

Analysis of Nonlinear Signal Interference to Optimize the Coherent Optical Transmission System

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Abstract: In this paper we analyze the power of Nonlinear Signal Interference (p_{NLSI}) and optimize the coherent optical transmission system (COTS) based on PM-16QAM higher modulation format for different baud rates considering commercially available silica fiber (SF). Theoretically, this work follows up four Gaussian Noise (GN) models depending on multiple identical spans, non-Nyquist WDM system, non-identical spans and multi-channels to confirm the better accuracy of these models. The most fitted model is then used to optimize the COTS achieved by analyzing the Amplified Spontaneous Emission noise power (P_{ASE}) to determine the optimum Optical Signal to Noise Ratio (OSNR). Matlab R2011b simulation tool is run here to generate the OSNR and Bit Error Rate (BER) performance curves for the COTS. The OSNR has been simulated considering input transmitting power per span, span length, dispersion and fiber loss coefficient. Results show that, the OSNR penalty is around 3dB and 6dB when line rate is multiplied with the factor of 2xbit rate, 4x bit rate respectively for same modulation and demodulation formats in the COTS.

Keywords: OSNR, PM-16QAM, GN, SF, BER

I. Introduction

Usually laser coherence is utilized in coherent optical transmission system. Here optical signal carrying capacity and transmission rate are the key factors to upgrade in the existing optical network. On the other hand, capacity depends on higher line rate and spectral efficiency of the channels [1]. The desired optical link performance based on higher line rate and narrower channel spacing for each non-identical channel in wavelength division multiplexing technique can be achieved [2]. Similarly, optical link set up and processing takes long time for submarine network where terrestrial network is easier, not more difficult but it is little bit challenging to improve and optimize the capacity of the network [3].

Thus, to achieve the significant OSNR, higher Baud rate and more spectral efficient modulation techniques are required to enhance the performance of the COTS. For this, higher channel power, lower fiber loss coefficient and lower nonlinearity factors are expected for higher OSNR [1]. Like submarine link, for higher line rate, COTS plays an important job for lower cost information transmission because of DWDM and EDFA in the transmitter and the chain of the link respectively. Consequently, optimization is an important issue to upgrade and minimize the higher cost of the existing optical network considering higher modulation formats [4]. The performance of COTS is also obtained through the improvement of the nonlinear optical signal propagation. In this regard, we have considered four GN models on multiple identical spans, non-Nyquist WDM system, non-identical spans and multi-channels.

To get the best performance of COTS, the power of NLSI is the dominating factor which occurs for non-identical channel propagation in the link. That's why we follow the algorithm of scheduling used for nonlinear propagation where linear routing and wavelength choice finding are the great problems [5]. As a result, accuracy and simple simulation process are required to obtain the best performance of the link. In this case, non-linear Schrodinger equation complies with these factors. For this situation, it is very hard to find out the power spectral density of NLSI and simulation process takes longer time. Moreover, the commercial optical simulator software is expensive and simulation running output takes longer time [6]. Consequently, GN model is the way and method to determine the power of nonlinear signal interference (p_{NLSI}) [7-9]. In GN model, we control the total number of spans causing variation to the link length randomly [10].

In this way, we set the input transmitting power (P_{TX}), p_{NLSI} and P_{ASE} for each span to obtain the optimum OSNR performance for the COTS. After each span we confirm the OSNR which is calculated after total number of spans.

For span length, we take SF commercial fibers [11] – [12] for 50 numbers of spans.

It is an important issue to consider the values of OSNR for the receiver section. Firstly, the receiver part cannot identify the signal for low values of OSNR. Secondly, to reach the maximum point parameters, wavelength goes through generation and regeneration in the link. Thirdly, OSNR values estimate the performance of the system and make an assurance of error free transmission in the link. Fourthly, BER is of

crucial value and quality of propagation of the optical signal which is dependent on OSNR values. Considering all these factors, it can be said that OSNR is an important parameter and it depends on number of optical links, topology of the network, symbol rate of the higher modulation formats and the target of lower BER to design the optical network efficiently [13]. The optical link model used for the simulation is shown in Fig. 1. The total number of channels in the transmitter section is divided into odd and even number of channels to implement polarization multiplexing. The number of channels in the WDM comb is 27 channels with the 14th channel considered as the Centre.

