

Slides 1-10:  
Industry Buzz



**Agilent Technologies**

Slides 11-42:  
High-Speed  
Waveform eSeminar

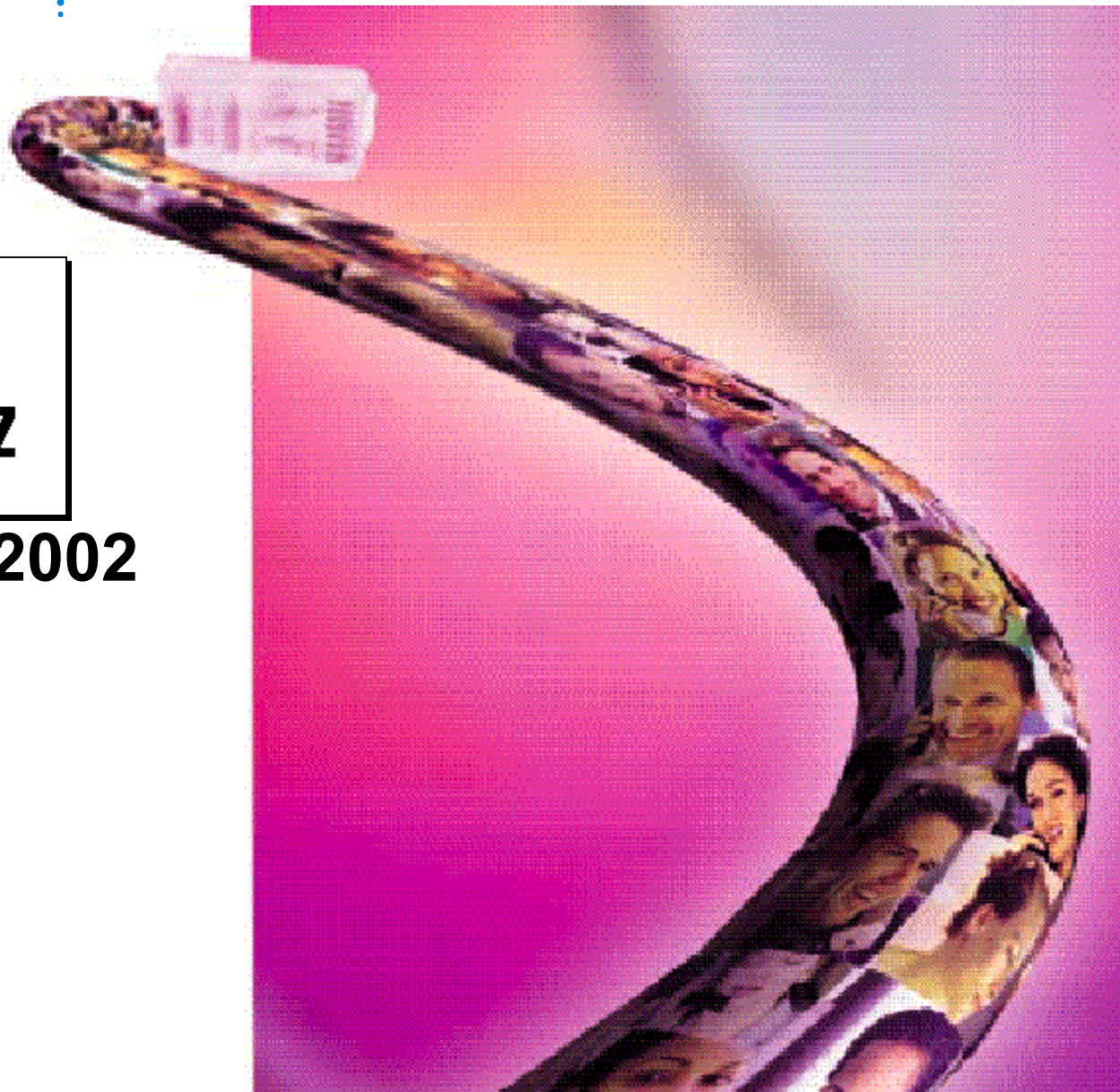
# **THE 40G INDUSTRY BUZZ**

**September 5, 2002**



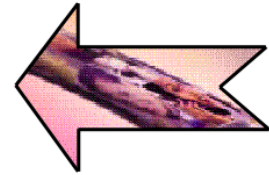
*presented by:*

**Larry DesJardin**



# THE 40G Industry Buzz

- *Industry Update & Commentary*
- “Late Breaking News” from Agilent



# Industry Update and Commentary

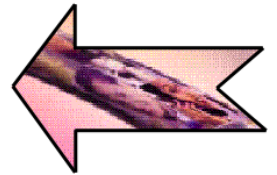
## SFI-5 Specification Status

- **APPROVED!!!!**
- **Parts being sampled...**



# THE 40G Industry Buzz

- **Industry Update & Commentary**
- ***“Late Breaking News” from Agilent***

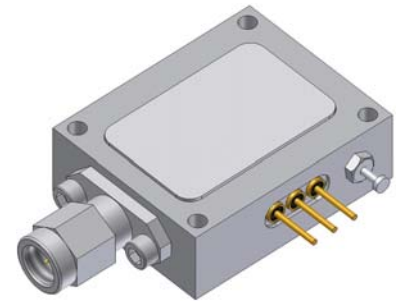


# Late Breaking Agilent News

## New Optical High Speed Modules:

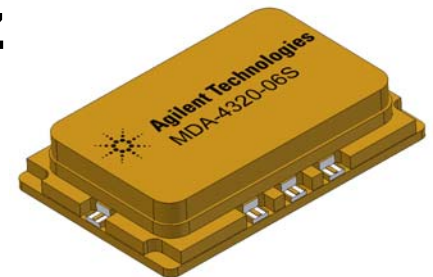
- **Agilent 20& 40Ghz VCO in Coaxial Package**

- Freq: 19.9, 21.5, 39.8, and 43.1Ghz
- Low Jitter. 3-7dBm output power
- Size 1.20"x0.95"x0.40"



- **Agilent 20& 40Ghz VCO in SMT Package**

- Freq: 19.9, 21.5, 39.8, and 43.1Ghz
- Single or Differential Output
- Hermetic package 0.7"x0.4"x0.2"



**See Resource Page for more info.**



# Late Breaking Agilent News

## New Optical High Speed Modules:

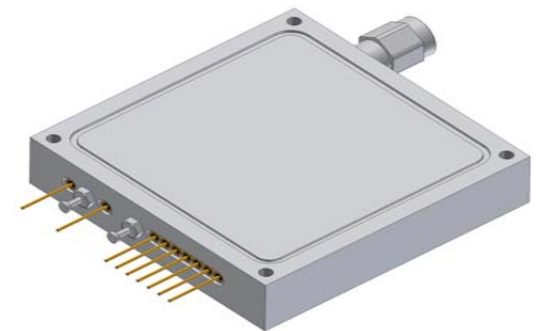
- **Agilent Driver Amp in SMT & Coaxial Package**

- Freq: 40Khz to 43Ghz
- >6Vp-p output pwr
- 15dB and 20dB gain



- **Agilent 20Ghz Phase Lock Pwr Clock Driver**

- Freq: 19.9 or 21.5Ghz
- >16Vp-p Output Voltage
- Hermetic package 2.0x2.0x0.4”



Contact Nam Lee. Email: [nam\\_lee@agilent.com](mailto:nam_lee@agilent.com)

Tel (408) 970-2822



# Late Breaking Agilent News

## New Tunable Laser Source:

- **Agilent 81600B All Band Tunable Laser Source**
  - Industry widest tuning range
  - Complete S, C, L Band Coverage (1440nm – 1640nm)
  - Fastest Sweep Speed (up to 80 nm/s) with guaranteed performance
  - Up to +8 dBm output power



<http://advanced.comms.agilent.com/cm/rdmfg/tls/81600b/index.shtml>

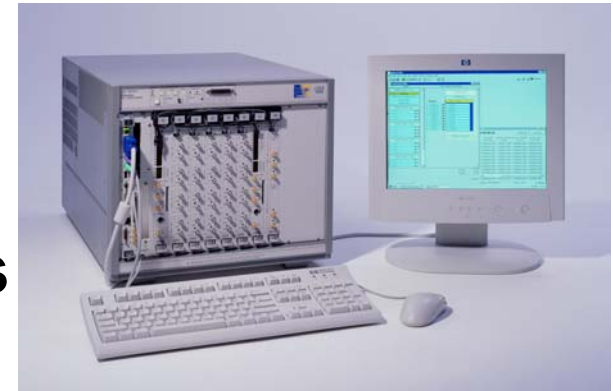


# Late Breaking Agilent News

## New Bit Error Ratio Tester:

- **Agilent ParBERT 81250B 45G**

- **38-45Gb/s**
- **Add 2.7Gb/s or 10.8Gb/s tribs**
- **Variable threshold & delay**
- **Integrated CDR**
- **Differential output, 2V/single ended.**
- **SONET editor**



