



IpGBT – a User's Perspective

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on behalf of the IpGBT team

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IpGBT Team

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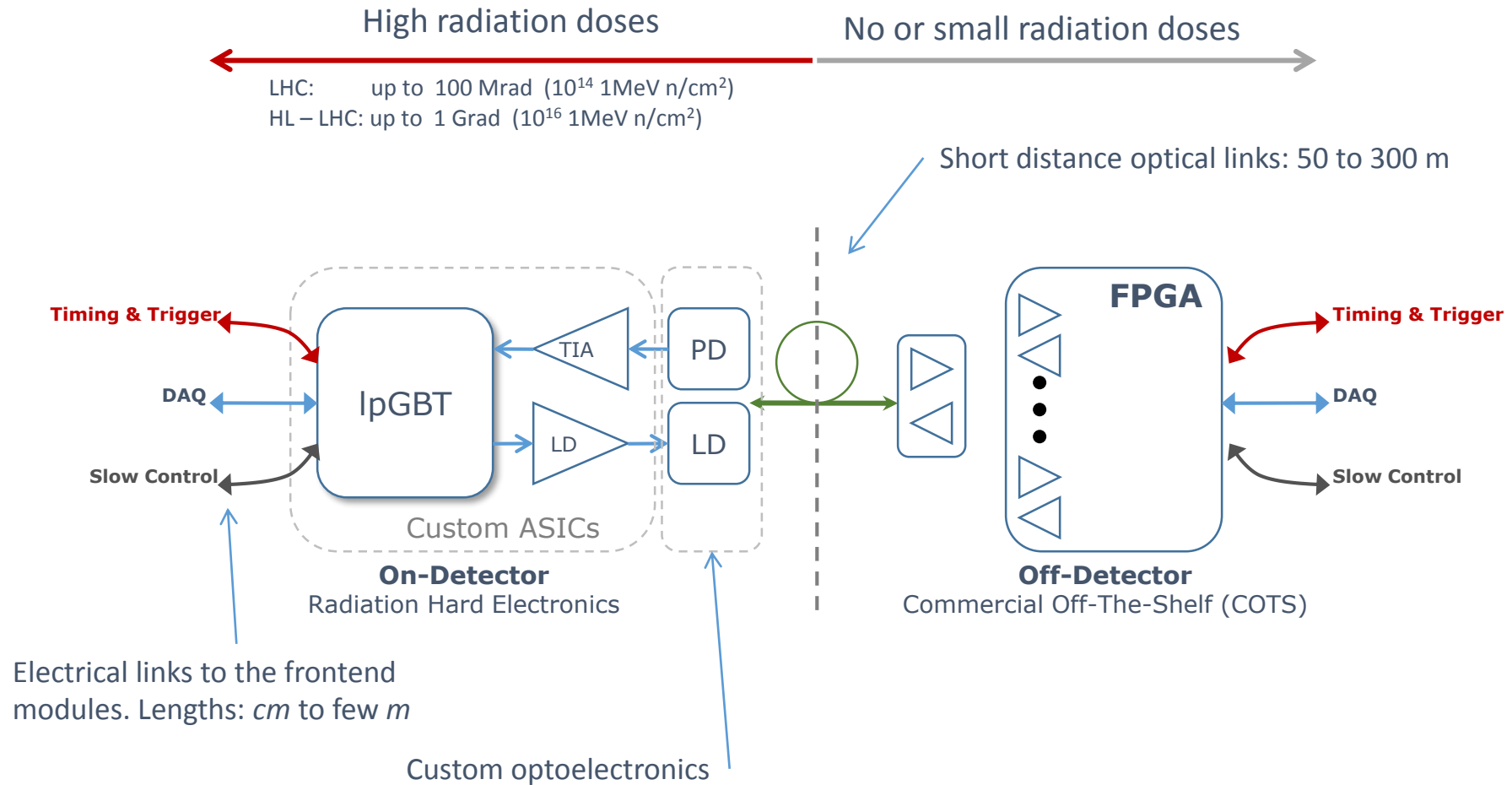
Finding Information

- **Starting point:**
 - www.cern.ch/proj-gbt
<https://espace.cern.ch/GBT-Project/LpGBT/default.aspx>
- **Specifications:**
 - <https://espace.cern.ch/GBT-Project/LpGBT/Specifications/LpGbtSpecifications.pdf>
- **In this conference:**
 - This presentation:
 - <https://indico.cern.ch/event/697988/contributions/3075493/>
 - Simulation and testing:
 - An UVM-based verification environment for the lpGBT 10 Gbps transceiver ASIC:
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/697988/contributions/3056029/>
 - lpGBT-FPGA:
 - Introduction to the lpGBT-FPGA: Introduction to the lpGBT-FPGA:
https://indico.cern.ch/event/697988/contributions/3141889/attachments/1718898/2774016/Introduction_to_the_LpGBT-FPGA_-_workshop.pptx
 - New LpGBT-FPGA IP: Simulation model and first implementation:
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/697988/contributions/3056073/>

LpGBT Project Schedule

- Q1-Q3 2018:
 - Package procurement and engineering completed
 - MPW tapeout 25th July 2018
 - Test system: PCB / Software under production
- Q4 2018
 - Prototypes available (~300 ASICs)
 - Option for additional 300 if all OK
- Q1 – Q3 2019:
 - Prototype functional testing
 - Radiation qualification
 - Production testing development
- Q4 2019:
 - Engineering run
- Q3 2020
 - Engineering ASICs (~40k) available to the users
- Q3 2021:
 - Production completed (~100k ASICs)

IpGBT Link Architecture



What's the lpGBT?

- Data transceiver with fixed and “deterministic” latency for both up and down links.

- Clocks and Data

- Down link:

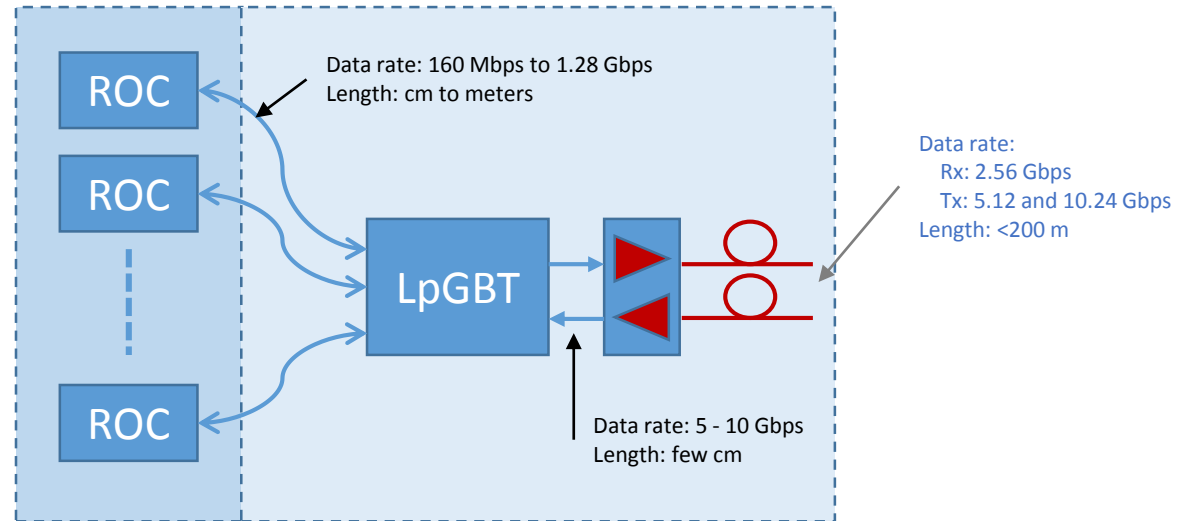
- 2.56 Gbps
- FEC12
- eLinks:

- Bandwidth: 80/160/320 Mbps
- Count: 16/8/4

- Up link:

- 5.12 Gbps or 10.24 Gbps
- FEC5 or FEC12
- eLinks:

- Data rates: 160 /320 / 640 / 1280 Mbps
- Count:
 - FEC5
 - Up to 28 @ 160 Mbps
 - Up to 7 @ 1.28 Gbps
 - FEC12
 - Up to 24 @ 160 Mbps
 - Up to 6 @ 1.28 Gbps



- Experiment control/monitoring functions:

- 10-bit ADC
- 12-bit voltage DAC
- 8-bit current DAC
- Temperature sensor
- Three I2C masters
- Programmable parallel port: 16 x GPIO

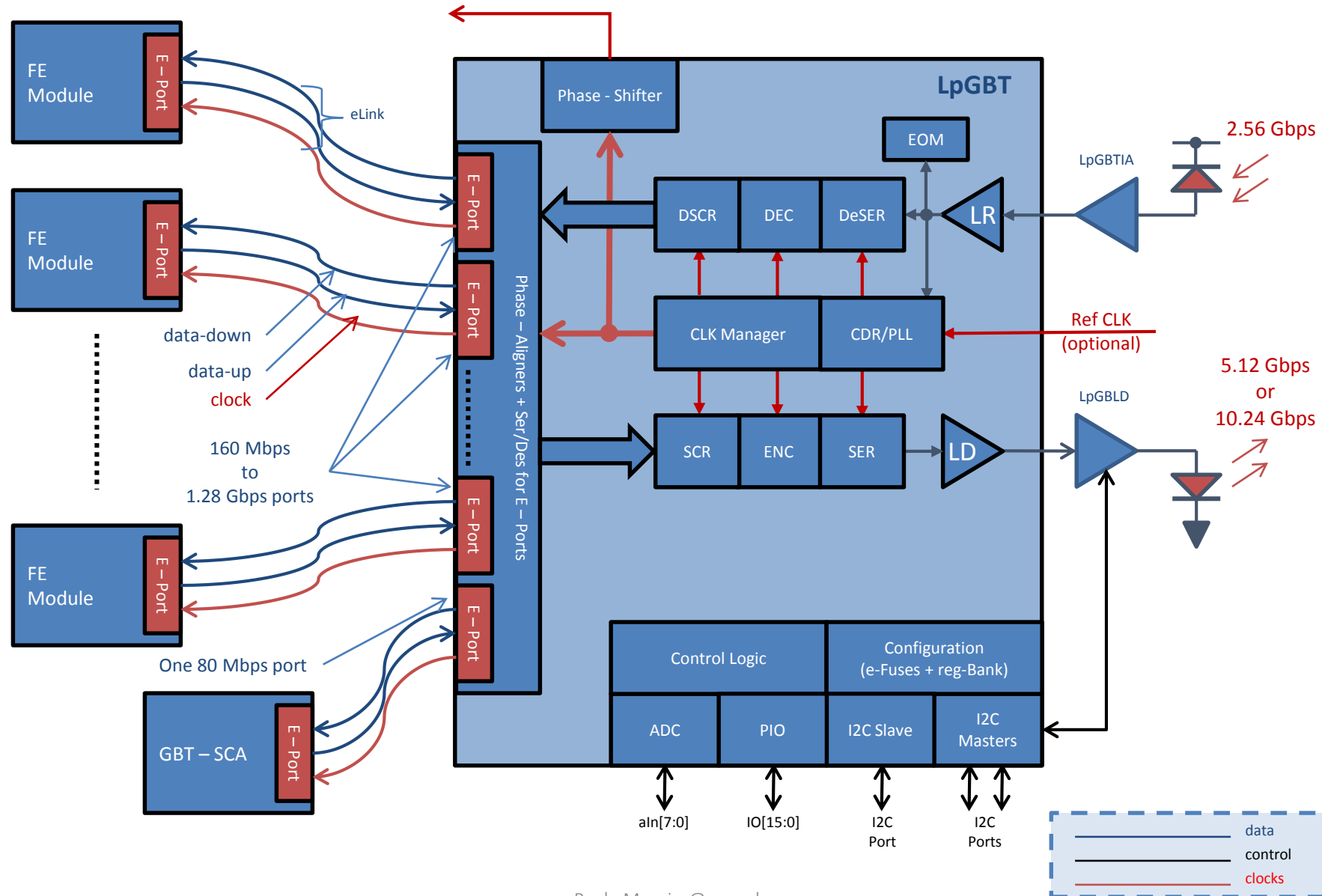
- Package:

- 9 mm x 9 mm x 1.25 mm (pitch: 0.5 mm)
- Pin count: 289 (17 x 17)

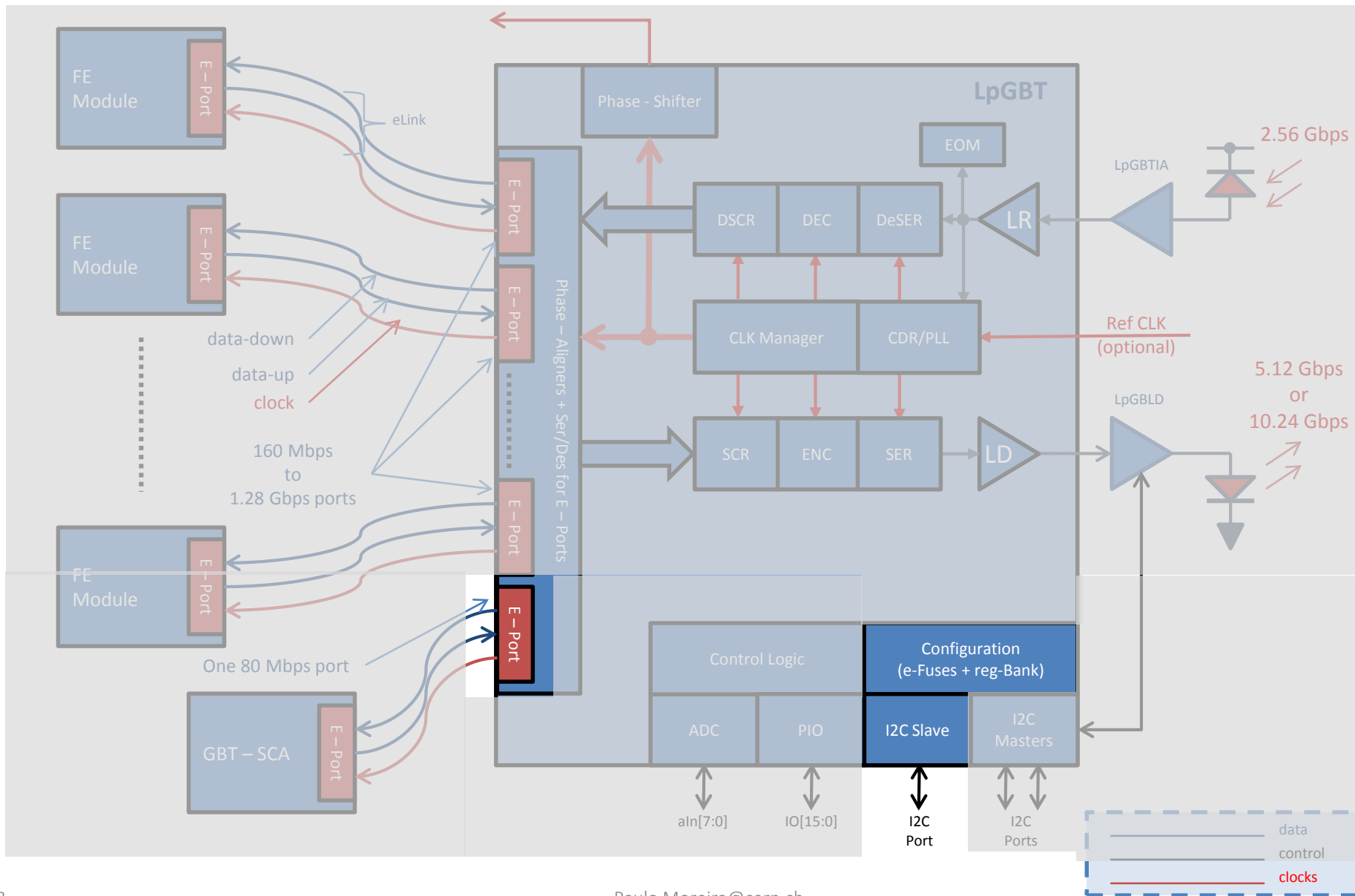
Radiation Environment

- The IpGBT is designed in 65 nm CMOS process
- Targets [no only] the innermost layers of the HL-LHC detectors:
 - Total Ionizing Dose (TID):
 - 200 Mrad
 - Non Ionizing Energy Loss (NIEL) radiation:
 - $\sim 10^{15}$ 1 MeV n_{eq}/cm^2 (mainly a concern for the optoelectronics components)
 - [Over a 10 years lifetime]
- Operation robust to Single Events Upsets:
 - Triple Modular Redundancy (TMR) used in the State Machines and the “low-frequency” section of the Data Path
 - Forward Error Correction used in the “high-frequency” section of the data path and over the optical links
 - New LC-VCO architecture for increased SEU-Tolerance and low jitter.

LpGBT System Block Diagram (Simplified)



Configuration

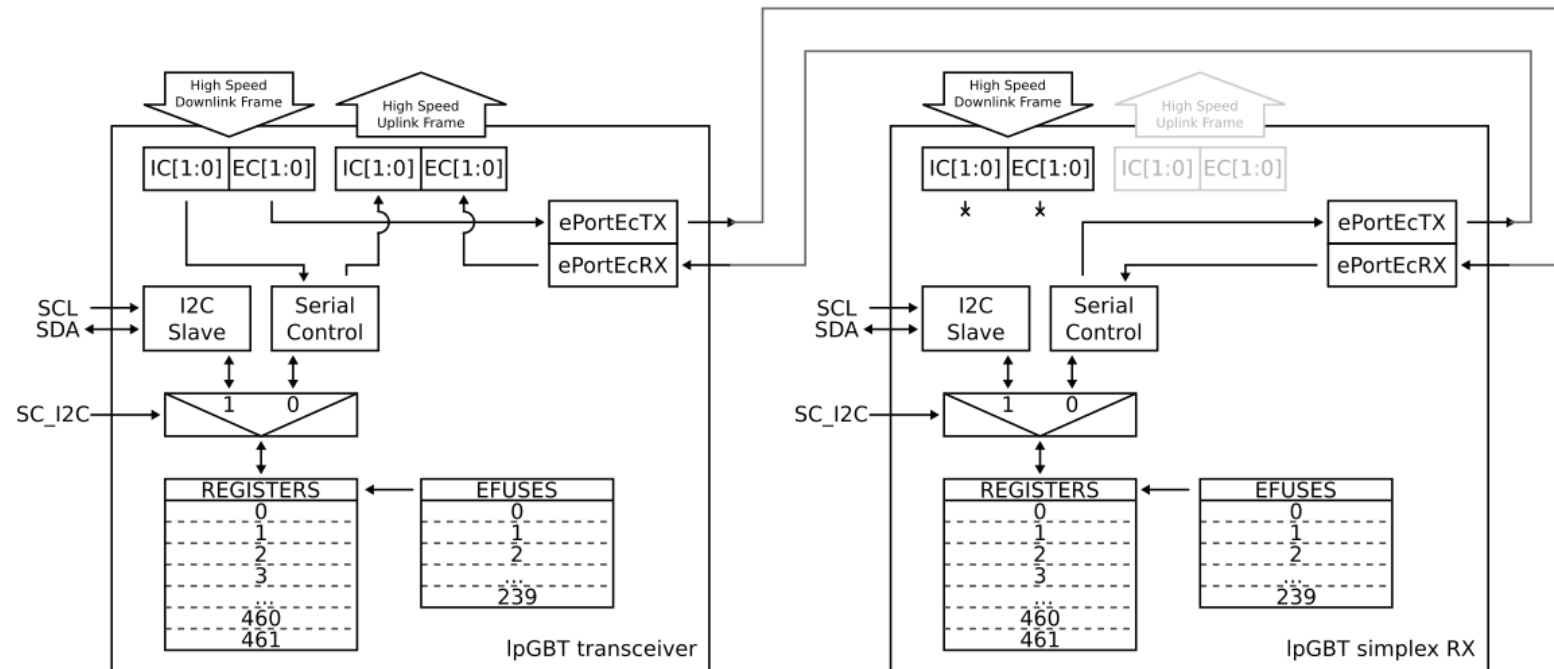


Programming the IpGBT (1/2)