Every channel has a channel bandwidth, channel power and line rate respectively. The modulated optical signal goes through the optical filter [14] then the combiner combines the channels. The specification data for SF are shown in Table 1. The EDFA is connected after a span of 100-km. A noise figure of 5dB compensates the link loss depending on the fiber loss coefficient and span length. The p_{NLSI} is determined at the input of the EDFA and the $P_{ASE,n}$ is observed at the output of the EDFA [15] in the optical link of the COTS as shown in Fig. 1 [9]. In this condition 27 WDM comb are considered where 193.4145 THz is the center channel frequency within the range from 192.7645 THz to 194.0645 THz. These channel frequencies create odd and even number of channels with 0.05THz spacing. The simulation is performed for 5000 km silica fiber link distance considering 128Gb/s and 256Gb/s. We analyze the GN models for different modes and conditions to predict the accuracy among the models. The power spectrum of the ASE noise is considered to obtain the optimum OSNR for the COTS.

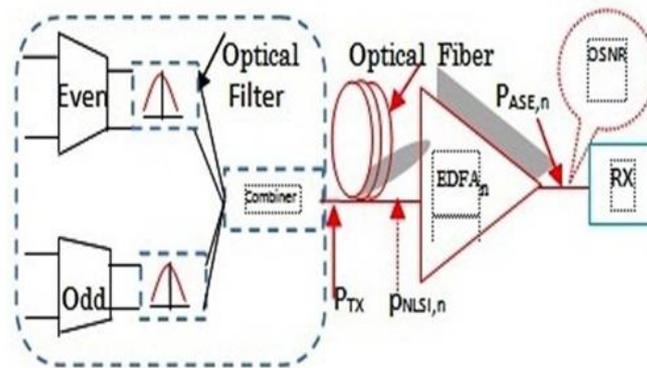


Fig. 1: Model of optical link.

2. Analysis of nonlinear signal interference (NLSI)

In this work we follow four Gaussian non-linear (GN) models to determine the accuracy and convergences of the models in optical coherent transmission. Then we choose very close and tight fit convergence of GN model to determine the optimum OSNR for different line rate (R_s) in the COTS.

The power p_{NLSI} depends on Gaussian nonlinear (GN) signal spectrum considering an optical noise bandwidth of 12.5GHz. The expression for p_{NLSI} in the case of multichannels is presented below [19]

$$P_{NLSI}^1 = \frac{8}{27} N_s \gamma^2 L_{eff}^3 P_{Ch}^3 \frac{\log(\pi^2 |\beta_2| L_{eff} N_{Ch}^2 R_s^2)}{\pi |\beta_2| R_s^3} B_n \quad (1)$$

In the above expression, N_s , γ , L_{eff} , P_{Ch} , β_2 , N_{Ch} , R_s and B_n are the number of span, non-linearity coefficient, effective length, channel power, dispersion parameter of fiber, number of channels, line rate of the channel and optical noise bandwidth of COTS respectively.

We also follow the GN model for non identical span and mathematical expression are shown below to calculate the p_{NLSI} : [10,20]

$$P_{NLSI}^2 = \frac{16}{27} \cdot B_n \sum_{n_s=1}^{N_s} \gamma_{n_s}^2 L_{eff,n_s}^2 \cdot \prod_{n'_s=1}^{n_s-1} g_{n'_s}^3 e^{-6\alpha_{n'_s} L_{s,n'_s}} \cdot \prod_{n'_s=n_s}^{N_s} g_{n'_s} e^{-2\alpha_{n'_s} L_{s,n'_s}} \cdot \sum_{n=1}^{N_{ch}} G_{ch,n} G_{ch,n} G_{ch,i} \cdot (2 - \delta_{n,i}) \Psi_{n,i,n_s} \quad (2)$$

The effective length is calculated for using the following equation [15]:

$$L_{eff} = [1 - e^{-(\alpha \cdot L_s)}] / 2\alpha \tag{3}$$

Where α is the fiber loss coefficient and L_s is the span length of the COTS.