**See Agilent web site for more information**





# Late Breaking Agilent News

## New Communication Analyzer Products:

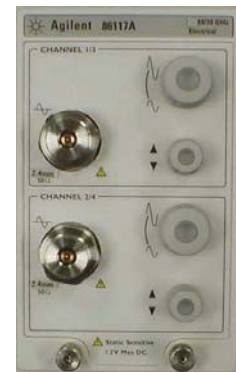
- **Agilent 86116B 65 GHz Optical; 80 GHz Electrical**

- For 40 Gb/s component testing
- Highest optical and electrical bandwidth
- Very fast rise times; high pulse fidelity



- **Agilent 86117A/B Dual Electrical Channels**

- Either 50 or 65 Ghz dual electrical BW
- Fast rise times
- High pulse fidelity



Agilent web site to have more information





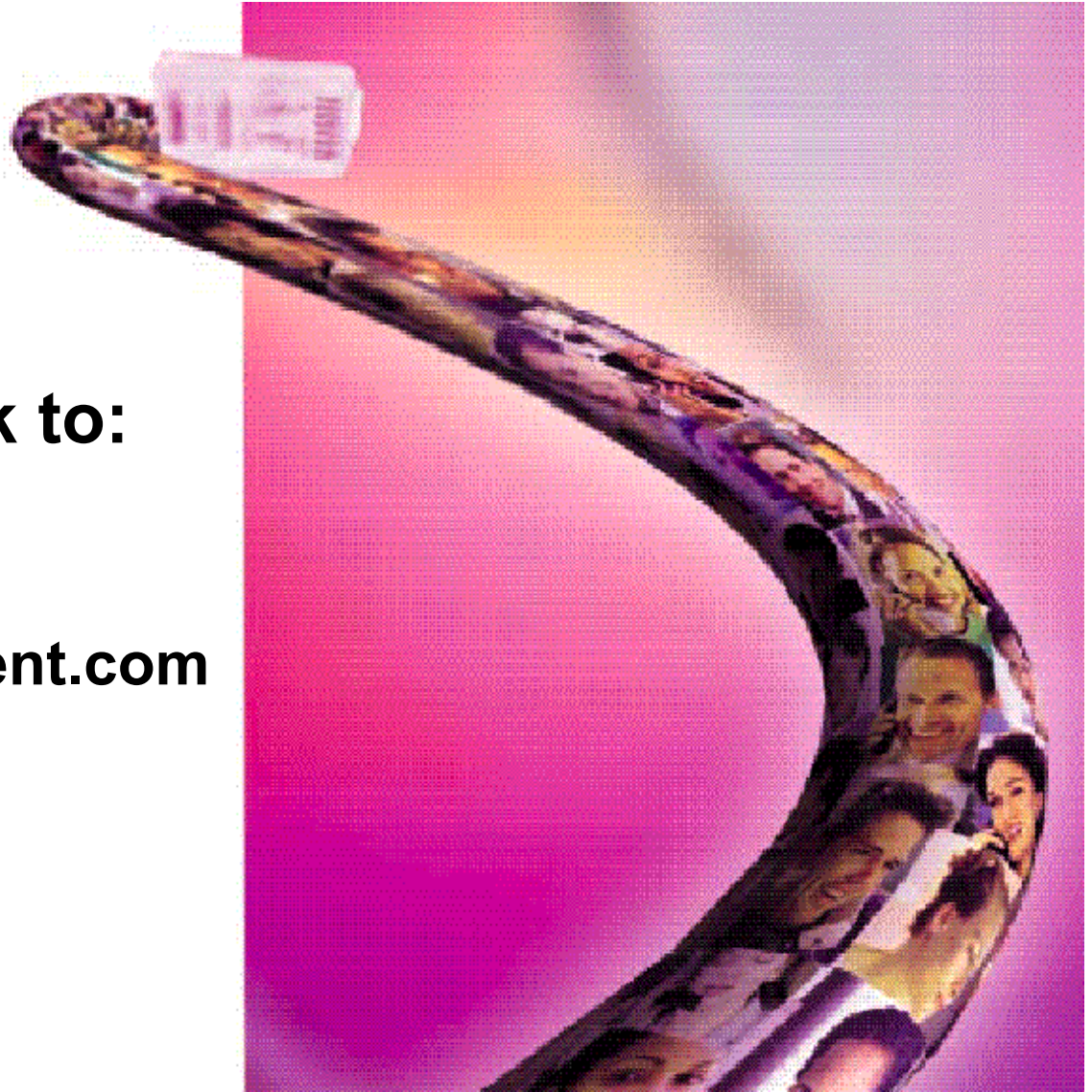
**Agilent Technologies**

# **THE 40G**

## **INDUSTRY BUZZ**

**Send any feedback to:**

**[larry\\_desjardin@agilent.com](mailto:larry_desjardin@agilent.com)**





**Agilent Technologies**

# High-speed Waveform Measurement Challenges

**September 5, 2002**

*presented by:*

**Mike Resso**  
Lightwave Division  
Santa Rosa, CA

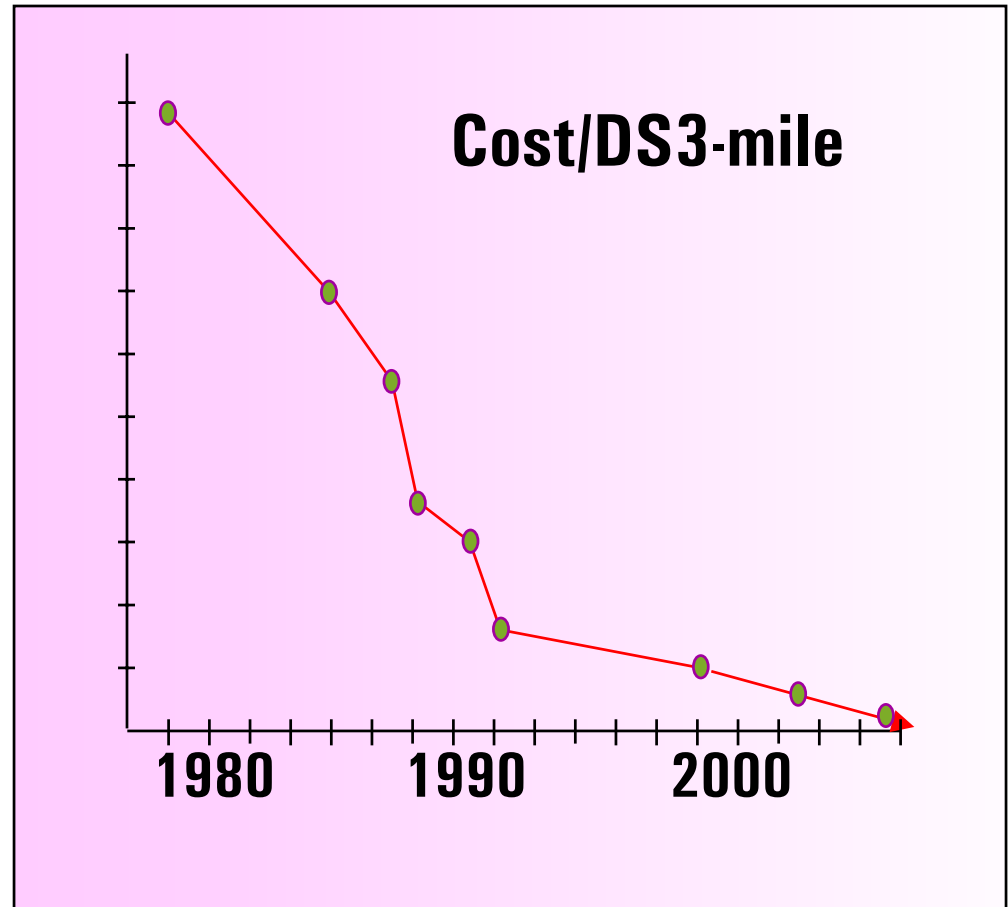
# Agenda

- **Fundamentals for measurements of very high-speed waveforms**
- **Technology behind current state of the art**
- **Recent breakthrough developments that dramatically increase measurement capabilities**



# Communications speeds continue to advance at a steady pace

- **SONET/SDH rates**
  - 155, 622, 2488 & 9953 Mb/s
  - 40 Gb/s development in progress
- **Ethernet rates**
  - 10, 100 & 1000 Mb/s
  - 10 Gb/s development in progress