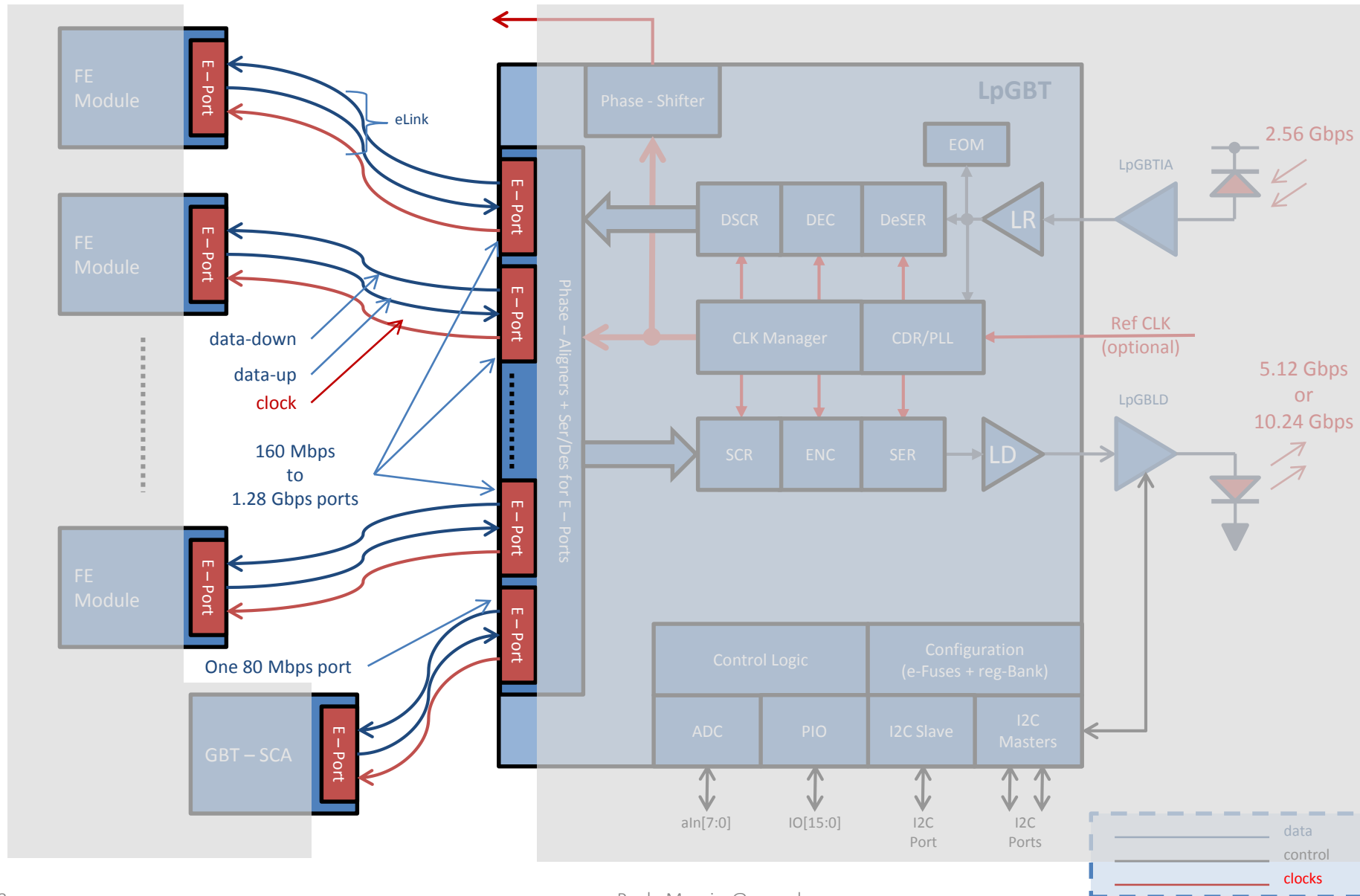
- The IpGBT is a highly flexible device:
 - Transceiver modes / Locking modes / Uplink data rate / FEC coding / Clock frequencies / Clock phases / Number of active eLinks / Phase-aligner modes / Pre-emphasis / Equalization / Driving strengths / ... / ...
- It won't simply work by just having it installed in your system...!
- It needs to be configured!
- There are:
 - 11 configuration pins to be “hardwired”;
 - 320 registers to be programmed (240 R/W/F + 80 R/W + 142 R (status));
- Configuration pins define the “basic” operation mode;
- Configuration registers “customize” for the user application:
 - Some of them also affect the basic operation (e.g. PLLs, DLLs, startup procedure, etc.);

Programming the IpGBT (2/2)

- Several options are available to read / write the configuration registers:
 - I2C port, always possible;
 - IC channel, only possible in Transceiver mode;
 - EC port, only possible in simplex TX or RX modes;
 - Access mode needs to be configured [pin "SC_I2C"].
- Optionally, the user's configuration can be "burned into" the ASIC on a bank of "eFuses" and copied at startup into the configuration registers
 - Requires additional 2.5 V supply voltage during the programming cycle.



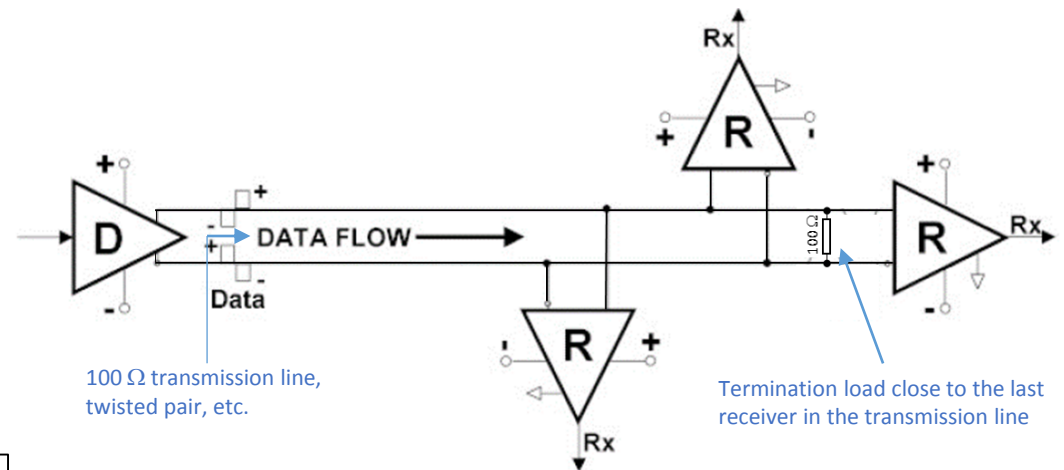
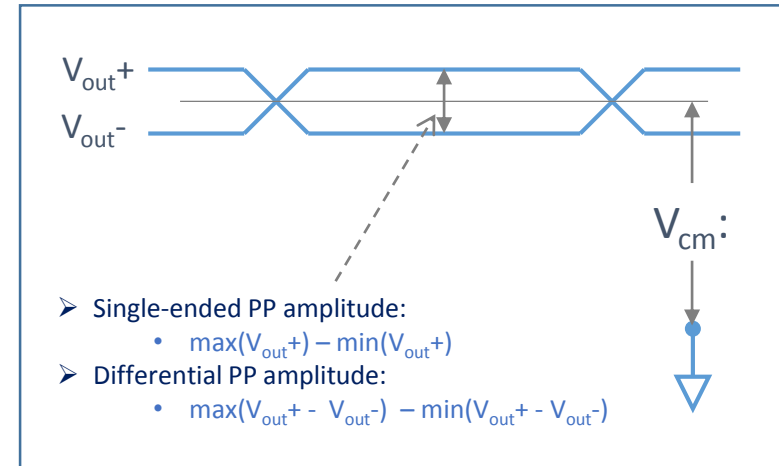
Electrically Interfacing with the Frontends



eLinks Electrical “Standard”

- CLPS “CERN Low Power Signalling”
 - [This should] avoid any confusion with LVDS or SLVS;
- Link type:
 - Point – to – point
 - Multi – drop transmitter
- Max data rate:
 - 1.28 Gbps (NRZ)
- Max clock frequency:
 - 1.28 GHz
- Programmable signalling level:
 - 100 mV to 400 mV (single-ended PP amplitude)
 - 200 mV to 800 mV (differential PP amplitude)
- Common mode voltage:
 - 600 mV (nominal)
- Load impedance:
 - 100 Ω

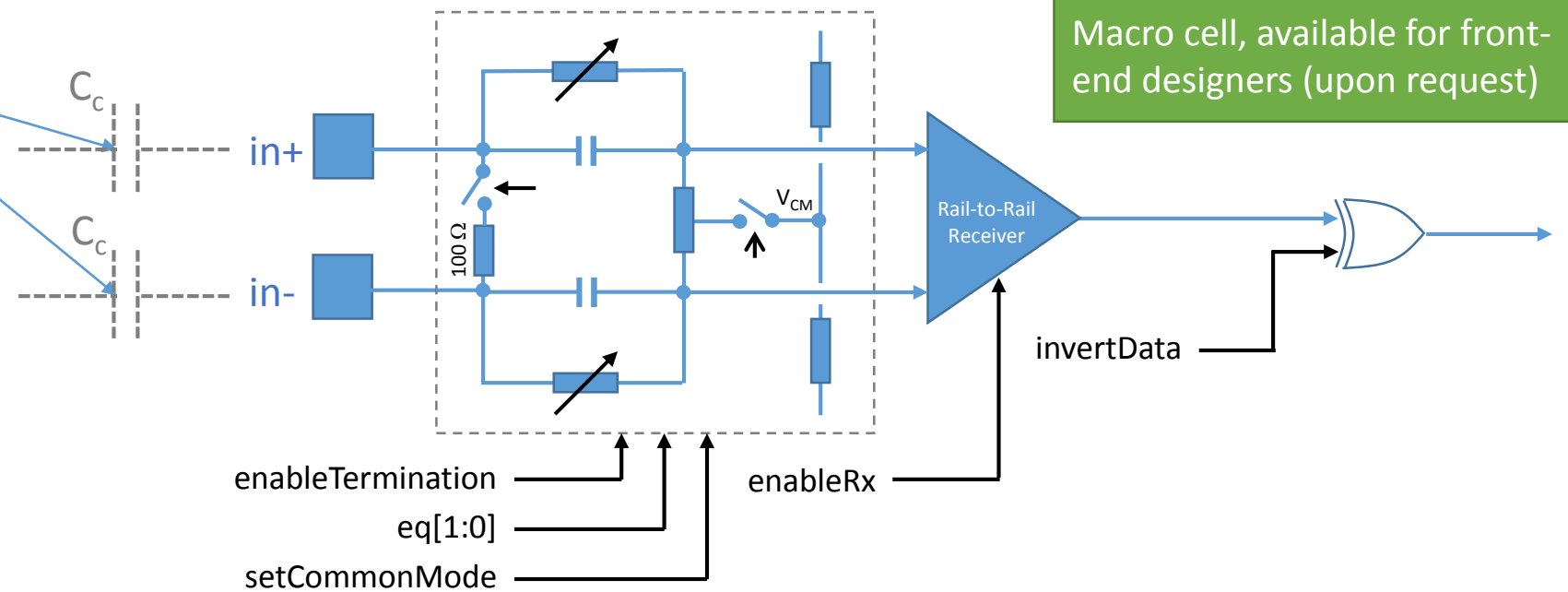
Common mode in the middle of the supply ($V_{dd}/2$) for best tolerance to ground fluctuations between modules;



eLink Line Receiver (eRx)

Off chip capacitors if AC coupling needed!