The power spectral density for n^{th} and i^{th} channels are given in [17] is used in the model as below,

$$G_{ch,n} = \frac{P_{ch,n}}{R_s} \tag{4}$$

$$G_{ch,i} = \frac{P_{ch,i}}{R_s} \tag{5}$$

Where for n^{th} and i^{th} channels, the channel power is $P_{ch,n}$ and $P_{ch,i}$ respectively. The symbol δ_{ni} is used to maintain the center frequency for the WDM comb based on 0 and 1 condition when $n=i$ and $n \neq i$ respectively.

When $n=i$ and the symbols Ψ_{n,i,n_s} and Ψ_{i,i,n_s} are used in model to select the strategy of the channel [10], [20]

$$\Psi_{n,i,n_s} = \frac{\text{asinh}(\pi^2 (2\alpha_{n_s})^{-1} |\beta_{2,n_s}| [f_{ch,n} - f_{ch,i} + B_{ch,n} / 2] B_{ch,i})}{4\pi (2\alpha_{n_s})^{-1} |\beta_{2,n_s}|} - \frac{\text{asinh}(\pi^2 (2\alpha_{n_s})^{-1} |\beta_{2,n_s}| [f_{ch,n} - f_{ch,i} - B_{ch,n} / 2] B_{ch,i})}{4\pi (2\alpha_{n_s})^{-1} |\beta_{2,n_s}|} \tag{6}$$

$$\Psi_{i,i,n_s} = \frac{\text{asinh}(\frac{\pi^2}{2} |\beta_{2,n_s}| [2\alpha_{n_s}]^{-1} B_{ch,i}^2)}{2\pi |\beta_{2,n_s}| [2\alpha_{n_s}]^{-1}} \tag{7}$$

Where β_2 and B_{ch} are the second order fiber dispersion parameter and -3dB channel bandwidth respectively.

For the i^{th} channel, the center channel is denoted as $f_{ch,i}$ in the comb.

For the model accuracy, the p_{NLSI} expression is for the case of Non-Nyquist and presented below [5]

$$p_{NLSI}^3 = \left(\frac{8}{27}\right) \cdot B_n \cdot \gamma^2 \cdot \frac{L_{eff}^2 G_{WDM}^3}{\pi |\beta_2| L_{eff,a}} \cdot \text{asinh}\left(\frac{1}{2} \pi^2 |\beta_2| L_{eff,a} R_s^2 [N_{ch}^2]_{\Delta f}^{\frac{R_s}{\Delta f}}\right) \tag{8}$$

where $L_{eff,a}$ and G_{WDM} are the asymptotic effective length and PSD of the transmission in the super channel of comb. In the model, asymptotic effective length is used in the following way:

$$L_{eff,a} = \frac{1}{\alpha} \tag{9}$$

The p_{NLSI} analysis is for the case of multiple identical spans model [9] is shown below

$$p_{NLSI}^4 = \frac{64}{27} B_n \gamma^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G_{Tx}(f_1) G_{Tx}(f_2) G_{Tx}(f_1 + f_2 - f) \cdot \left| \frac{1 - e^{-2\alpha L_s} e^{j4\pi^2 |\beta_2| L_s (f_1 - f)(f_2 - f)}}{2\alpha - j4\pi^2 |\beta_2| (f_1 - f)(f_2 - f)} \right|^2 \cdot \frac{\sin^2(2\pi^2 N_s (f_1 - f)(f_2 - f) |\beta_2| L_s)}{\sin^2(2\pi^2 (f_1 - f)(f_2 - f) |\beta_2| L_s)} df_2 df_1 \tag{10}$$

In Eq. (10), G_{Tx} is the PSD which depends on channel power and line rate. The frequencies (f_1+f_2-f) for four wave mixing (FWM) are the elements frequency of f [16].

