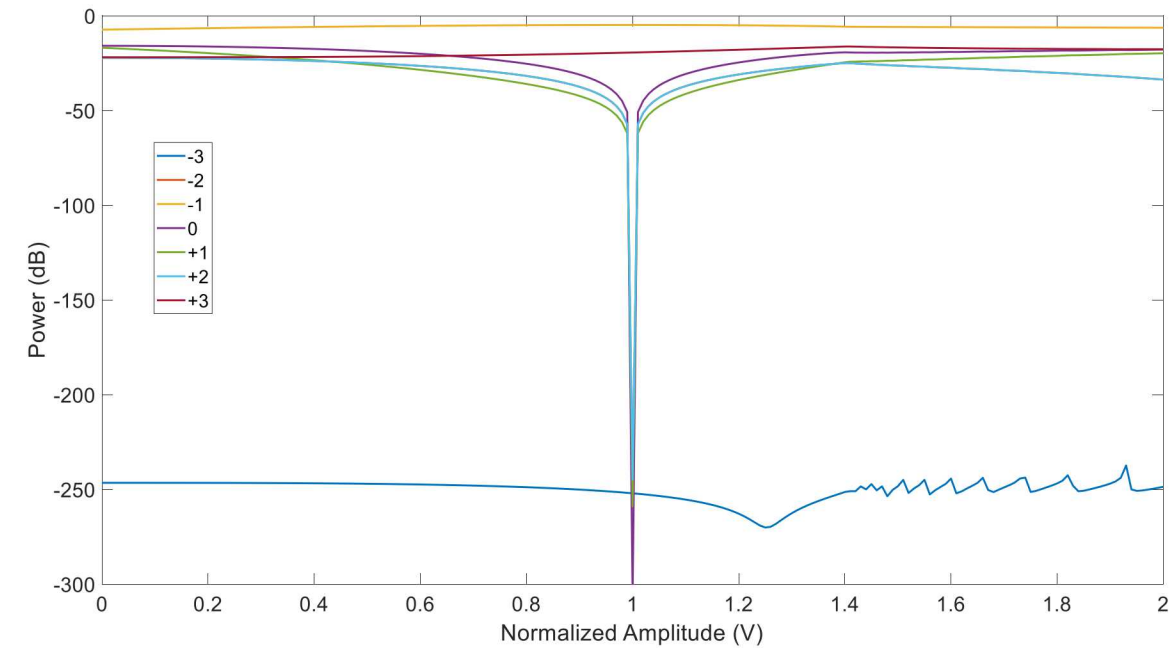


$V_{1RF}=0.9$ (90% of the other); $V_a=2.46$ V



25 dB carrier suppression relative to -1 sideband

$V_a=2.46$ V



RF amplitude imbalance will reduce carrier suppression and introduce sidebands (need to be within 0.3dB RF power for <35 dB carrier suppression)

Modeling (non-linear index model)