Remember: AC coupling introduces a zero at $f = 1/(2\pi \times C_c \times 100 \Omega)$ reducing the number of consecutive zero and ones that can be sent over the line reliably (DC base wander).
An external termination can be used to improve this but will certainly complicate your layout.



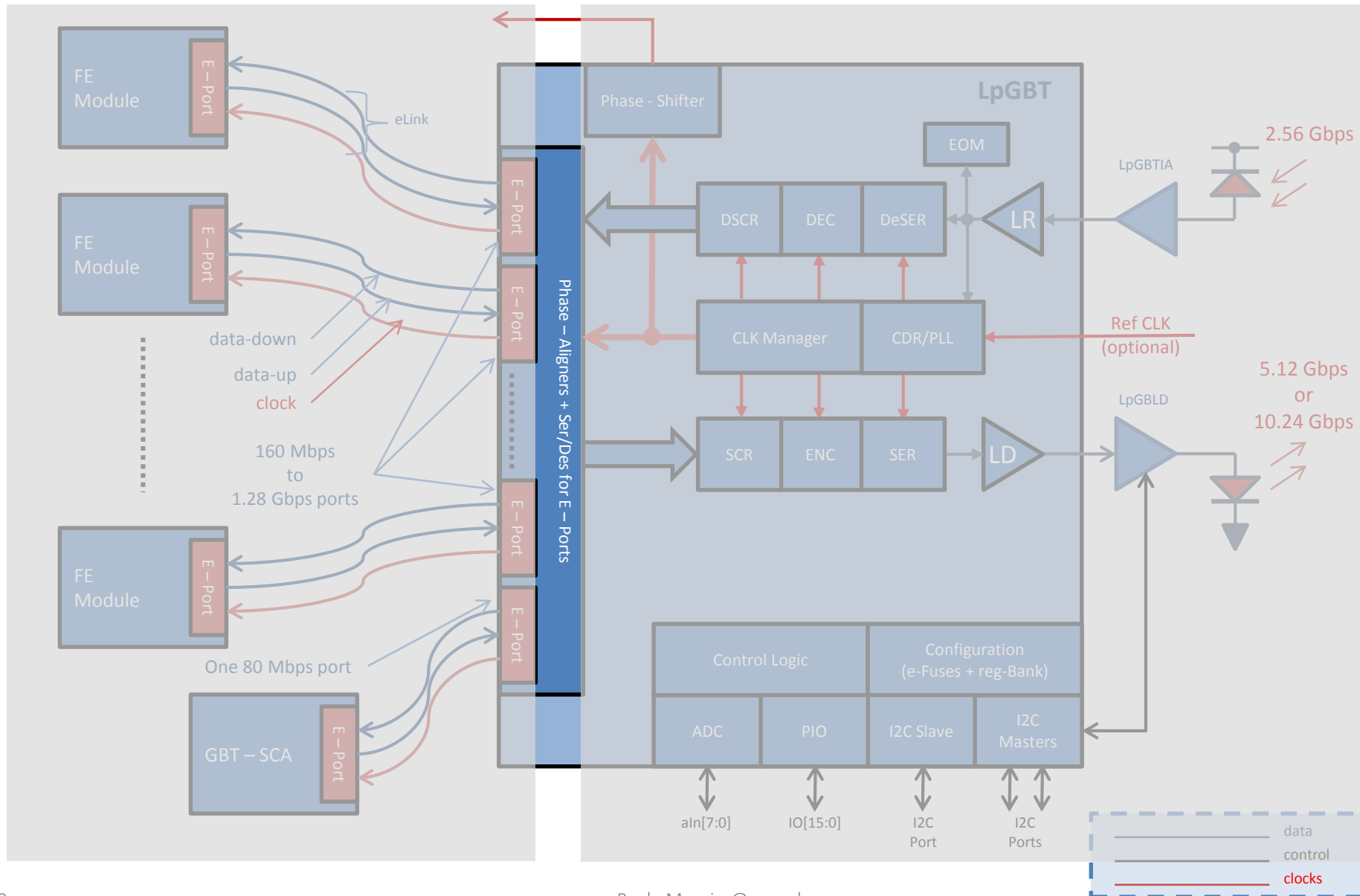
- **Specs**

- Data rate:
 - Up to 1.28 Gbps
- Common mode voltage range:
 - 70 mV – 1.13V
- Differential input voltage:
 - 140 mV – 450 mV

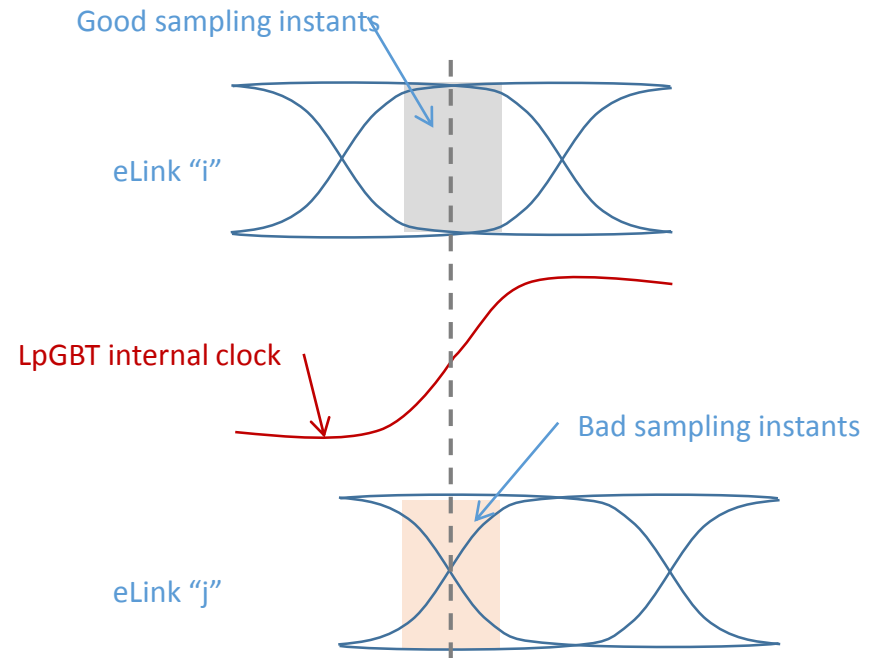
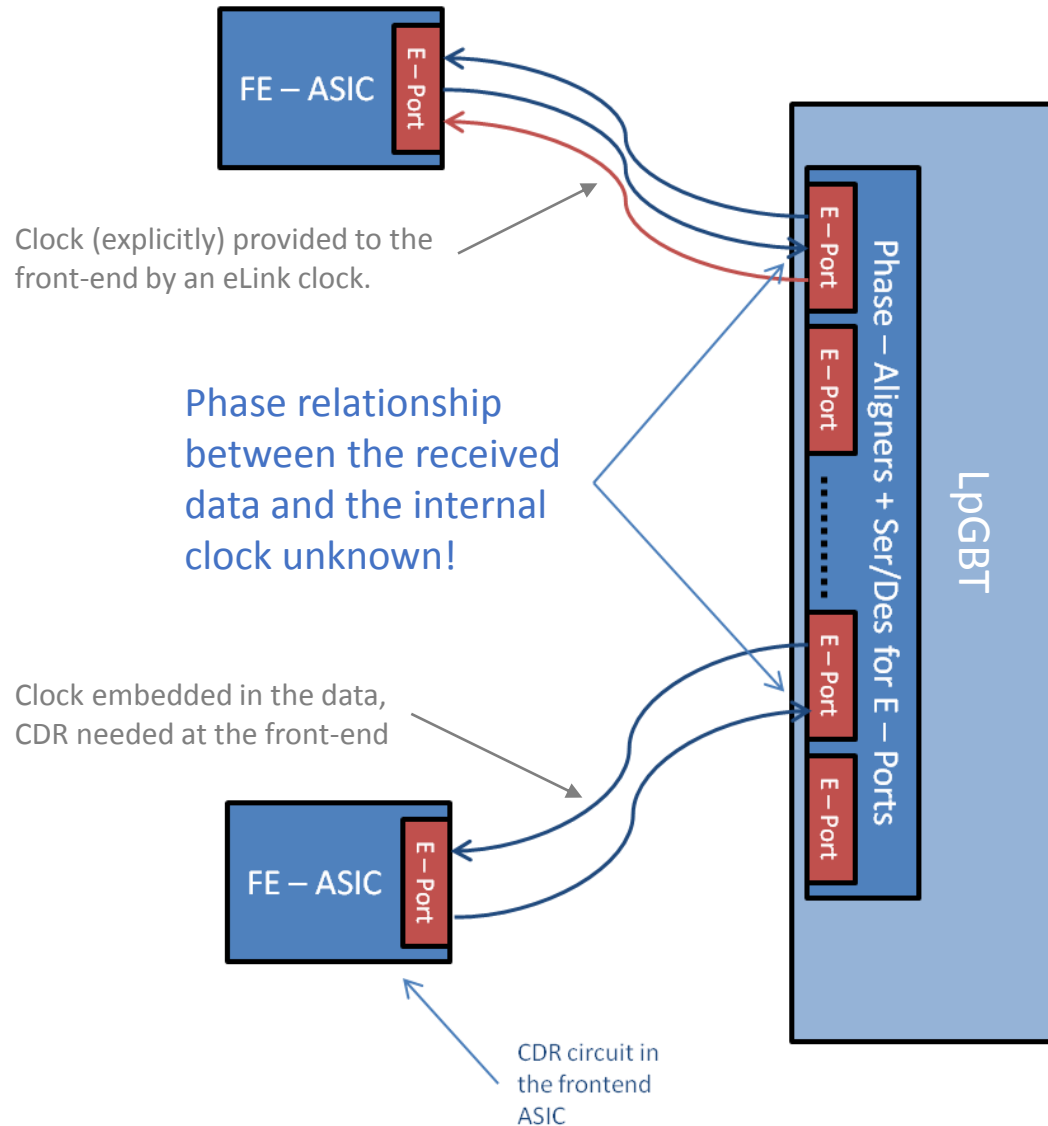
- **Programmable**

- ON/OFF receiver (for power saving)
- Data polarity (to simplify routing)
- ON/OFF termination (100 Ω)
- ON/OFF common mode setting (for AC coupling, $V_{dd}/2$)
- Programmable equalization:
 - Optimized for cables with bandwidths of “infinite” (equalization off), 448, 299 and 224 MHz

eLink Data Sampling and “Deserialization”