II. OSNR And Bit Error Rate (BER) Performance Evaluation

Based on analytical analysis of nonlinear signal interference, the numerical results are simulated in Fig.2 (a) and Fig.2 (b) considering four GN models using Matlab R2011b tool. These results confirm the convergence and accuracy among the models.

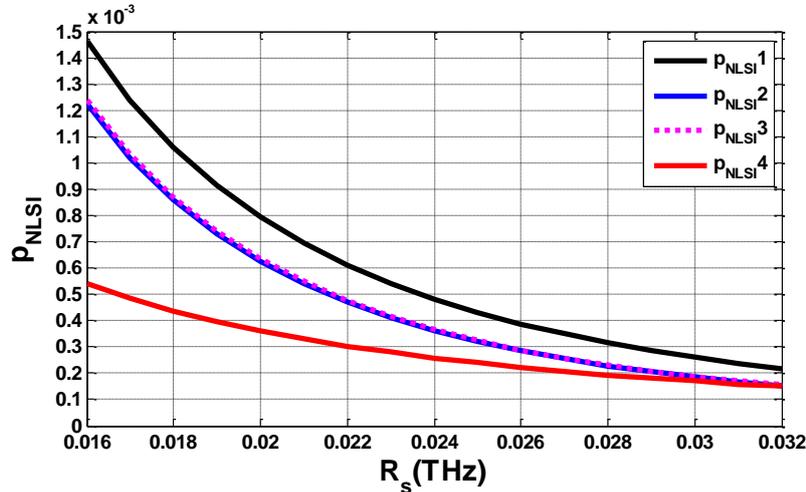


Fig. 2 (a): Non linear signal interference for four GN models considering power of nonlinear signal interference (P_{NLSI}) vs. line rate (R_s) with SF.

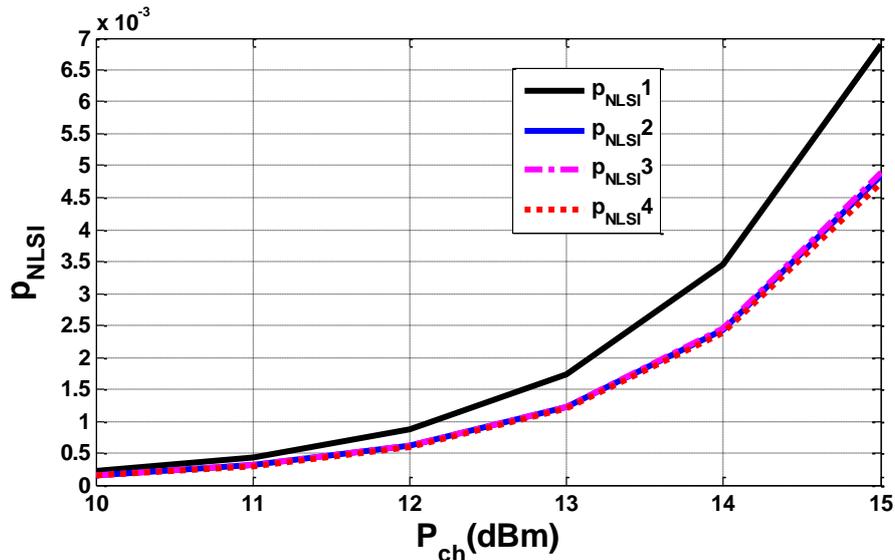


Fig. 2 (b): Non-linear signal interference for four GN models considering power of nonlinear signal interference (P_{NLSI}) vs. channel power (P_{ch}) with SF.