Optical Phases

$$\Phi_a=0$$
$$\Phi_b=\pi/2$$

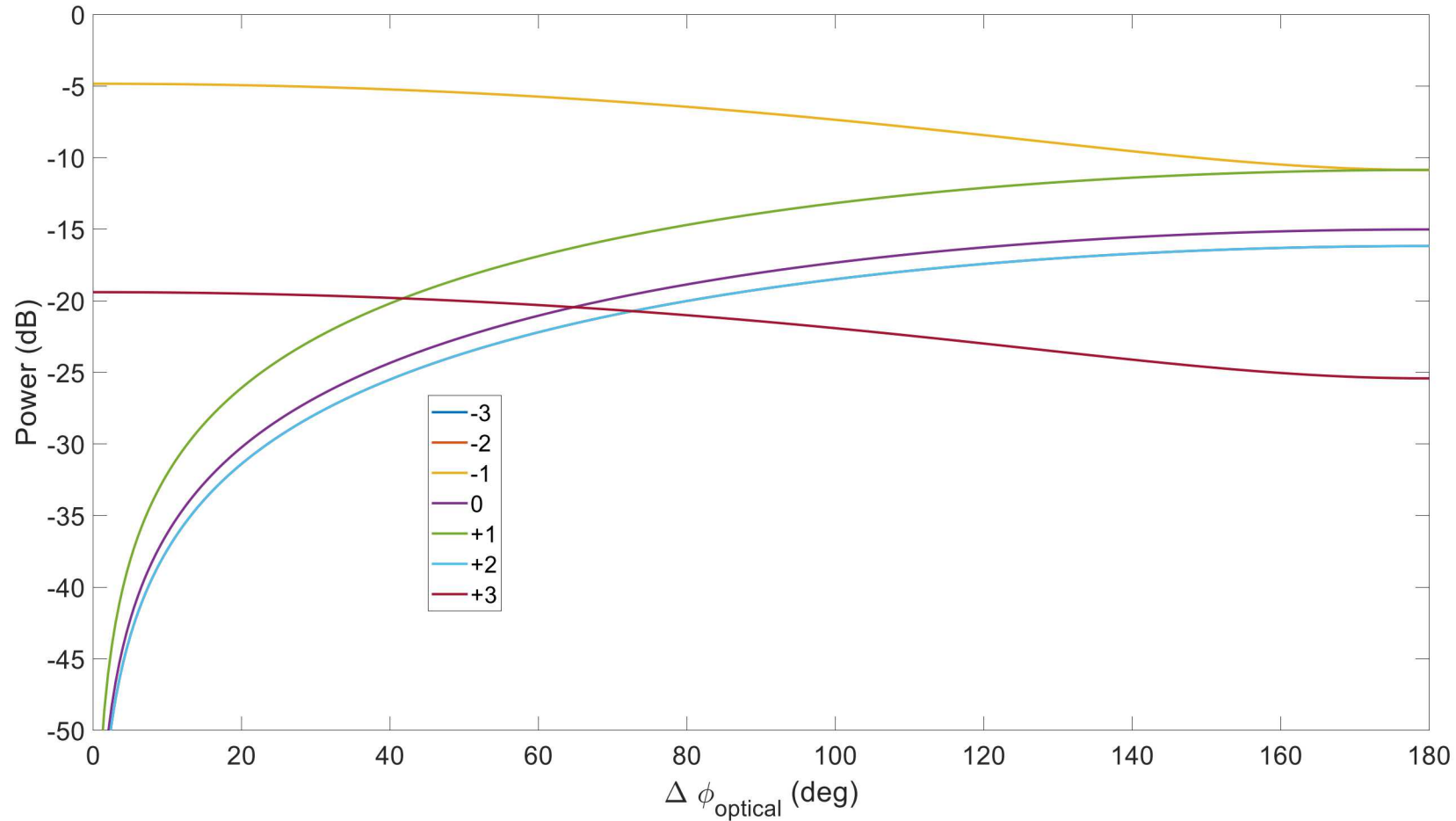
$$\Phi_1=0$$
$$\Phi_2=\pi$$
$$\Phi_3=0$$
$$\Phi_4=\pi$$

$$\varphi_{1RF}=0$$
$$\varphi_{2RF}=\pi$$
$$\varphi_{3RF}=\pi/2$$
$$\varphi_{4RF}=3\pi/2$$

Pin=0 dB input
Mod=2.46 V
DC=2.5 V



$\Delta \Phi_{\text{optical}} = \text{sweep (1-4)}$



Any single optical phase offset has an adverse effect on carrier suppression and sideband suppression (tolerance: ~<10 deg)

Modeling (non-linear index model)

Modulation Amplitude vs Bias

$$\Phi_a=0$$
$$\Phi_b=\pi/2$$

$$\Phi_1=0$$
$$\Phi_2=\pi$$
$$\Phi_3=0$$
$$\Phi_4=\pi$$

$$\varphi_{1RF}=0$$
$$\varphi_{2RF}=\pi$$
$$\varphi_{3RF}=\pi/2$$
$$\varphi_{4RF}=3\pi/2$$