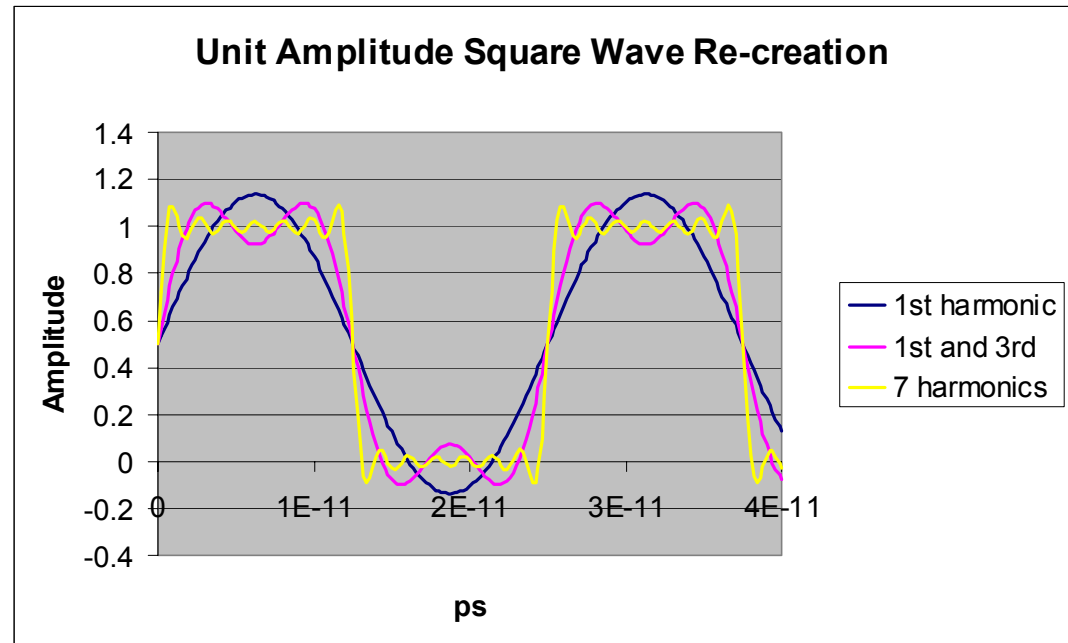
# High fidelity waveform measurements require significant bandwidth: How much is enough?

- **Good measurement practice for simple pulse measurements**

- See at least third harmonic
- Preferably 5<sup>th</sup> harmonic for accurate wave shapes

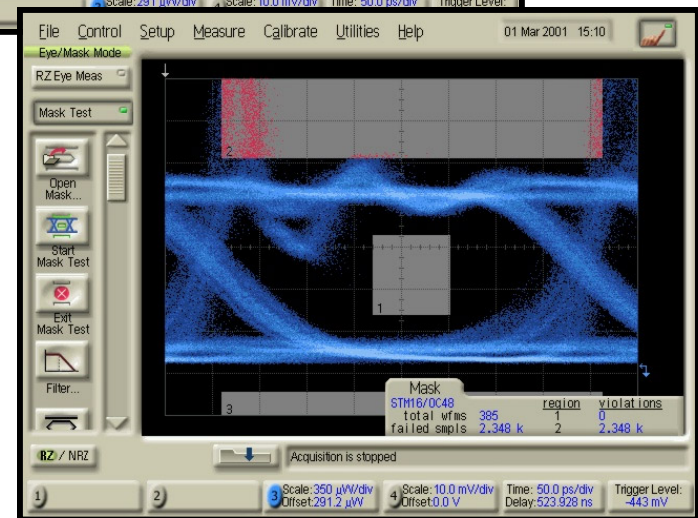
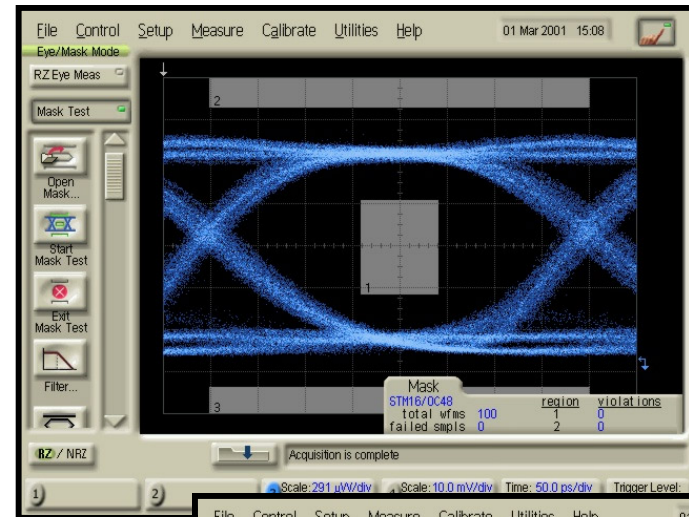
- **Rule-of-Thumb**

- 3x Bandwidth = 5% error
- 5x Bandwidth = 1% error



# Reduced bandwidth reference receivers used for standards compliance verification

- **Key intent: verify that a transmitter will function properly in a communications system**
  - This is much different than verifying the correct shape of a waveform
- **Need a methodology that yields consistent measurements across the industry**
- **Optical reference receiver:**
  - This is much different than verifying the correct shape of a waveform
  - Bandwidth at 75% of optical baud rate
- **Example: 10 Gb/s reference receiver has 7.5 GHz bandwidth**



# Oscilloscope performance: A stable state of the art for approximately 10 years

- 50 GHz electrical measurement capability has existed since before 1990
- 30 GHz optical bandwidth available before 1991
- Jitter performance (also important for high-fidelity waveforms) approximately 1 ps rms (since 1990)
- Adequate for all rates up to 10 Gb/s

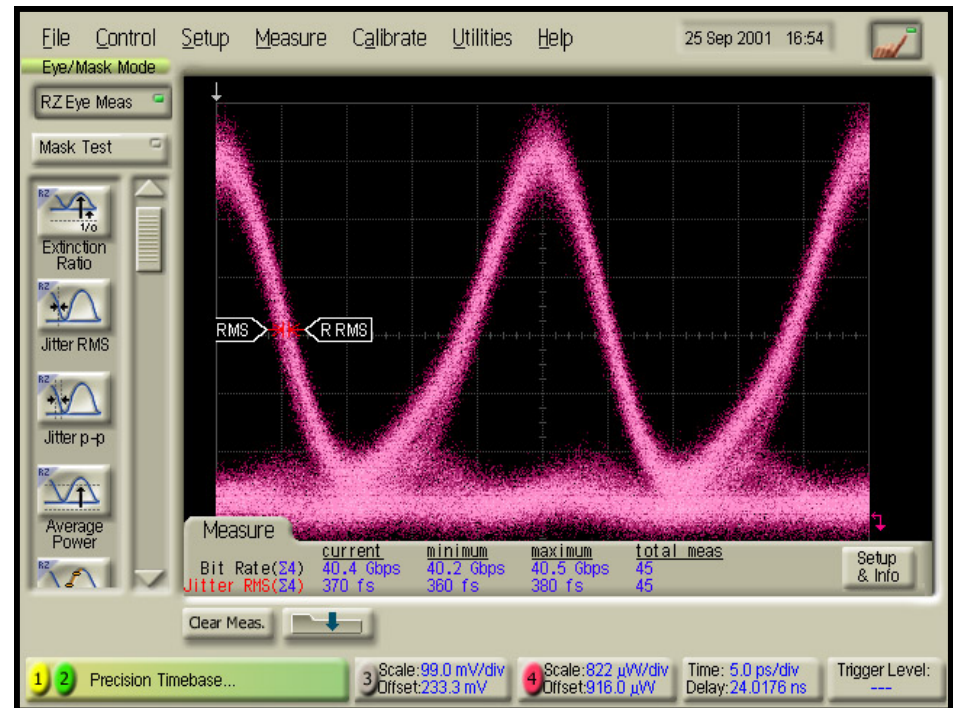
***Where do we stand for 40 Gb/s measurements?***





# 40 Gb/s transmission requires significant improvements in measurement instrumentation

- Return-to-zero (RZ) modulation formats
  - Extremely narrow pulse widths
  - Fast rise and fall times
  - Small amounts of instrumentation jitter can severely degrade displayed waveform
- RZ specific issues reside mainly in the optical domain
  - NRZ to RZ conversion at the electro-optic modulator
    - Optical measurements can require more bandwidth than the electrical measurements



Question: Why use RZ Format?

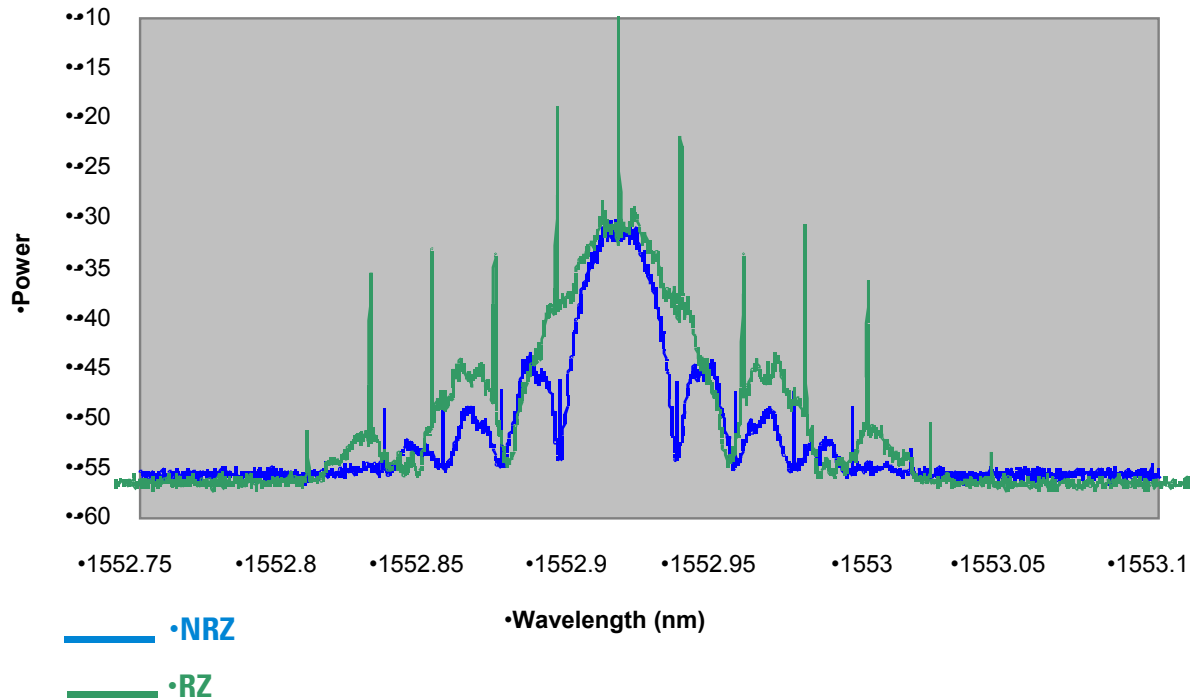
Answer 1: Reduces Inter Symbol Interference