Fig.2 (a) represents the power of nonlinear signal inference versus line rate of the COTS. This result is simulated for SF with 27 channels, 32 GHz channel bandwidth (B_{ch}), 50GHz channel spacing (Δf), center frequency (f_c) 193.4145 THz, channel power (P_{ch}) 10 dBm, number of span (N_s) is 1, span length (L_s) 100km, optical noise bandwidth (B_n) 12.5GHz. In this figure, Black, Blue, Magenta and Red lines carry the information for P_{NLSI}^1 , P_{NLSI}^2 , P_{NLSI}^3 and P_{NLSI}^4 respectively. It is found that the power of nonlinear interference is going down with the increment values of R_s . Magenta and Blue lines are fitted very well. Magenta, Blue and Red lines are seemed to be very closed for line rate from 0.028THz to 0.032THz. On the other hand, Black line shows very small nonlinear signal inference in comparison with Blue and Magenta lines. It is found that Blue line shows very good accuracy compared to other three models.

Fig.2 (b) is simulated for channel power (P_{ch}) and power of nonlinear signal interference (p_{NLSI}) based on all parameters used in Fig.2 (a). In this results, Black, Blue, Magenta and Red lines are used for p_{NLSI}^1 , p_{NLSI}^2 , p_{NLSI}^3 and p_{NLSI}^4 respectively. The nonlinear signal interference power is going up with the increase of channel power in the system. It is found that Blue, Magenta and Red lines show the best fitting curve for channel power 10dBm to 15dBm. The Black line performs the good matching for 10 dBm to 11 dBm channel power. It is selected that the Blue line performs the good accuracy. The optimum OSNR [7] [18] depends on span transmitting input power (P_{TX}), P_{ASE} and p_{NLSI}^2 as expressed below:

$$P_{ASE} = A_s F h f_o B_n \tag{11}$$

$$OSNR = \frac{P_{TX}}{N_s (P_{ASE} + P_{TX}^3 p_{NLSI}^2 B_{ch}^{-3})} \tag{12}$$

In Equ.(11) A_s , F , h and f_o are the span loss, noise figure, plank constant and center frequency of the channel of comb respectively. In this simulation we put noise figure 5 dB, where span loss depends on span length and fiber loss coefficient per kilometer of SF. In Equ. (12), N_s is the number of spans. It is used 50 spans in our simulation process.

To measure the Bit Error Rate (BER), OSNR is required where OSNR determined from p_{NLSI}^2 , P_{ASE} and P_{TX} respectively. For PM-16QAM modulation format, 16 GBaud and 32 GBaud produced 128 Gb/s and 256 Gb/s line bit rates respectively.

SNR is required to determine the BER. SNR is related with OSNR and BER is expressed below [9].

$$SNR = \left(\frac{B_n}{R_s}\right) OSNR \tag{13}$$

$$BER = \phi (SNR) \tag{14}$$

ϕ is the modulation format that operates the bit rates and upgrade the system. The modulation format for PM-16QAM used in [9]

$$BER_{(PM-16QAM)} = \frac{3}{8} erfc \left(\sqrt{\frac{1}{10} SNR} \right) \tag{15}$$

In Equ. (15) $erfc$ is the complementary error function.

III. Optimization Of OSNR For COTS

Based on theoretical analysis, the simulation is done with SF commercial optical fiber. This result is with 27 channels, 32 GHz channel bandwidth (B_{ch}), 50GHz channel spacing (Δf), center frequency (f_c) 193.4145 [THz], channel power (P_{ch}) 15 dBm, number of span(N_s) is 50, span length (L_s) 100km, optical noise bandwidth (B_n) 12.5GHz.