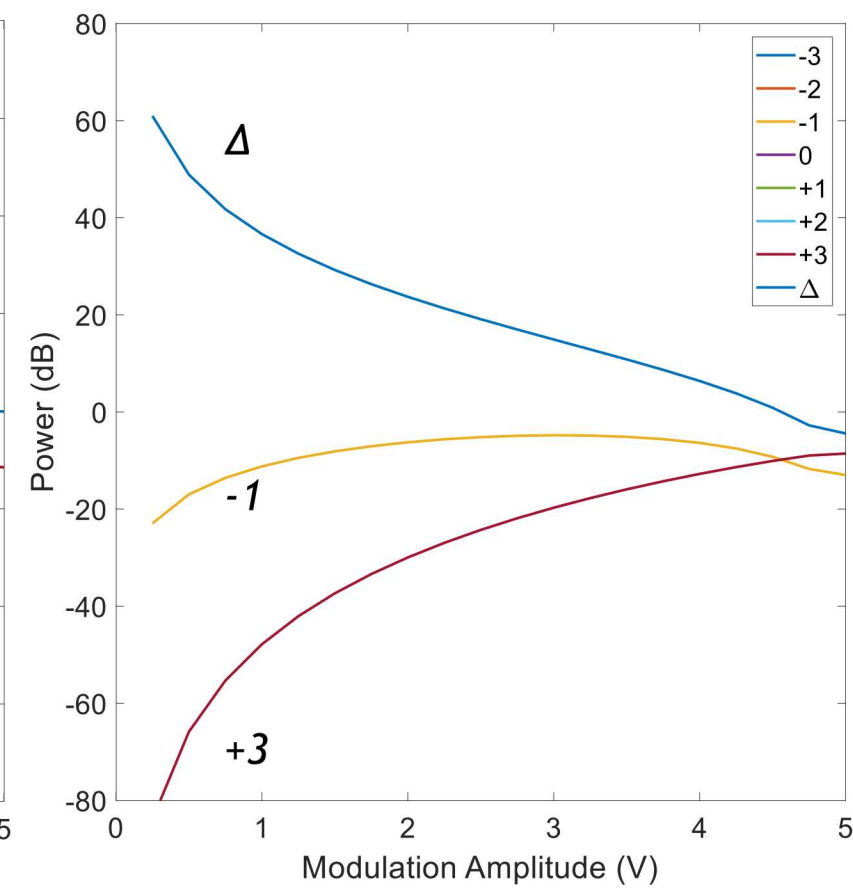
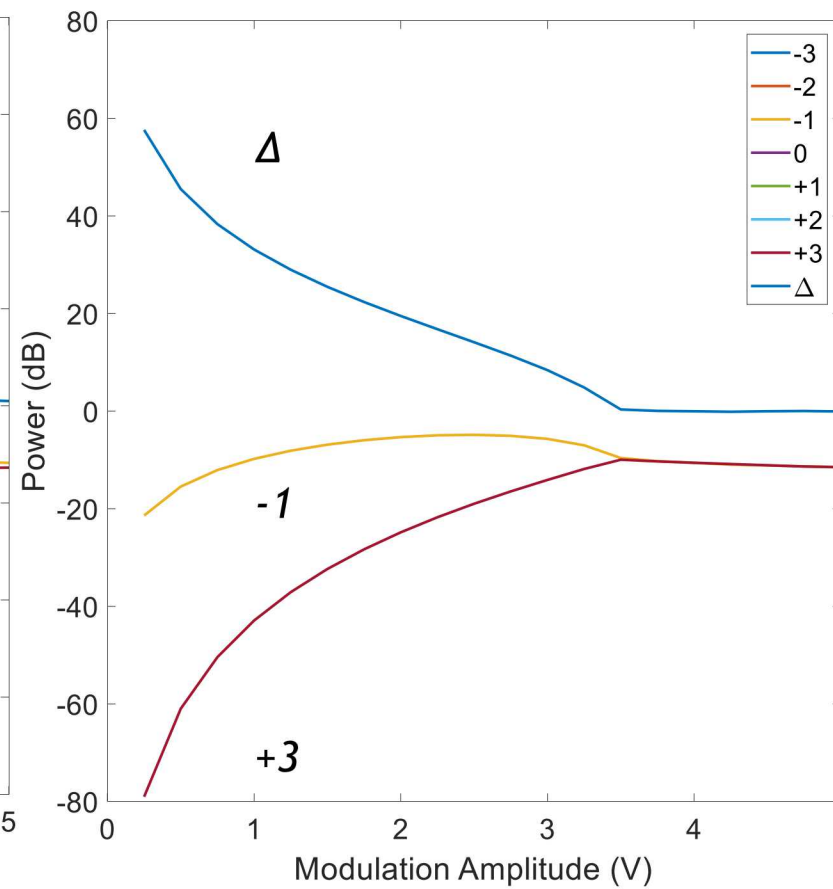