Answer 2: Approaches soliton transmission



# RZ signal spectrum is wider than the NRZ signal at the same data rate

•Optical spectrum for 2.5 GHz NRZ and RZ



**Accurate waveform measurements require a proportional increase in measurement bandwidth**



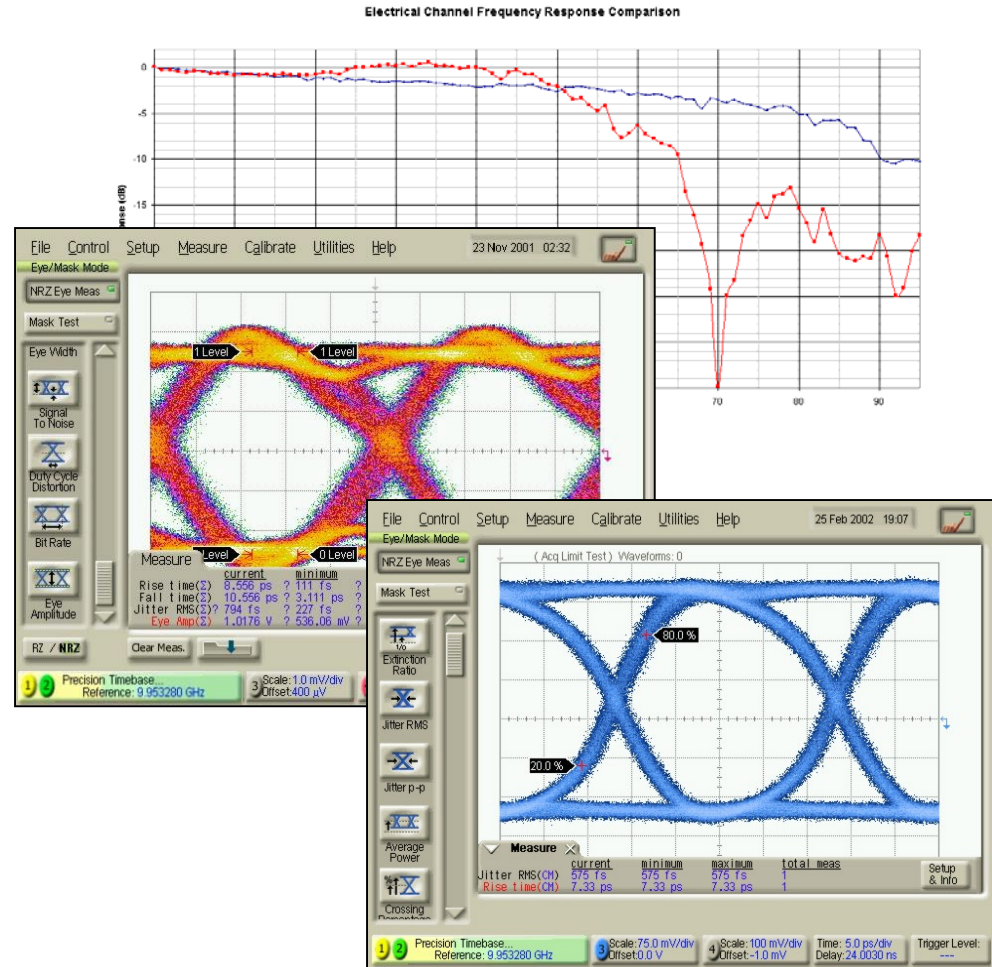
# Measurements of 40 Gb/s electrical waveforms present new challenges

- **Cables are lossy**
- **Cable frequency response has high-frequency rolloff**
- **Specialized connectors**



# Measurement bandwidth is a subset of a more important parameter: frequency response

- Anytime you bandlimit a signal, the resulting waveform is incorrect. Error magnitude depends on frequency content of the signal and scope response
- Several different frequency responses can have identical bandwidth values
- Can lead to significantly different waveform shapes
  - Abrupt rolloffs or “peaking” prior to rolling off can lead to overshoot and ringing in the time domain response
  - Well behaved, gentle rolloff is ideal for a bandlimited measurement



# Why has measurement performance not kept pace with communications speeds?

- **Main contributors:**
  - **Electrical samplers:** The heart of the wide-bandwidth sampling oscilloscope
  - **High-speed photodetectors:** Required for the analysis of optical signals
  - **Circuitry** capable of maintaining timing precision to sub-picosecond accuracy: Key element for minimization of oscilloscope jitter



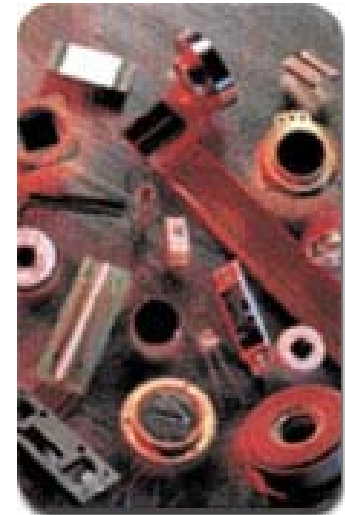
# Electrical sampling circuits

- A sampler will determine the amplitude of the signal at a discrete point in time
- Based on microwave circuit technology
- DC coupled, ultra-wide-bandwidth, well-behaved frequency response circuitry is extremely difficult to design and build
  - DC coupling is required for several measurements including extinction ratio
- Sampler efficiency often is traded for higher bandwidth
- Electrical cabling degrades measurement fidelity
  - 30-40 cm of good cable can reduce effective measurement bandwidth from 75 GHz to 50 GHz



# Photodetector limitations

- **Similar to electrical samplers, an optical front end to an oscilloscope must have:**
  - **DC coupling**
  - **Wide bandwidth**
  - **Well behaved frequency response**
  - **High responsivity/low noise**



# Timing accuracy leads to waveform jitter

- How much uncertainty exists in determining the precise time when a sample is taken
- A trigger event determines when the sampling process should begin
- The time between a trigger event and the sampling event is often several nanoseconds
- Maintaining sub-picosecond timing precision over a multiple nanosecond time span is extremely difficult





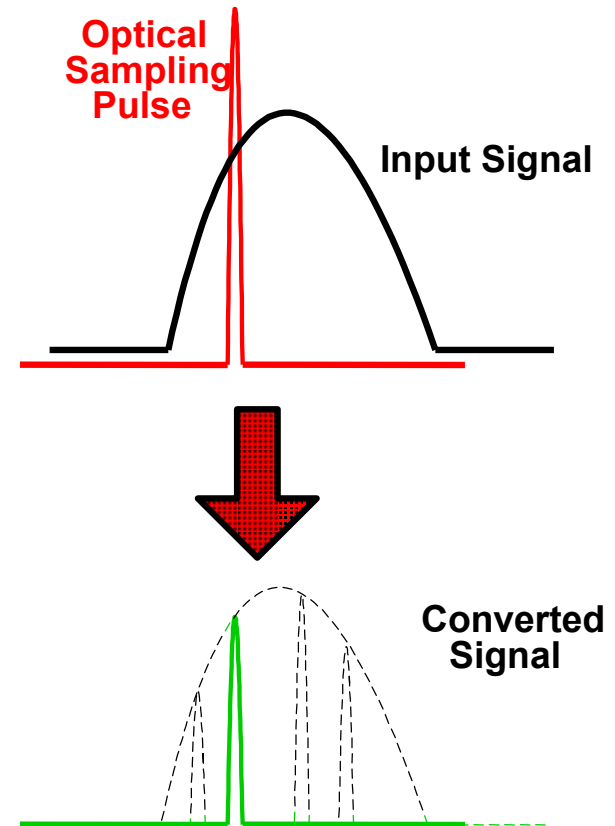
# **New measurement techniques provide breakthrough performance**