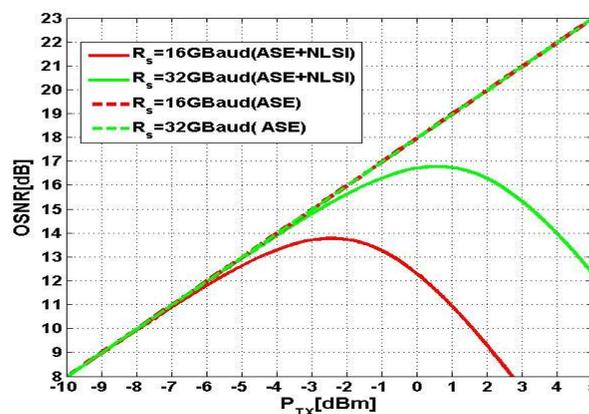


Fig.3. (a): OSNR [dB] versus P_{TX} [dBm] based on linear and nonlinear propagation considering 16GBaud and 32GBaud line rates of the COTS of SF

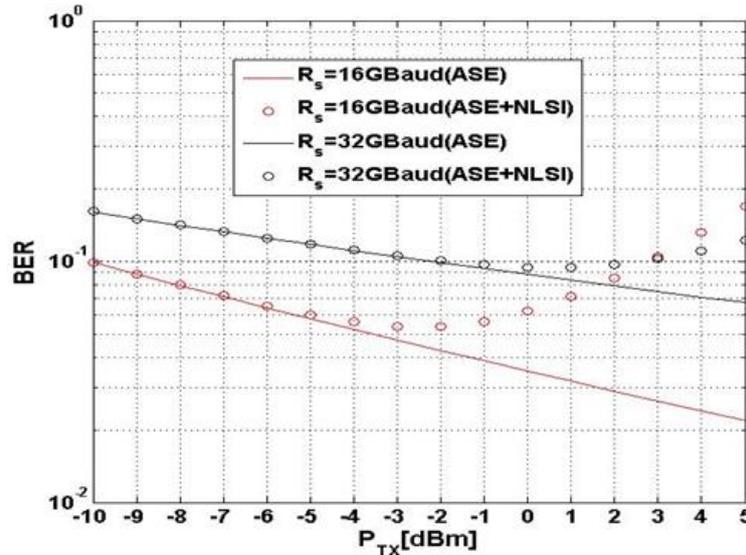


Fig.3. (b): P_{TX} [dBm] versus BER based on linear and nonlinear propagation considering 16GBaud and 32GBaud line rates of the COTS of SF

In Fig.3 (a) OSNR [dB] versus P_{TX} [dBm] where dotted lines represent the linear propagation; solid lines show the non-linear propagation. Blue line is for 16Gbaud and Red line is for 32Gbaud line rates. Case for nonlinear signal propagation, the optimum OSNR is 13.77dB and 16.78dB when P_{TX} is -2.44dBm and 0.5 dBm considering 16GBaud and 32GBaud respectively. For the result's confirmation, it is found that the optimum penalty between linear and nonlinear propagation is around 1.76dB [21]. It is also confirmed that the lines overlap for 16GBaud and 32GBaud respectively considering linear propagation. It is also found that OSNR changed corresponding to the P_{TX} dBm by 1dB linearly. For the same modulation format, the optimum OSNR difference is 3dB following the factor of 2xbit rate and 4xbit rate. Fig. 3(b) is the plot of BER for PM-16QAM modulation format. In this case it is assumed that all parameters used here is the same as used previously for Fig.3 (a).