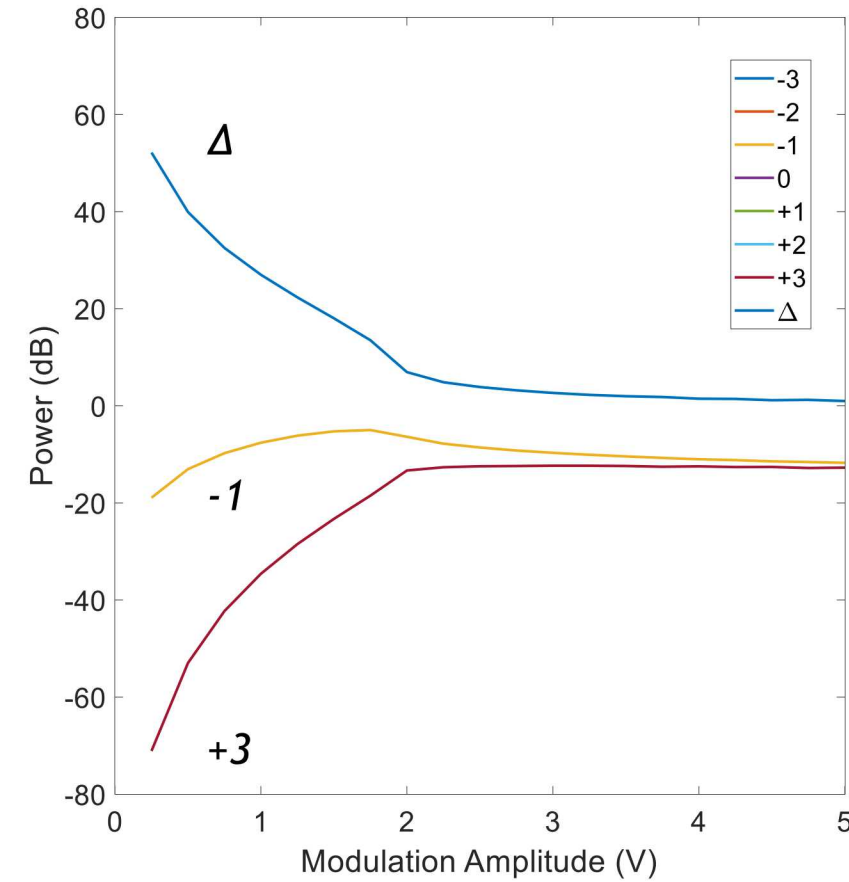
Pin=0 dB input
Mod_{RF}=SWEEP
DC=vary