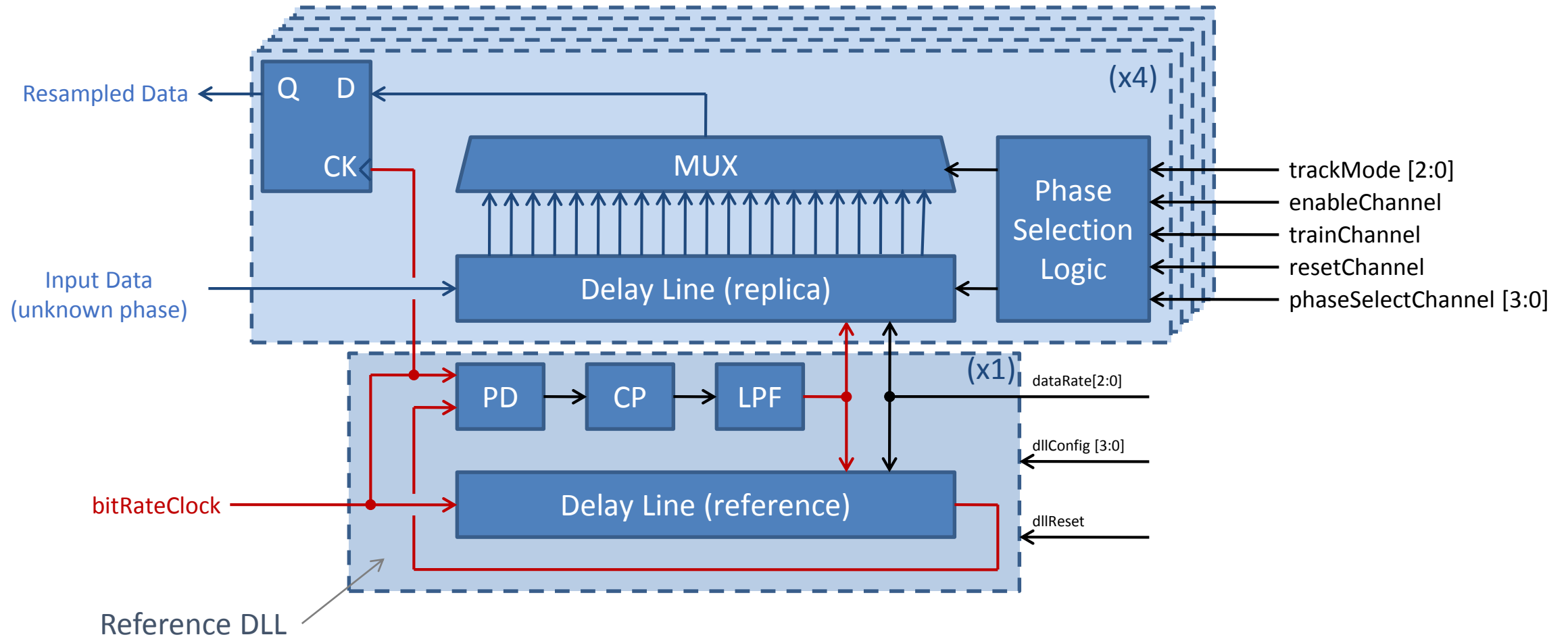


Up eLink – Phase Alignment



- The phase of the incoming data signals is “unknown” in relation to the internal sampling clock!
- There are up to 28 eLinks inputs (potentially) all with random phase offsets
- The solution:
 - “Measure” the phase offset of each eLink input
 - Delay individually each incoming bit stream to phase align it with the internal sampling clock

Phase-Aligner Block Diagram



Using the Phase-Aligner(s)

- There are 8 phase-aligners in the lpGBT:
 - 7 serve 28 data eLinks;
 - 1 serves the EC eLink.
- A phase-aligner serves 4 eLink channels:
 - Called an eLink Group.
- The four channels in a Group share a calibration DLL;
- User must setup:
 - The calibration DLL
 - The individual phase-aligner channels corresponding to the eLinks in use.

Phase Aligner Check list:

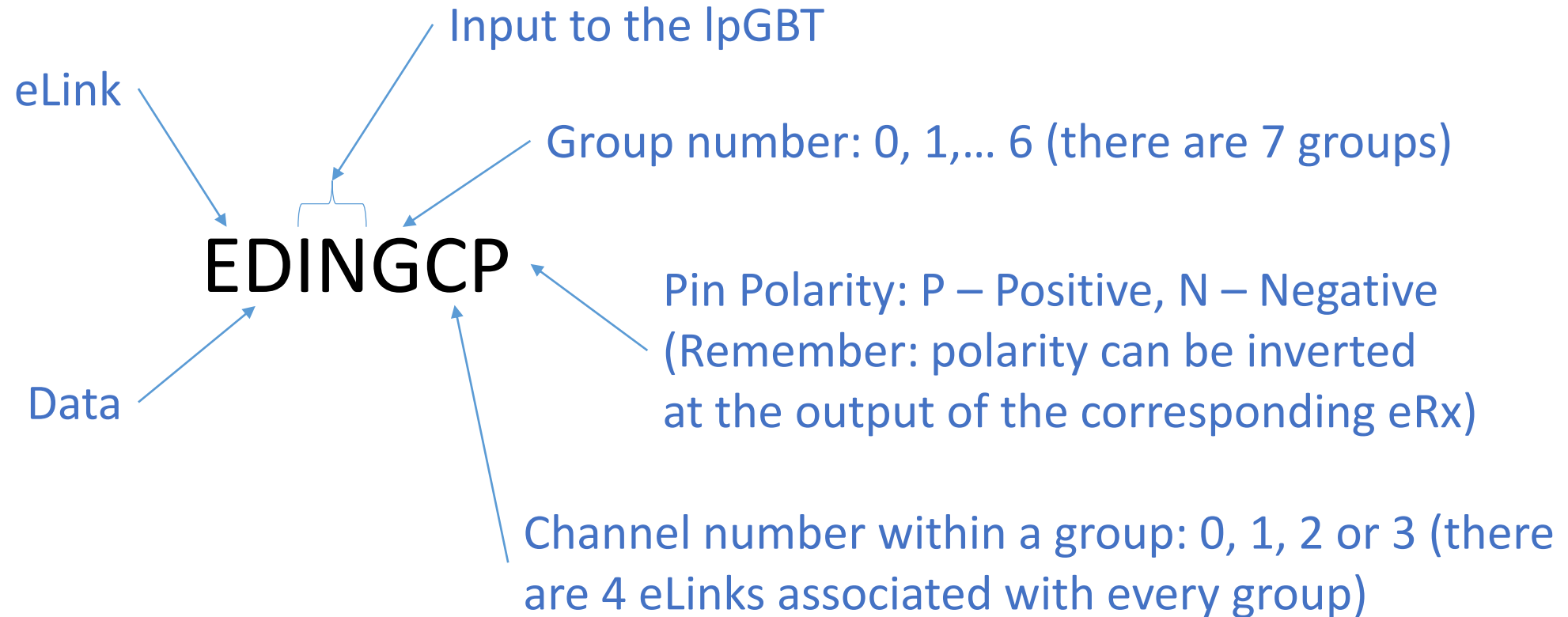
- Set the group data rate;
 - This sets the maximum number of eLinks per group (see next slides);
- Configure the DLL parameters;
- Reset the DLL;
- Set the phase alignment mode:
 - Static phase selection:
 - User intervention needed.
 - Initial training with learned static phase selection:
 - User intervention needed
 - Automatic phase tracking;
- Enable and reset the channels in use;

eLink Rx Groups

- eLinks are “clustered” in groups of 4:
 - Simply called groups.
- The number of available groups is determined by the FEC uplink code in use;
- The number of available eLinks within a group is determined by the Group data rate;
- The possible data rates depend on the uplink bandwidth (5.12 or 10.24 Gbps)
- The data rate of each group can be set independently:
 - A couple of [over complicated] examples:
 - uplink 5.12 Gbps & FEC12: 8 eLinks x 160 Mbps + 4 eLinks x 320 Mbps + 2 eLinks x 640 Mbps
 - uplink 10.24 Gbps & FEC5: 8 eLinks x 320 Mbps + 4 eLinks x 640 Mbps + 3 eLinks x 1.28 Gbps

Input eLinks (uplink)												
uplink bandwidth [Gbps]	5.12						10.24					
FEC coding	FEC5			FEC12			FEC5			FEC12		
Bandwidth [Mbps]	160	320	640	160	320	640	320	640	1280	320	640	1280
Maximum number	28	14	7	24	12	6	28	14	7	24	12	6