- **Optically based sampling techniques yield bandwidths approaching 1 Terahertz**
- **Ultra-compact sampler in a remote-able housing yields up to 75 GHz of bandwidth for electrical waveforms**
- **Phase-based triggering technique yields jitter performance approaching 100 femtoseconds (rms).**

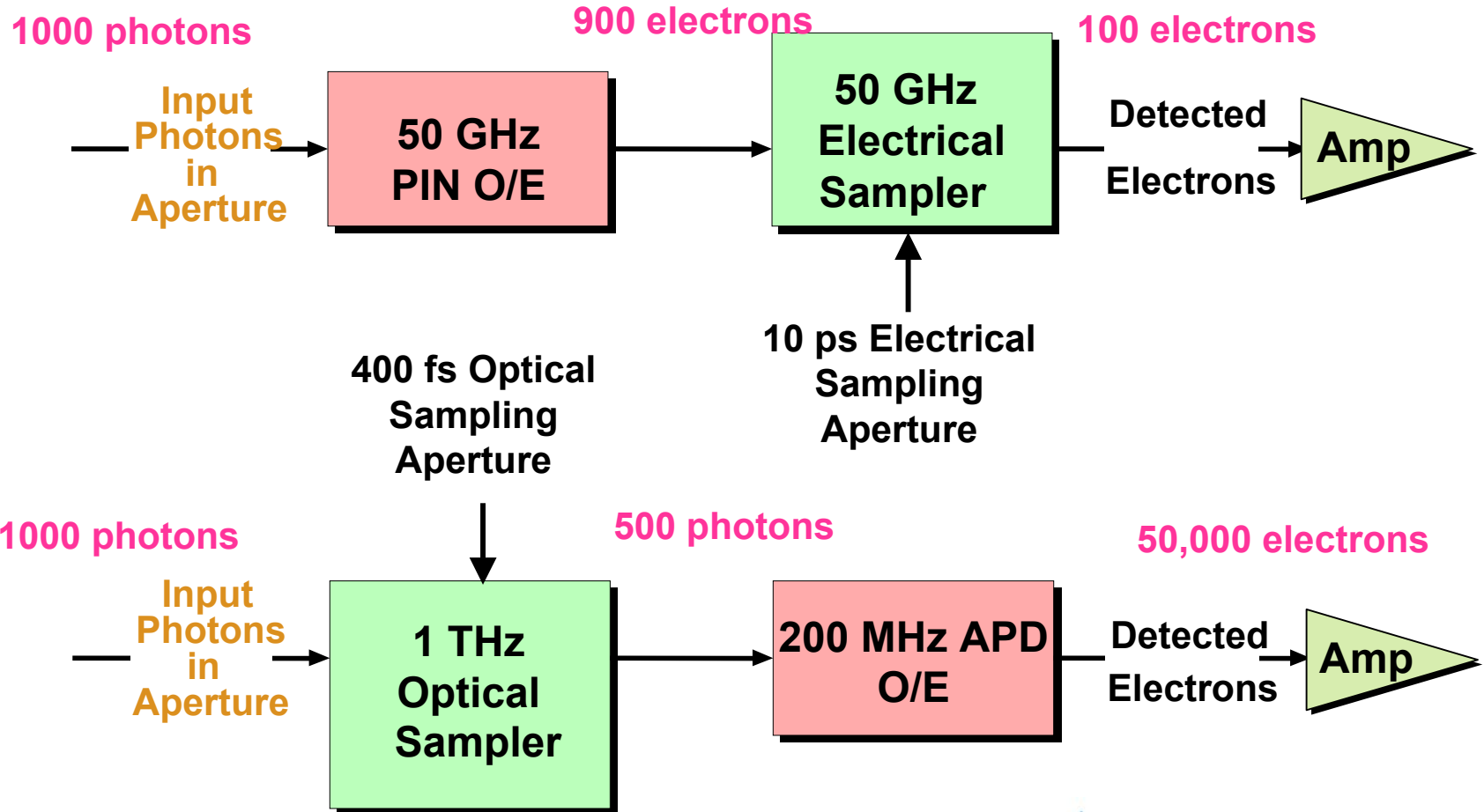


# Optical sampling concept

- Sampling bandwidth is determined by the width of the sampling pulse
  - Use very fast optical pulses ( $\sim 100\text{fs}$ ) to sample the signal under test
- Noise can be dominated by the bandwidth of the electronics
  - Minimize electrical noise by sampling in the optical domain
  - Convert to the electrical domain in a low-bandwidth intermediate frequency
- Perform multiple samples to construct the waveform

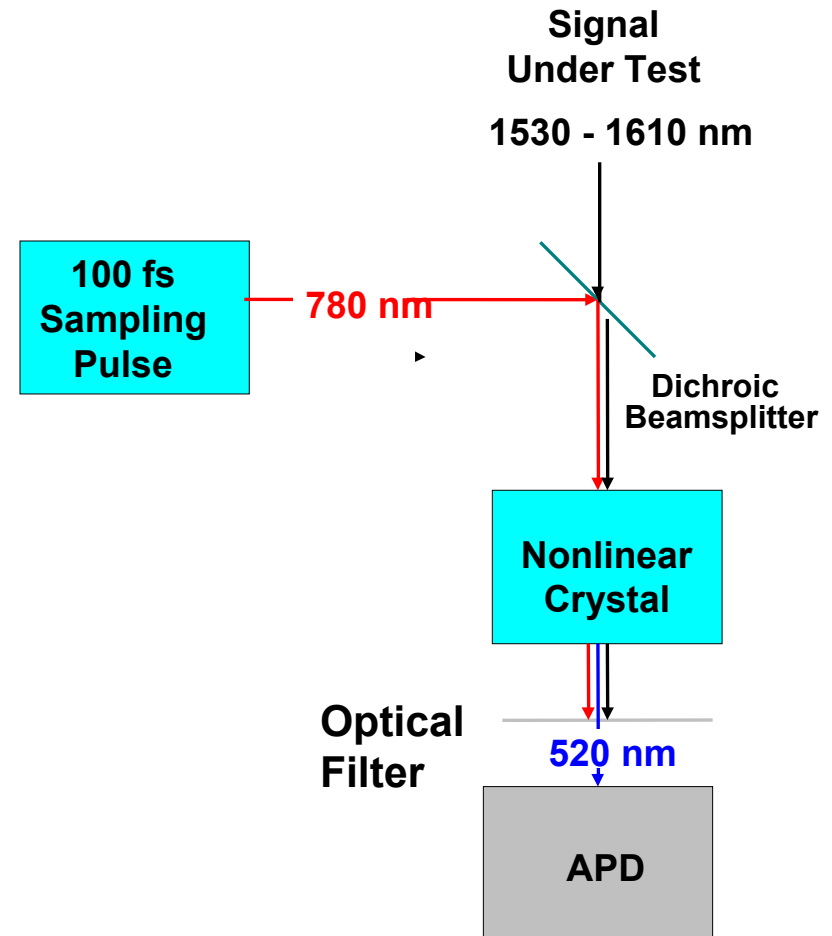


# Traditional electrical sampling architecture vs. new optical sampling architecture



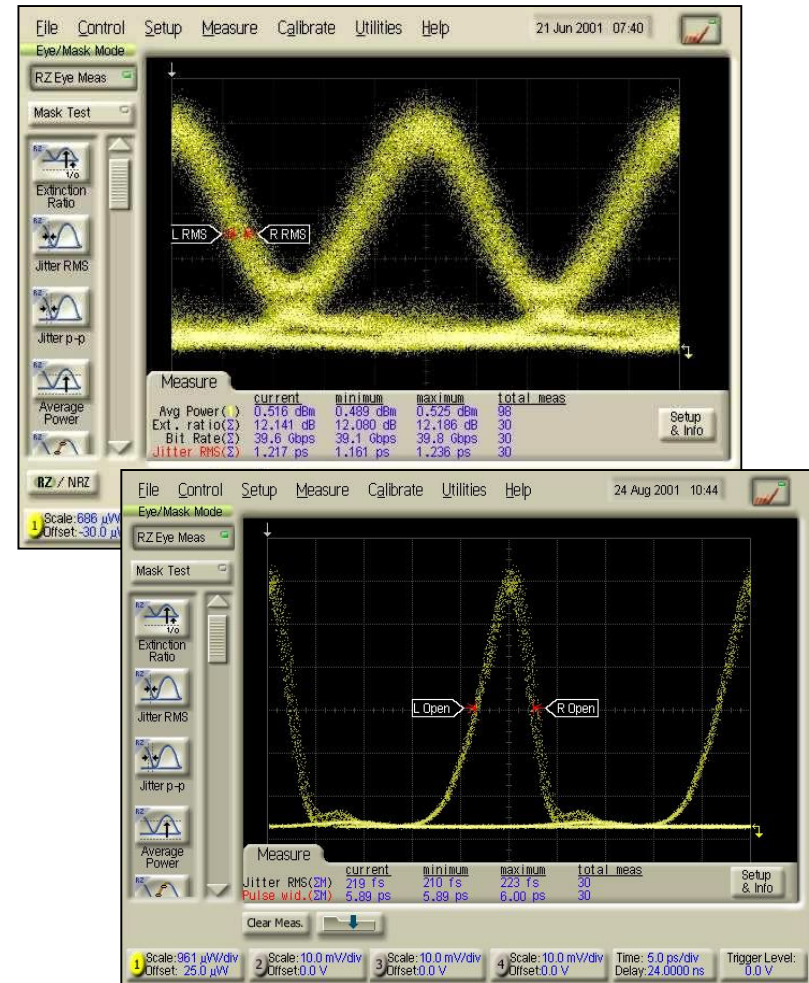
# Optical domain sampling architecture

- Signal under test is linearly combined with ultrafast 780 nm sampling pulse from fiber ring laser
- Within the nonlinear crystal, the signals interact to create an 520 nm “IF” proportional to the amplitude of the sample
- An avalanche photodiode (APD) has extremely high conversion gain to generate many electrons to maintain a high signal-to-noise ratio