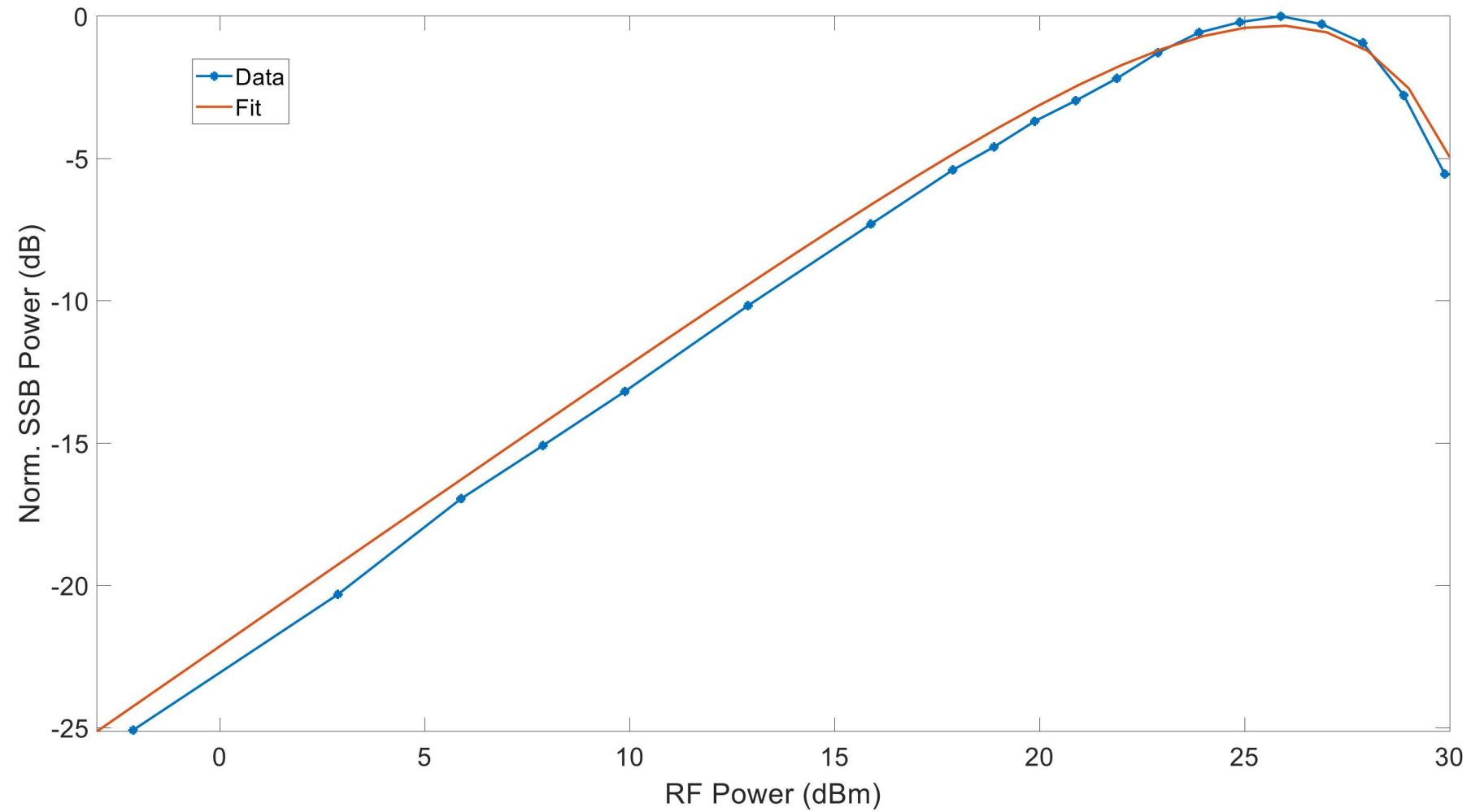
DC=-1 V

DC=-2.5 V

DC=-4 V



-1 & +3 sidebands cross-over for larger reverse bias



$V_{\pi} = \sim 3.71 \text{ V (L=1mm)}$;
 $V_{\pi L} = 0.371 \text{ V cm}$