Table1. Specification of optical fiber

Fiber Types	α [dB/km]	γ [1/W/km]	D [ps/nm/km]
SF	0.18	0.9	21

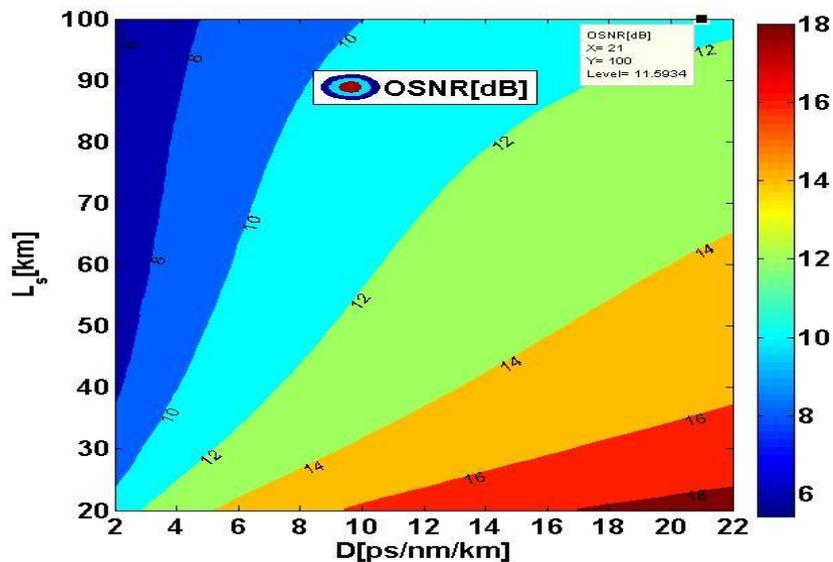


Fig.4. (a): Considering line rate 16GBaud, contour plot of OSNR versus span length [km] and dispersion [ps/nm/km] parameter of SF.

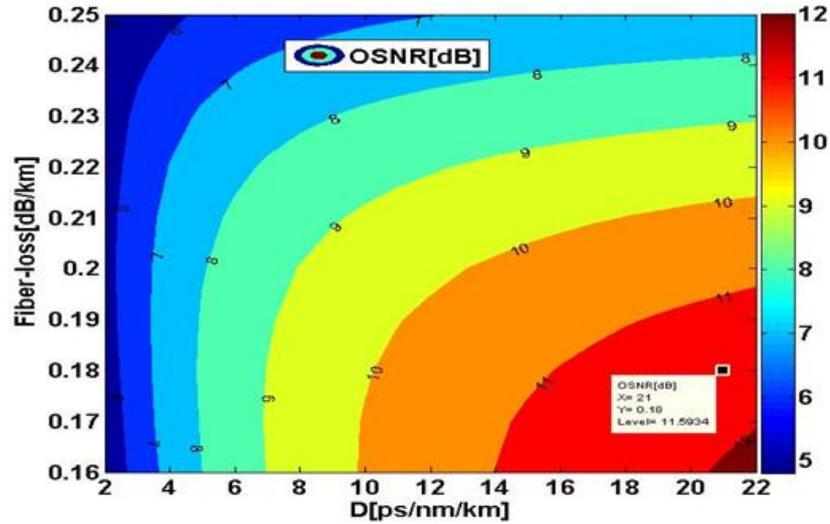


Fig. 4(b): allowing for line rate 16GBaud, contour plot of OSNR [dB] versus fibre loss [dB/km] and dispersion [ps/nm/km] parameter of SF

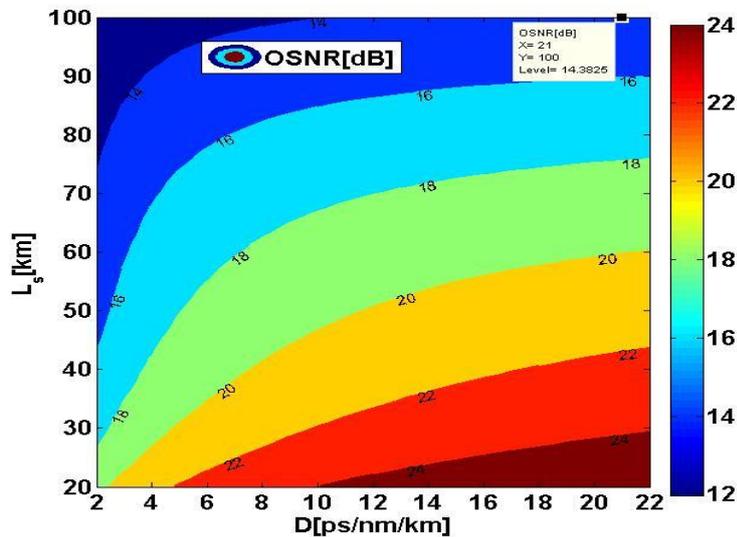


Fig. 4. (c): Considering line rate 32GBaud, contour plot of OSNR [dB] versus span length [km] and dispersion [ps/nm/km] parameter of SF