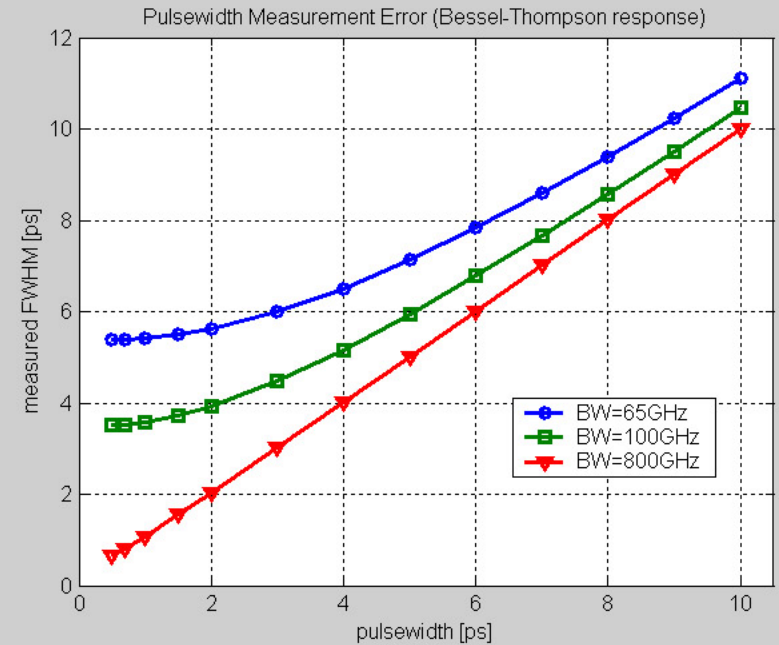
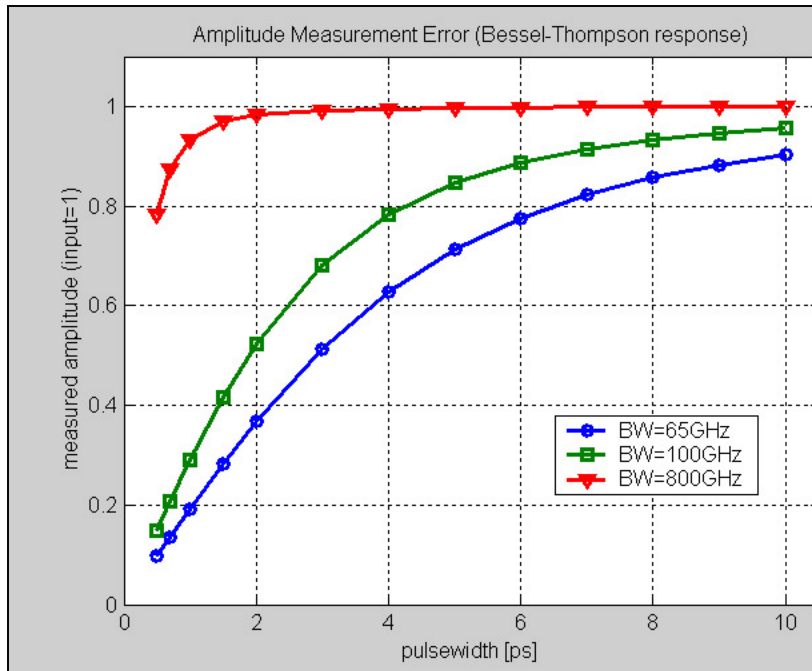


# Comparing conventional electrical and optical sampling oscilloscopes

- **Problems eliminated through optical sampling**
  - **Insufficient bandwidth causes pulse to never reach full amplitude (effects several measurements)**
  - **Noise from instrument electronics masks true signal characteristics**
  - **Edgespeeds increase (effects several measurements)**



# Wide bandwidth provides a significant improvement in measurement accuracy



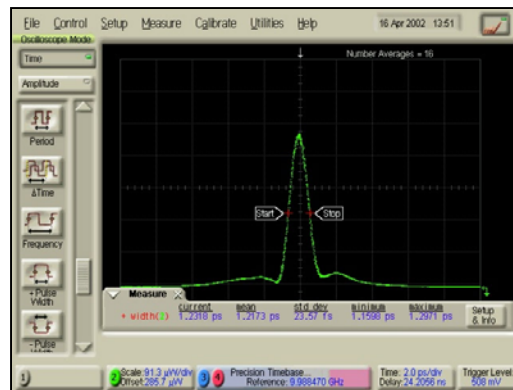
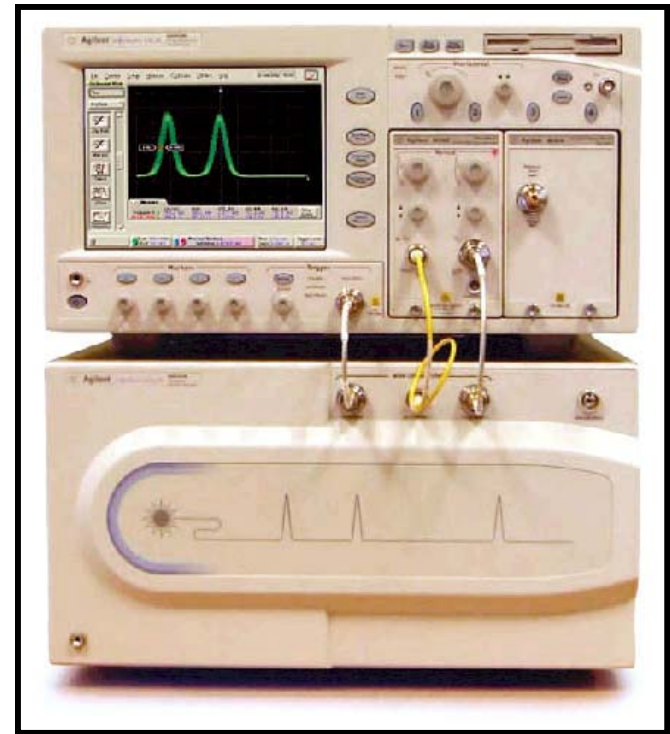
**Amplitude measured vs.  
Pulsewidth (normalized to  
1 unit actual height)**

**Pulsewidth measured  
vs. actual pulsewidth**



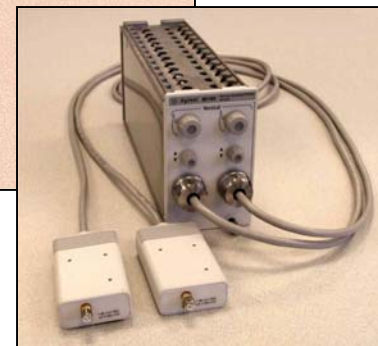
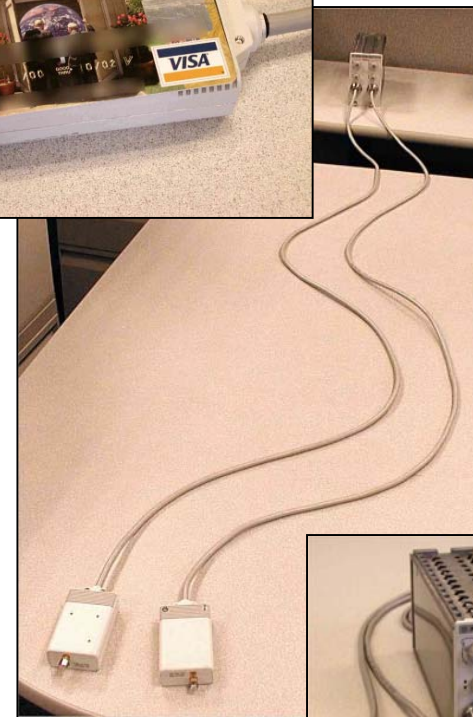
# Optical sampling oscilloscopes (TeraScope)

- Provides over 800 GHz measurement bandwidth for accurate waveform analysis
  - 40 Gb/s, 80 Gb/s, 160 Gb/s.....
- A simple addition to the Agilent DCA you already own
  - Performs and operates like a common wide bandwidth sampling oscilloscope