Note about eLink Input Pin Names



Example: EDIN32N – eLink data input group 3 channel 2 negative polarity pin

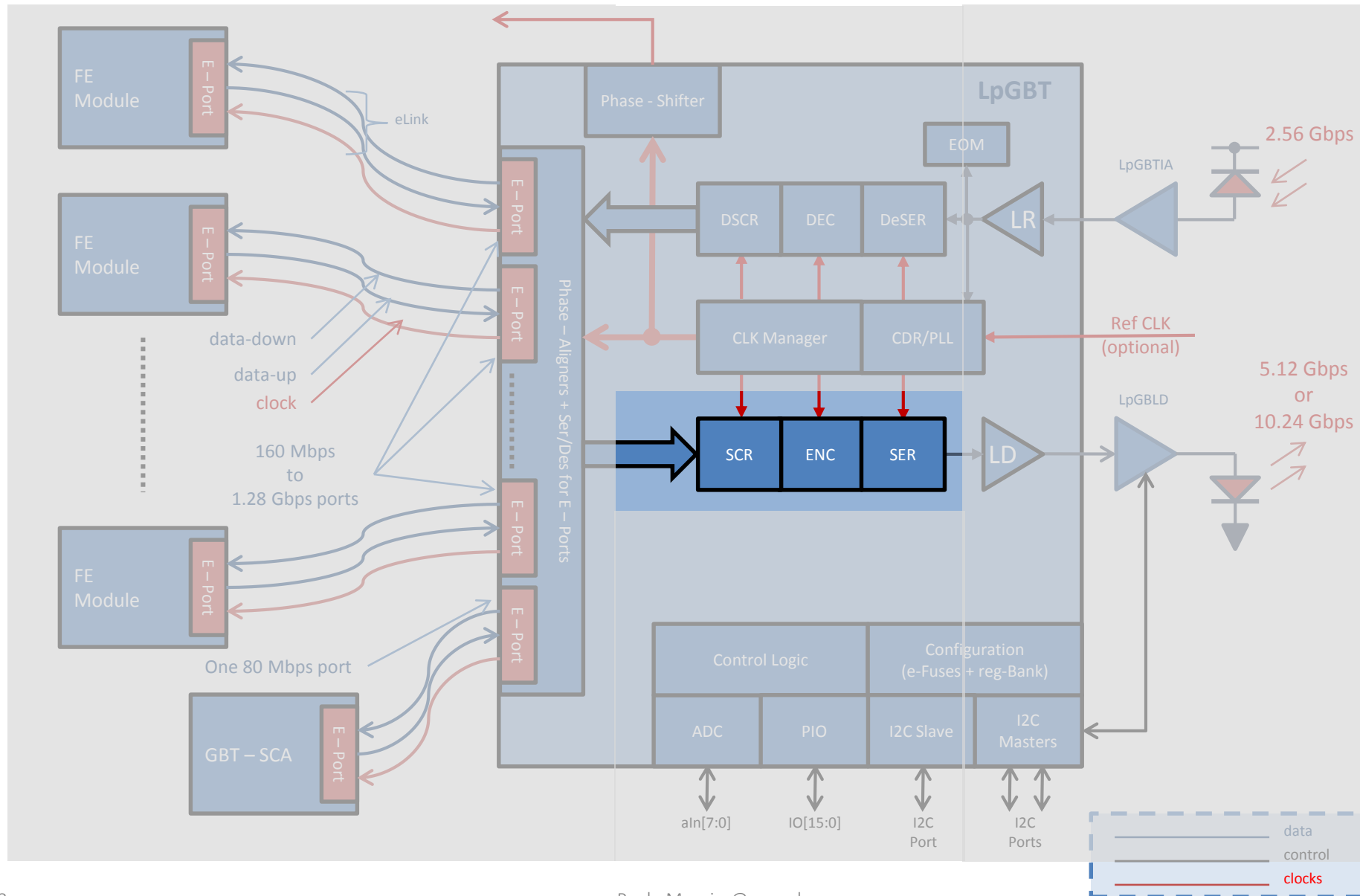
The EC “Group”

- The EC “group” is a special case!
- It is composed of a single eLink!
- It only works at 80 Mbps!
- EC channel eLink Functionality is only available in Transceiver mode;
- In transceiver mode it is always available independently of the other Groups activity;
- Its mission is to implement an “experiment control” link, however it can be used as a general purpose link;
- [As seen before, this input can be used to control the ASIC in the simplex modes (TX / RX) but not in transceiver mode]
- Pins:
 - EDINECP (eLink Data In EC channel Positive pin)
 - EDINECN (eLink Data In EC channel Negative pin)

eLink Deserialization

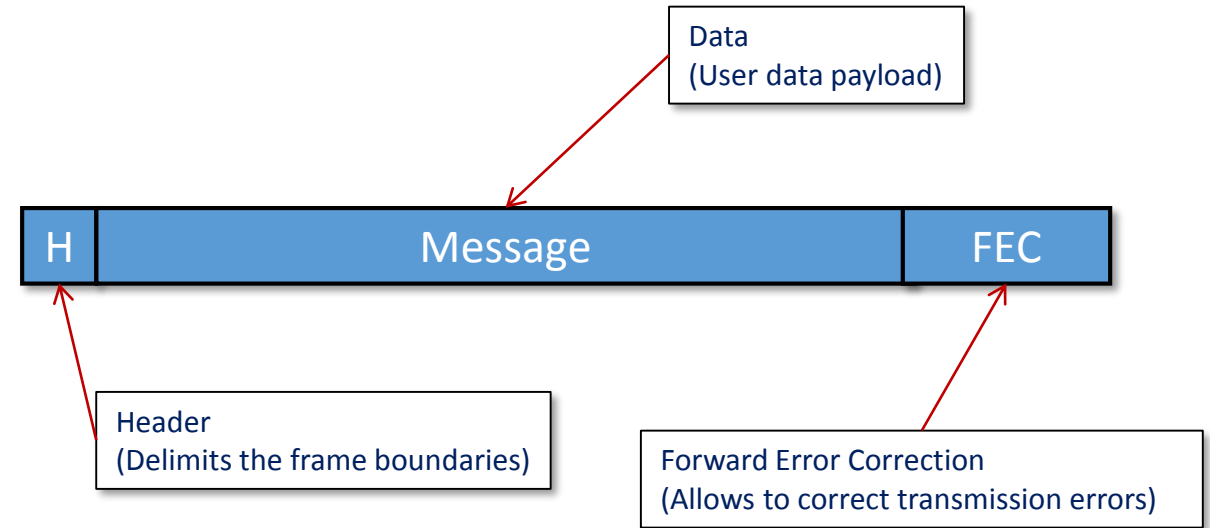
- eLink inputs receive serial data from the frontend devices;
- These data is de-serialized and inserted in the uplink frame to be transmitted to the counting room (more on this soon):
 - The frame is processed in parallel in the chip before it is itself serialized for uplink transmission.
- In the case of transmission at 5.12 Gbps an eLink Group is always associated with the same 16-bits in the frame, the **group bits**.
- The same is true for 10.24 Gbps but in this case the group bits are 32 (the uplink frame is twice as long)
- The user knows from the position of the bits in the frame from which eLink group the data belongs to!
- Moreover, depending on the data rate, a specific eLink is identified by the position of the corresponding bits within the “group bits” (or simply, the position within the frame).
- After the eLinks input data is de-serialized, scrambling, FEC coding, interleaving header insertion and high-speed serialization takes place in the uplink data path...

Uplink Data Path



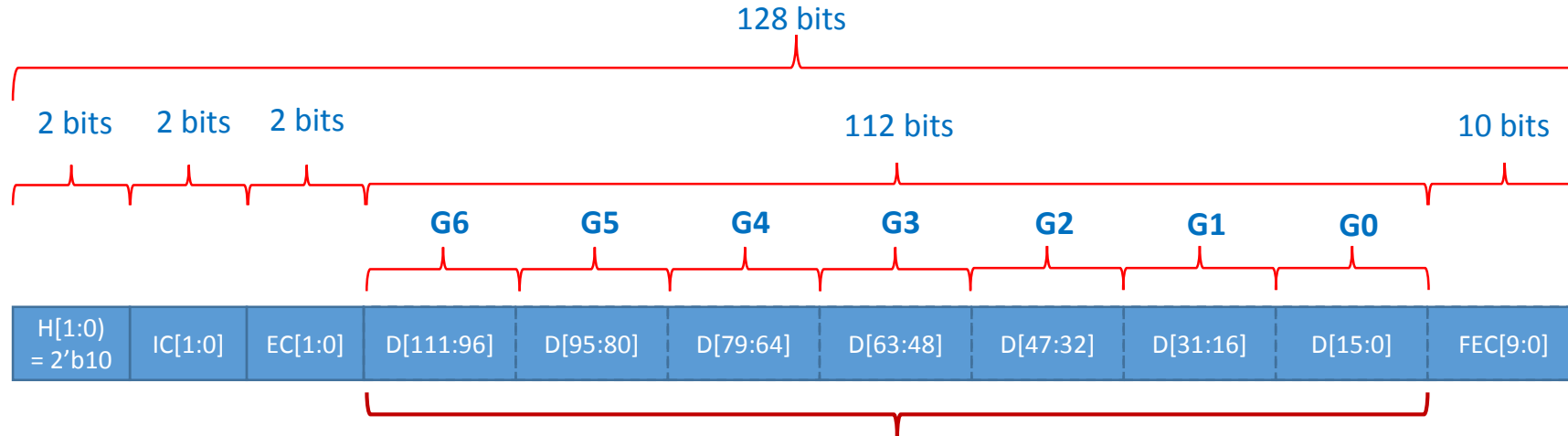
High – Speed Uplink Frame

- The LpGBT supports the following uplink data rates:
 - 5.12 / 10.24 Gbps
- Data is transmitted as a frame composed of:
 - Header
 - The data field
 - A forward error correction field: FEC5 / FEC12
- The data field is scrambled to allow for CDR operation at no [additional] bandwidth penalty
- Efficiency = # data bits/# frame bits



	uplink			
	5.12 Gbps		10.24 Gbps	
	FEC5	FEC12	FEC5	FEC12
Frame [bits]	128		256	
Header [bits]	2		2	
Data [bits]	116	102	232	204
FEC [bits]	10	24	20	48
Correction [bits]	5	12	10	24
Efficiency	91%	80%	91%	80%

Example: 5.12 Gbps FEC5 Uplink Frame

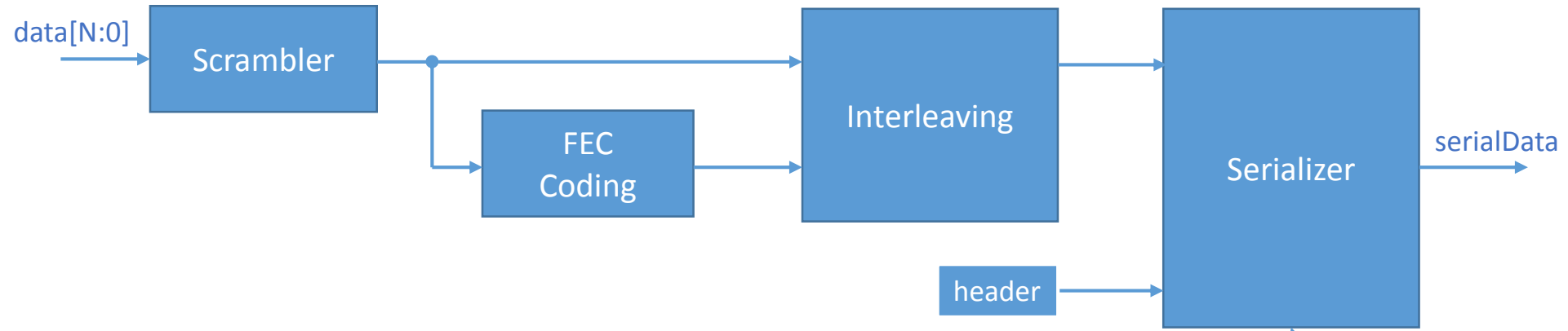


Frame	Function	I/O Group
FRMUP[9:0]	FEC[9:0]	
FRMUP[25:10]	Data[15:0]	0
FRMUP[41:26]	Data[31:16]	1
FRMUP[57:42]	Data[47:32]	2
FRMUP[73:58]	Data[63:48]	3
FRMUP[89:74]	Data[79:64]	4
FRMUP[105:90]	Data[95:80]	5
FRMUP[121:106]	Data[111:96]	6
FRMUP[123:122]	EC[1:0]	EC
FRMUP[125:124]	IC[1:0]	
FRMUP[127:126]	H[1:0] = 2'b10	HFH[1:0] = 2'b10

- 7 groups of 4 input e-Ports
Number of data ports:
- 28 eLinks @ 160 Mbps
 - 14 eLinks @ 320 Mbps
 - 7 eLinks @ 640 Mbps

Note: This is how you will see the uplink frame after it has been processed by the IpGBT-FPGA receiver but not how it is actually transmitted by the IpGBT ...

