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Citation for published version (APA):

Jung, H. D., Tangdiongga, E., & Koonen, A. M. J. (2008). Demonstration of traffic control and WDM routing in all-optical data vortex node. In *Conference on Lasers and Electro-Optics, 2008 and 2008 Conference on Quantum Electronics and Laser Science : CLEO/QELS 2008 ; 4 - 9 May 2008, San Jose, [CA]* (pp. CFF1-1/2). [4550969] Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. <https://doi.org/10.1109/CLEO.2008.4550969>

DOI:

[10.1109/CLEO.2008.4550969](https://doi.org/10.1109/CLEO.2008.4550969)

Document status and date:

Published: 15/09/2008

Document Version:

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of Record (includes final page, issue and volume numbers)

Please check the document version of this publication:

- A submitted manuscript is the version of the article upon submission and before peer-review. There can be important differences between the submitted version and the official published version of record. People interested in the research are advised to contact the author for the final version of the publication, or visit the DOI to the publisher's website.
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Demonstration of Traffic Control and WDM Routing in All-Optical Data Vortex Node

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Abstract: We demonstrate all-optical traffic control and self-routing of WDM optical packets in a cascaded two-node all-optical Data Vortex switching node. In the experiment, WDM optical packets are successfully routed while maintaining a BER of 10^{-10} or better.

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OCIS codes: (230.3750) Optical logic devices; (060.4259) Networks, packet-switched

1. Introduction

The Data Vortex routing structure suggested for the optical packet switching technique approaches the challenges such as the absence of robust optical buffers and the contention resolution from a simple routing logic and the viewpoint of the routing structure. So far, several researches [1-3] have been reported. We demonstrate all-optical traffic control and self-routing of WDM encoded optical packets carrying 40Gb/s payload signal in a cascaded two-node all-optical Data Vortex node by all-optical header processing which is different from the electro-optic header processing used at the previous reported researches.

2. Structure of all-optical Data Vortex switching node

The proposed all-optical Data Vortex switch node[4] is shown in Fig. 1, which consists of two MZI-SOAs. The upper and lower MZI-SOA acts as an AND optical logic gate and an 1×2 optical switch, respectively. In an optical packet, a WDM scheme is used to carry the payload and header of an optical packet. In a WDM packet encoding scheme, each wavelength channel carries a single header bit on a time slot, and each node in a Data Vortex router decodes a specific header bit in a binary tree fashion.

If a WDM encoded optical packet comes into the proposed switch node, a portion of the signal is tapped into the upper MZI-SOA. Then the specific header signal is extracted by the passive optical bandpass filter for the header processing. The upper MZI-SOA performs a header processing by the extracted header and the control signal from inner node and gives a routing signal for the lower MZI-SOA. This routing signal controls the switching function of the lower MZI-SOA gate.

3. Experiment and Results

The experiment setup shown in Fig.2 consists of two parts: the optical packet generator and the cascaded all-optical Data Vortex node. In the packet generator, a 10Gb/s mode locking laser ($\lambda_p=1560\text{nm}$) carrying the payload data is optically multiplexed to 40Gb/s to generate the optical payload. Two header channels ($\lambda_2=1553.3\text{nm}$ and $\lambda_3=1554.1\text{nm}$) are combined with the 40Gb/s optical payload to compose the input optical packet sequence. This optical packet and the control signal ($\lambda_1=1552.5\text{nm}$) are applied separately to the node-1. In the switching nodes, the each optical packet in the input packet sequence is routed separately according to the traffic control signal and the extracted header information.

Figure 3 shows the routing results. In node-1, the initial input sequence has the data set of "101100 100011 001100 110011 000000". As mentioned previously, a portion of the input packet is tapped and sent to the upper MZI-SOA for the header processing. In node-1, the wavelength of the bandpass filter is set to the same as the header channel 1 ($\lambda_2=1553.3\text{nm}$). The extracted header signal interacts with the traffic control signal according to the AND logic operation. The output routing signal has only "on" bits when both header and control bit are simultaneously "on". The input packet signal heading to the lower MZI-SOA was routed to either the SOUTH or the EAST output port in accordance with these routing bits. The optical packets switched to the EAST are sent to the input port of node-2 and are routed according to the header channel 2 ($\lambda_3=1554.1\text{nm}$) and the traffic control generated from node-1 in the same way at node-1. In the experiment, WDM optical packets are successfully routed while maintaining a bit-error rate of 10^{-10} or better at each node as shown in Fig. 3.

4. References

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Fig. 1 Proposed all-optical Data Vortex switch node employing MZI-SOAs

Fig. 2 Experiment setup for traffic control and WDM routing

Fig. 3 Routing results at each node