# Increasing precision of electrical waveform measurements

- **Compact, remote sampler yields increase in useable bandwidth**
- **Key issues**
  - **Minimize cable lengths**
  - **Small lightweight housing (like a 2 cm thick credit card) allows easy mounting on probe stations**
  - **Up to 2 meter placement from instrument mainframe**





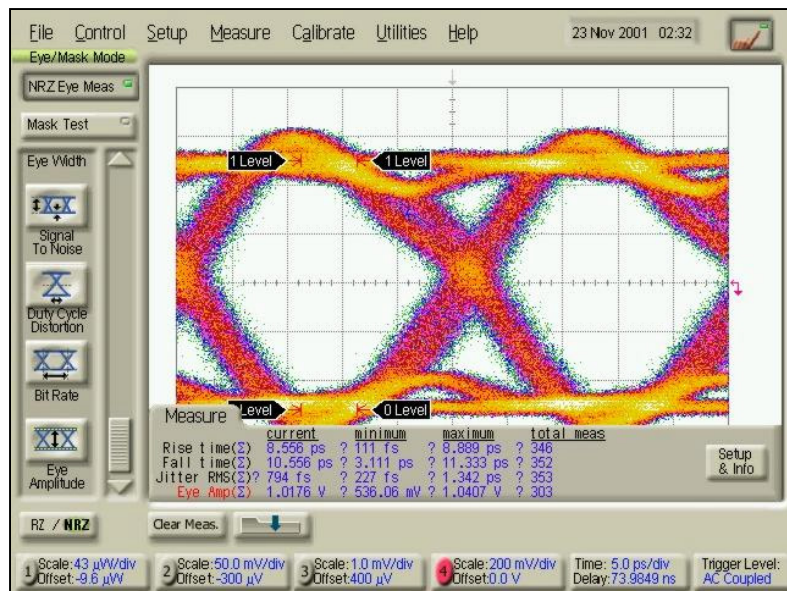
# Extensive sampler redesign

- Higher bandwidth sampler requires extremely fast, narrow sampling pulse
  - Redesigned “shockline” transmission lines
- Compact integrated circuit
  - New process allows smaller geometries and precision circuitry
- Careful design of overall frequency response minimizes waveform distortion

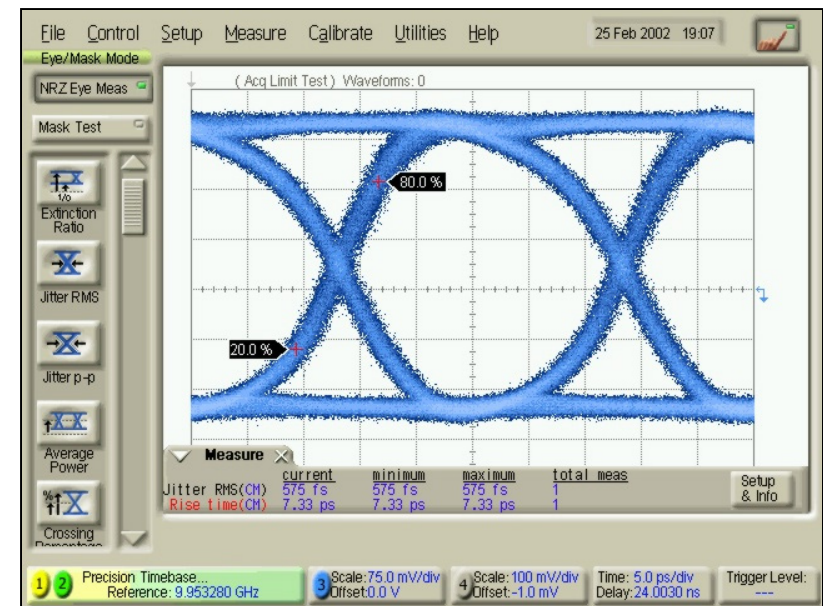


# Over 70 GHz of bandwidth and minimal cabling yields significant improvements in waveform fidelity

Measurement of 43 Gb/s 81250 ParBERT with early 50 GHz channel, 0.5 meter cabling

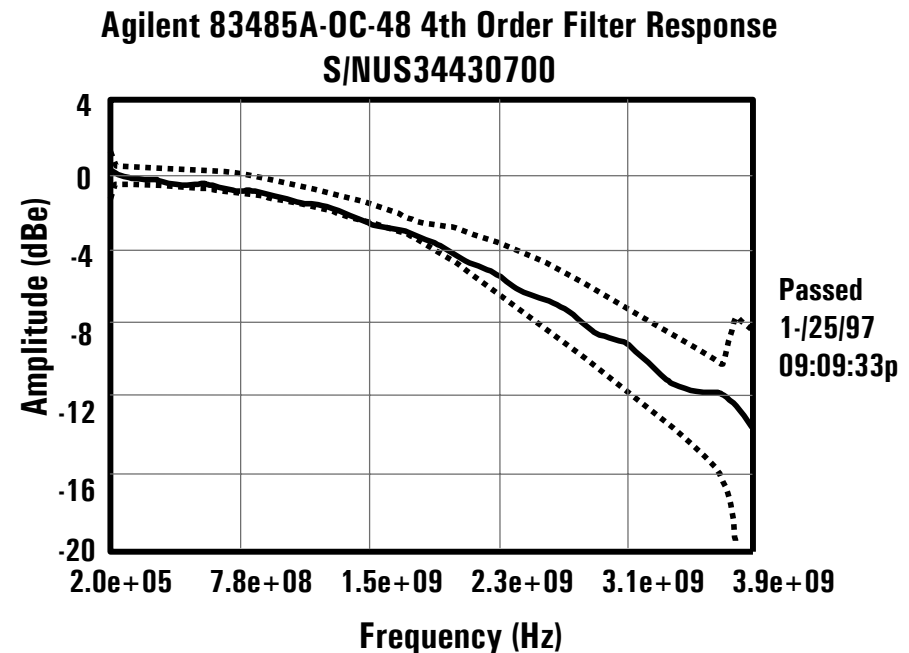


Measurements of 43 Gb/s 81250 ParBERT direct connection, over 70 GHz bandwidth, precision timebase

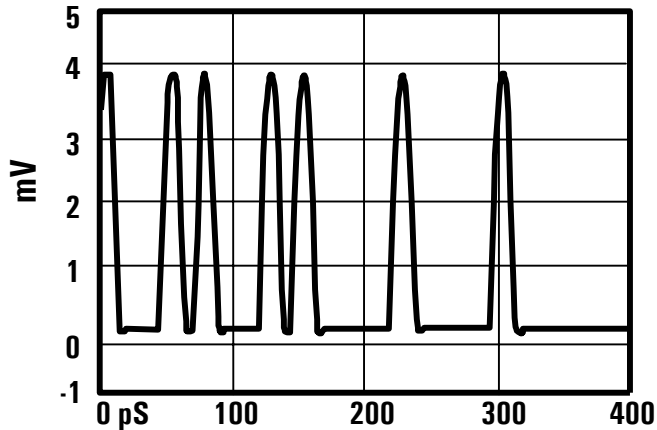


# Reference receivers

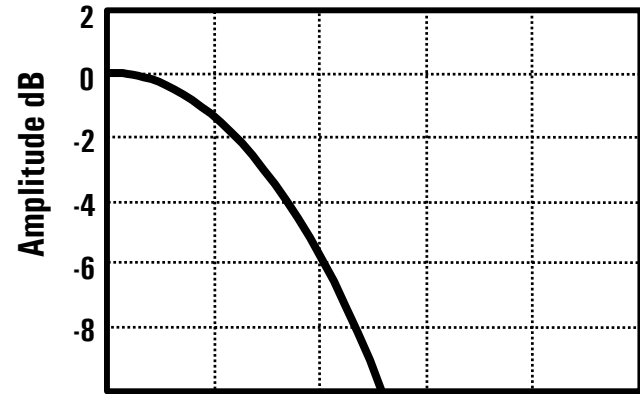
- Typical reference receiver frequency response follows a fourth order Bessel Thomson low-pass response (why?)
- -3dB bandwidth typically set to 75% of the optical bit rate
  - A reference receiver for a 2.5 Gb/s system would have a 1.88 GHz bandwidth



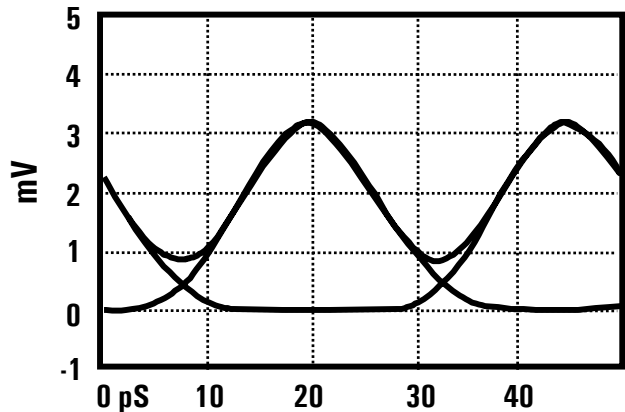
# Measurements for RZ waveforms Using a 75% of bit rate receiver