Uplink data path

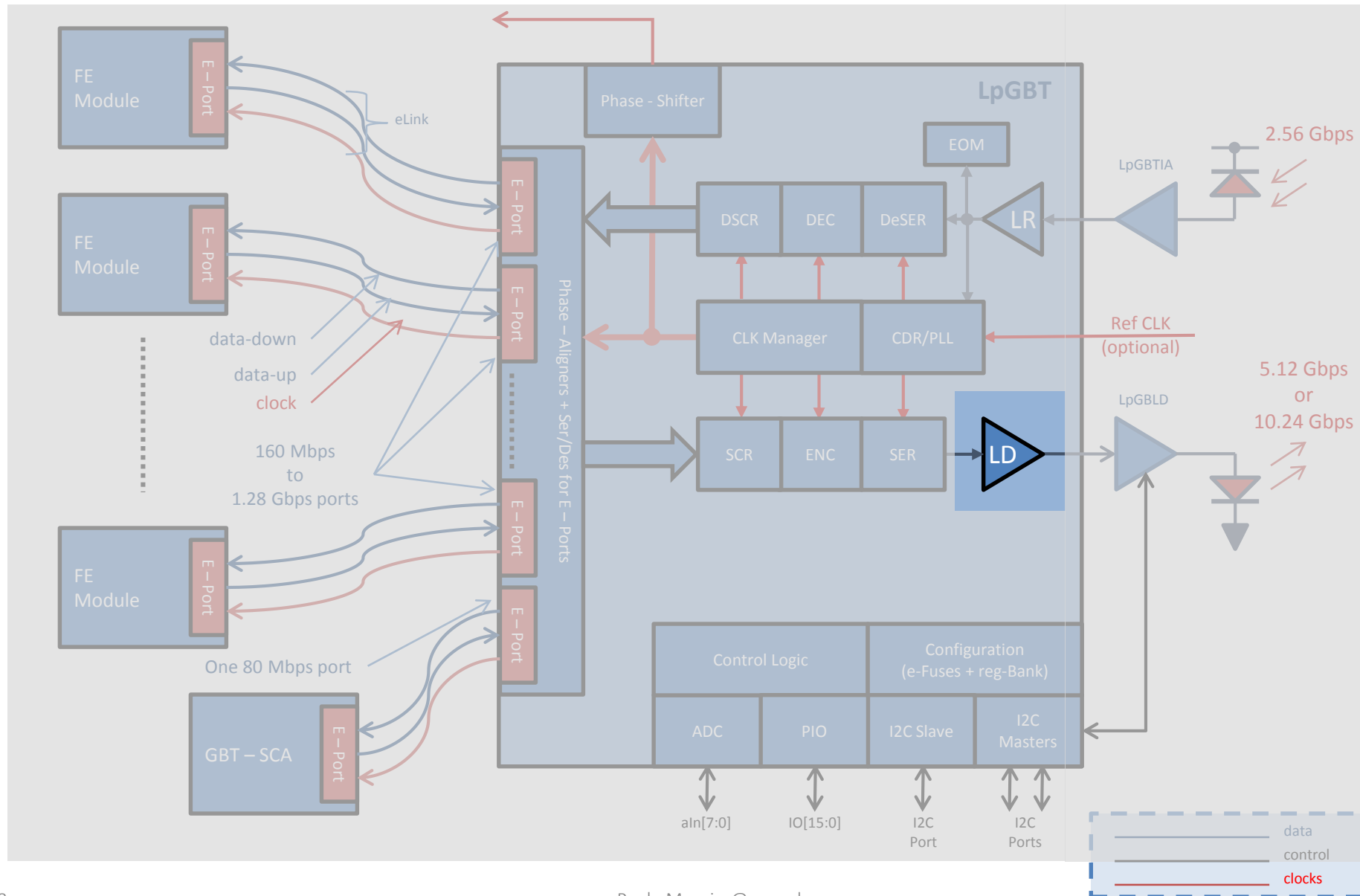


The order of operations is important

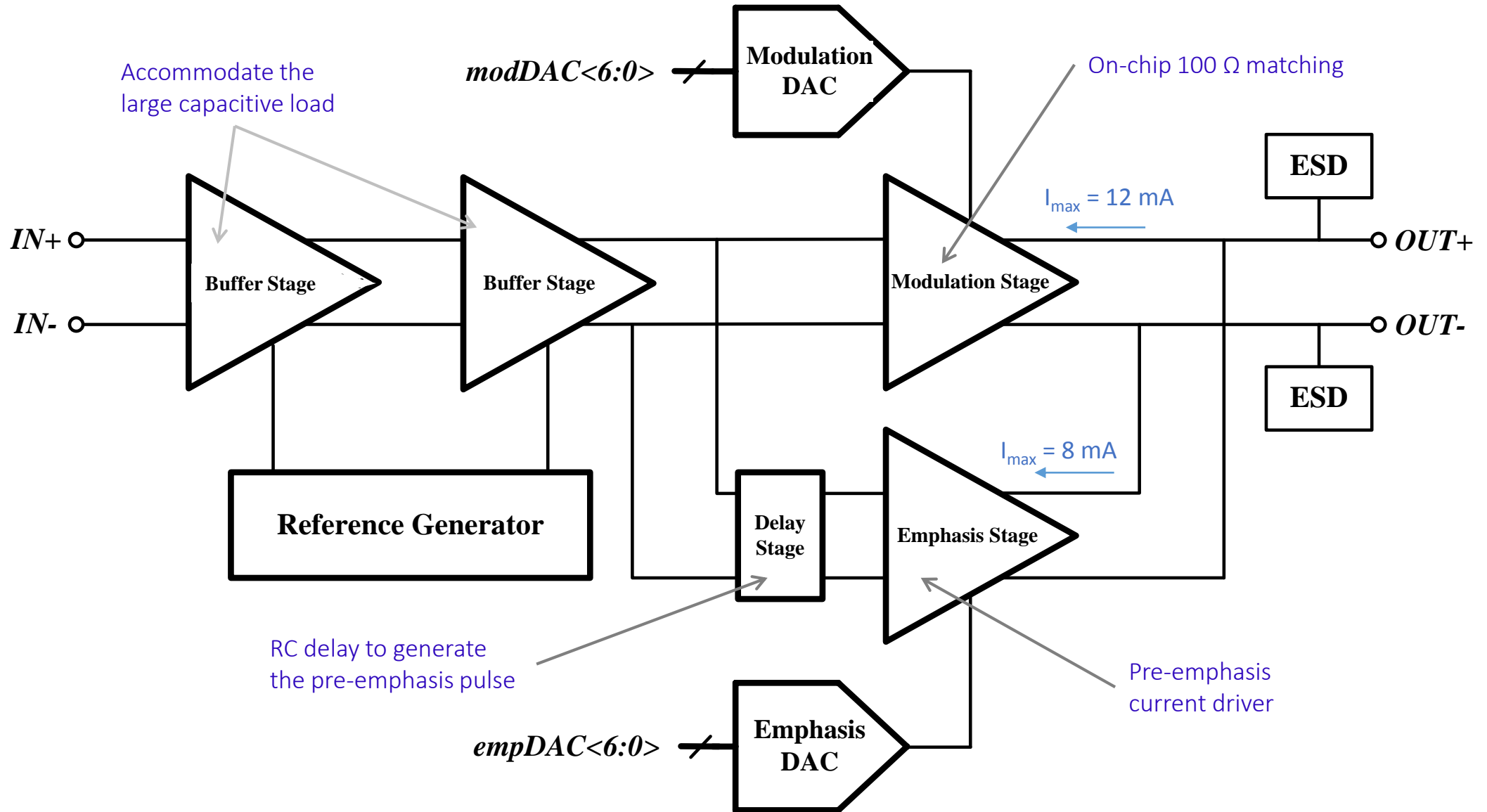
128-to-1 @ 5.12 Gbps
Or
512-to-1 @ 10.24 Gbps

We avoid the details here since you will not have to worry with them, they will be “handled” by IpGBT-FPGA