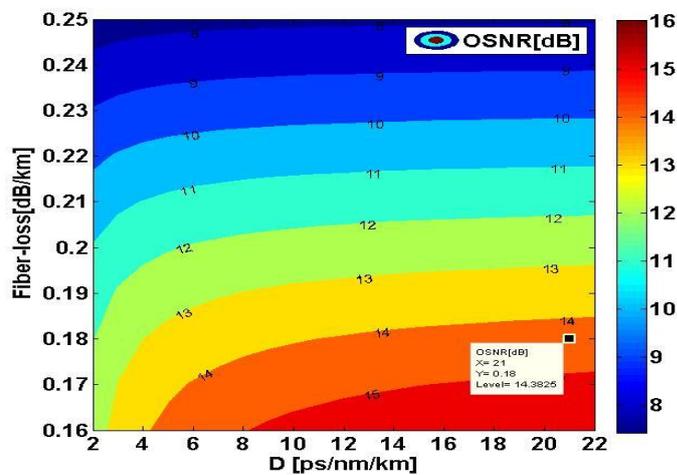


Fig. 4(d): Considering line rate 32GBaud, contour plot of OSNR [dB] versus fibre loss coefficient [dB/km] and dispersion [ps/nm/km] parameter for SF

Fig.4 (a) is the contour plot of OSNR versus span length [km] and dispersion [ps/nm/km] parameter of SF. Fig.4 (b) shows contour plot of OSNR [dB] versus fibre loss coefficient [dB/km] and dispersion parameter [ps/nm/km] of SF. Both plots are for 16GBaud and 50 numbers of spans. with 27 channels, 32 GHz channel bandwidth (B_{ch}), 50GHz channel spacing (Δf), center frequency (f_c) 193.4145 THz, channel power (P_{ch}) 10 dBm, span length (L_s) 100km, optical noise bandwidth (B_n) 12.5GHz. It is found that the optimum OSNR is 11.59dB for Fig.4 (a) and Fig.4 (b) when dispersion 21[ps/nm/km], span length 100km and fibre loss coefficient 0.18[dB/km]. On the other hand Fig.4(c) and Fig.4 (d) are the contour plot of OSNR versus span length [km] and dispersion [ps/nm/km] parameter, OSNR [dB] versus fibre loss [dB/km] and dispersion [ps/nm/km] parameter of SF considering 32GBaud. Here, it is found that the optimum OSNR is 14.38dB when dispersion 21[ps/nm/km], span length 100km and fibre loss coefficient 0.18[dB/km]. The OSNR penalty between 16Gbaud and 32GBaud is 2.8dB when $P_{TX} = -10$ dBm to -3dBm.

IV. Conclusion

In conclusion, this paper describes a detailed evaluation on four GN models successfully. These four GN models, p_{NLSI^2} is the most fitted with better accuracy than the other models considering same symbol rate and channel power. When the channel power (P_{ch}) 15dBm is considered for 128Gb/s and 256Gb/s data rates, the optimum OSNR is 13.77dB and 16.78dB when $P_{TX} = -2.44$ dBm and 0.5dBm respectively. Considering channel power (P_{ch}) of 10 dBm, the optimum OSNR is 11.59dB and 14.38dB for a dispersion parameter (D) of 21[ps/nm/km], fiber loss coefficient (α) 0.18 [dB/km] and span length (L_s) 100km. For the same transmission format it is found that, the OSNR variation is the factor of around 3dB and 6dB with respect to the 2xbit rate and 4xbit rate respectively.

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