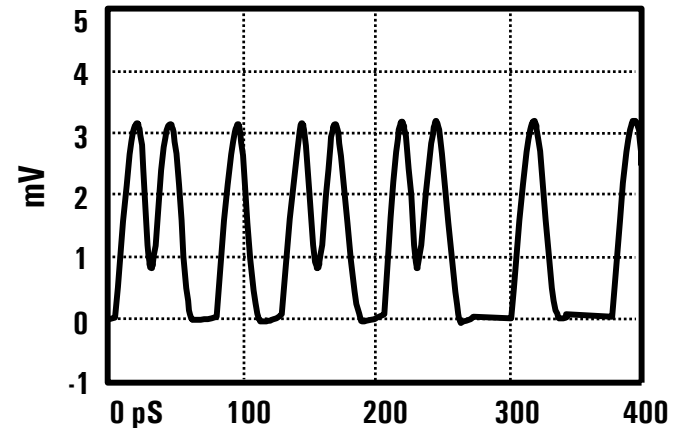
Input signal



Filter response



Resulting eye

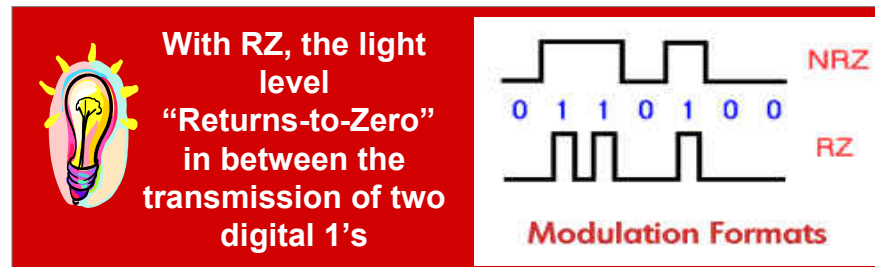


Filter output



# Measurements for RZ waveforms: An RZ reference receiver

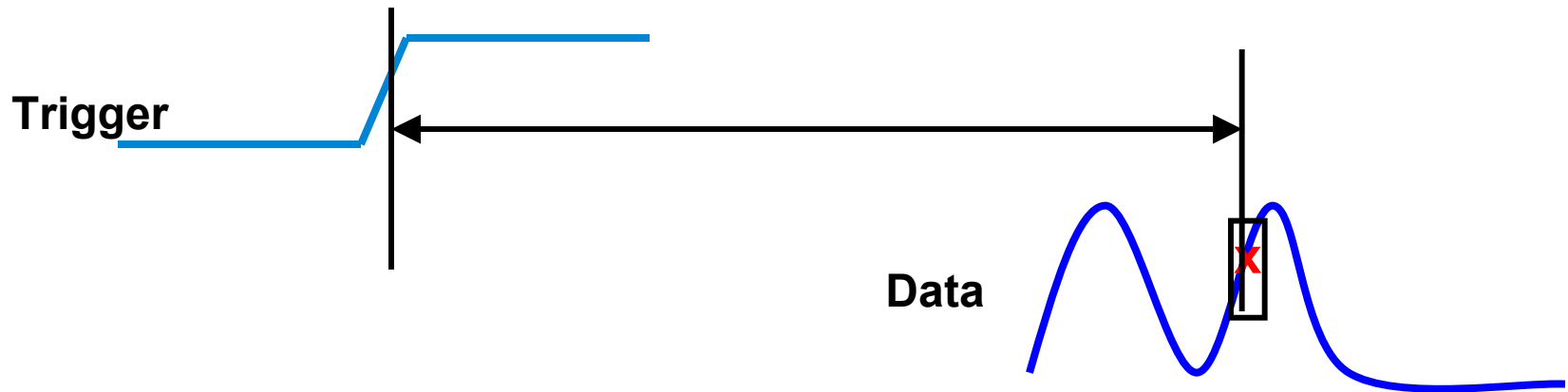
- Has not been defined by the standards committees
- Receiver needs to be designed in parallel with key RZ waveform specifications
- “75% of bit rate” is likely to be insufficient
- Currently, most systems are proprietary diminishing the urgency for a reference receiver



# Timing issues also present problems

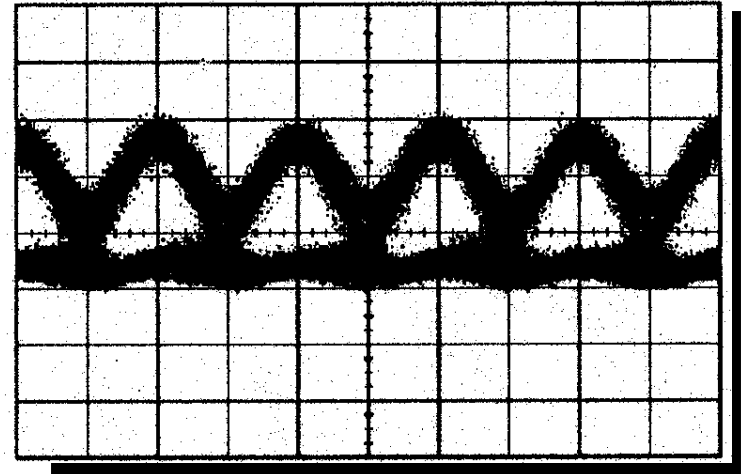
**How much uncertainty exists in determining where  
In time a sample is taken?**

- For sampling oscilloscopes this is referred to as jitter
- Typical performance has been adequate for 10 Gb/s measurements
- 40 Gb/s?



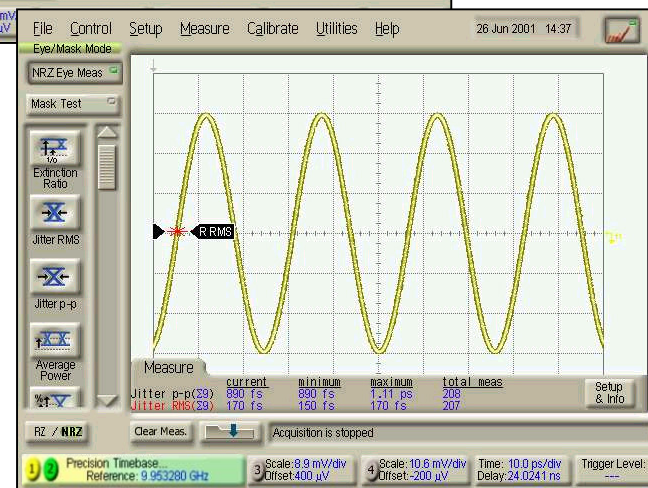
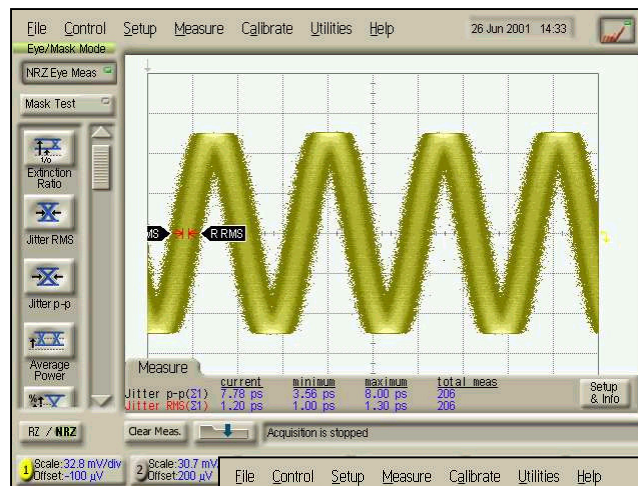
# Typical oscilloscope jitter performance distorts true jitter of 40 Gb/s signals

- Typical oscilloscope jitter is 1 ps rms
  - Eye closure depends on peak to peak jitter which is 6 times or more larger than rms
- The bit period for 40 Gb/s is 25 ps
  - 1 ps jitter becomes greater than 6 ps peak to peak
  - Greater than 25% eye closure due to the oscilloscope alone
- Is the eye closure real, or is it caused by the oscilloscope?



# New triggering scheme reduces oscilloscope jitter by more than a factor of 5

- Technique is based upon a phase measurement rather than absolute time
- If phase of sampling point can be determined with a precision of 1 or 2 degrees, timing uncertainty approaches 100 fs.
  - All data is superimposed into one clock cycle
  - Similar to triggering on a clock signal, this always yields the eye diagram
  - Oscilloscope jitter is now negligible, even at 40 Gb/s
- Triggering bandwidth increased to 43 GHz





# Conclusions

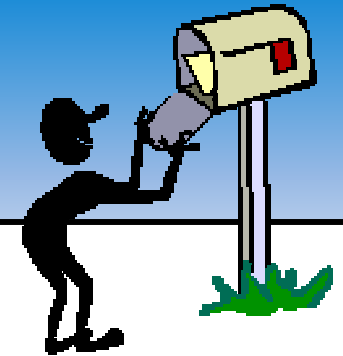
- **Recent breakthroughs provide significant improvements in measurement capability for the highest speed digital communications waveforms**
- **The work is not finished, and several improvements are in progress**
  - **Continue to provide feedback on what we can do better**

**Thank You!**



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