High-Speed Line Driver

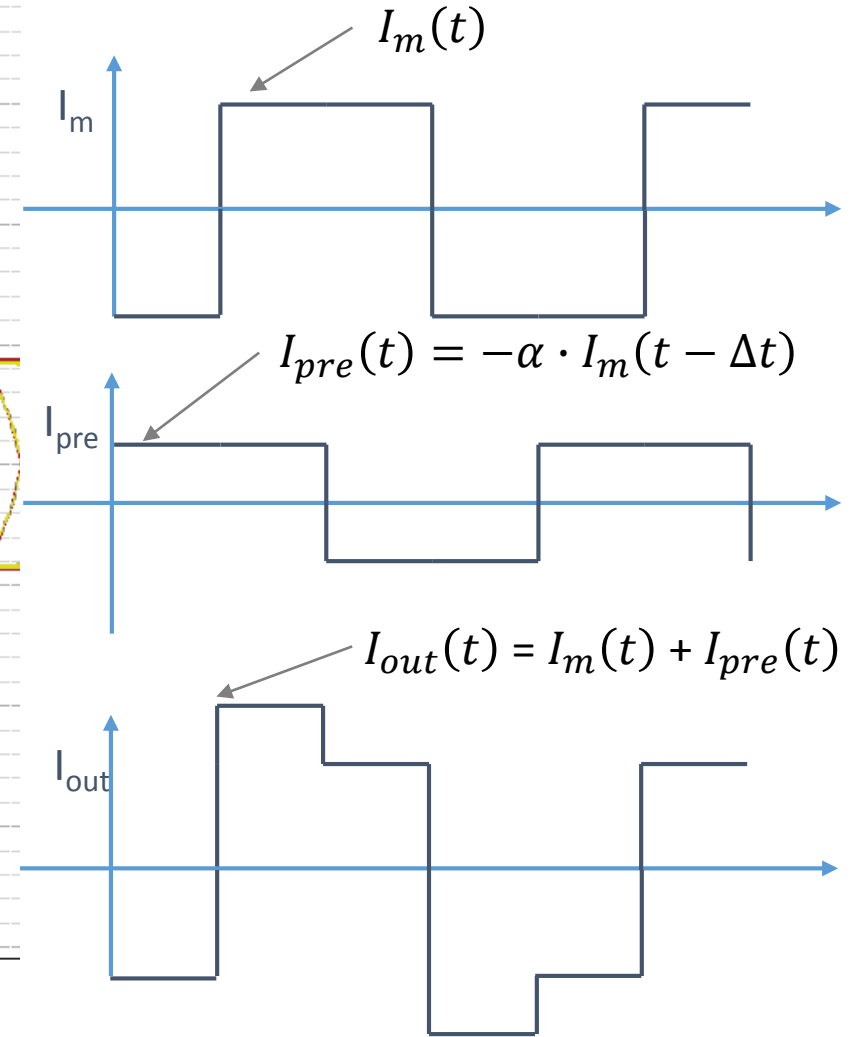
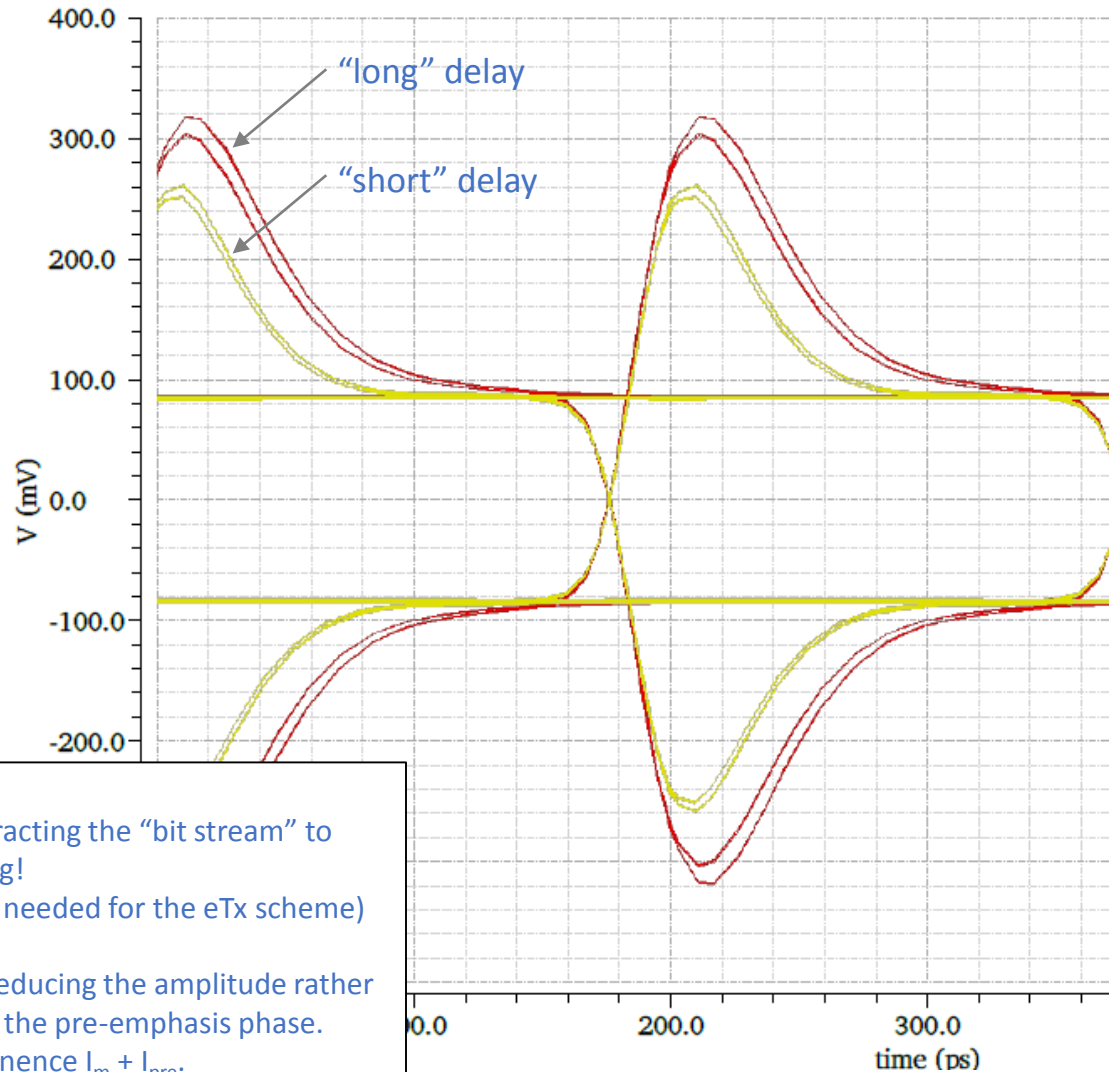


Line – Driver Topology



Line driver simulations (@5.12Gbps)

$I_{cc} = 40 \text{ mA}$
 $I_{mod} = 12 \text{ mA}$
 $I_{pre} = 8 \text{ mA}$
 $C_{out} = 500 \text{ fF}$
 Process: SS_100C_1.2V



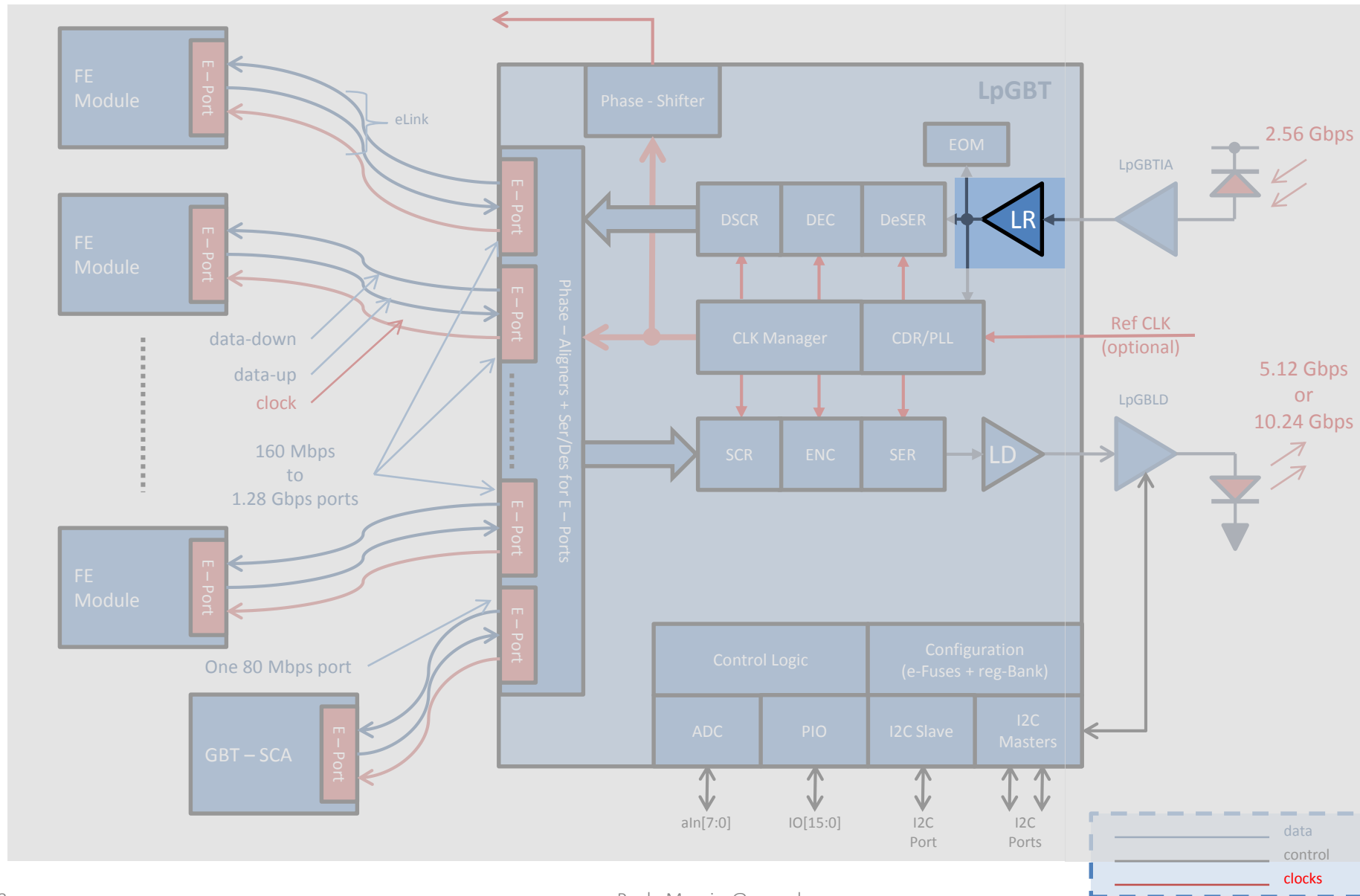
Advantage:

- Pre-emphasis is made by subtracting the “bit stream” to itself after inversion and scaling!
- No narrow pulses required (as needed for the eTx scheme)

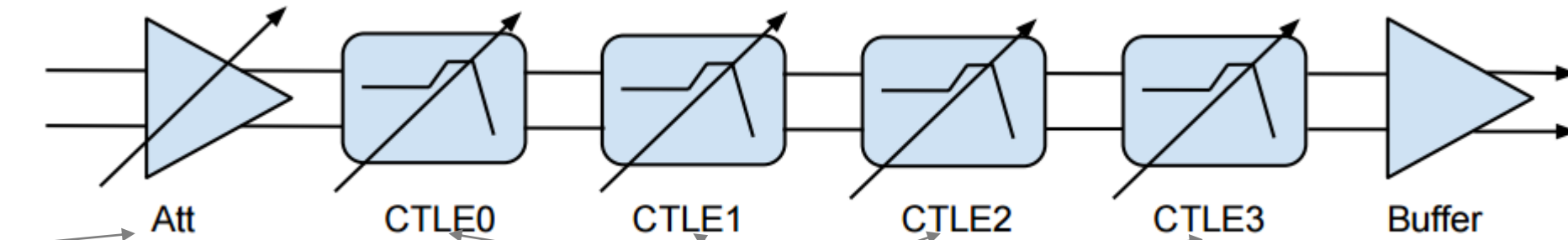
Disadvantage:

- The pre-emphasis is done by reducing the amplitude rather than peaking the signal during the pre-emphasis phase.
- The driver consumes in permanence $I_m + I_{pre}$.

High-Speed Line Receiver / Equalizer



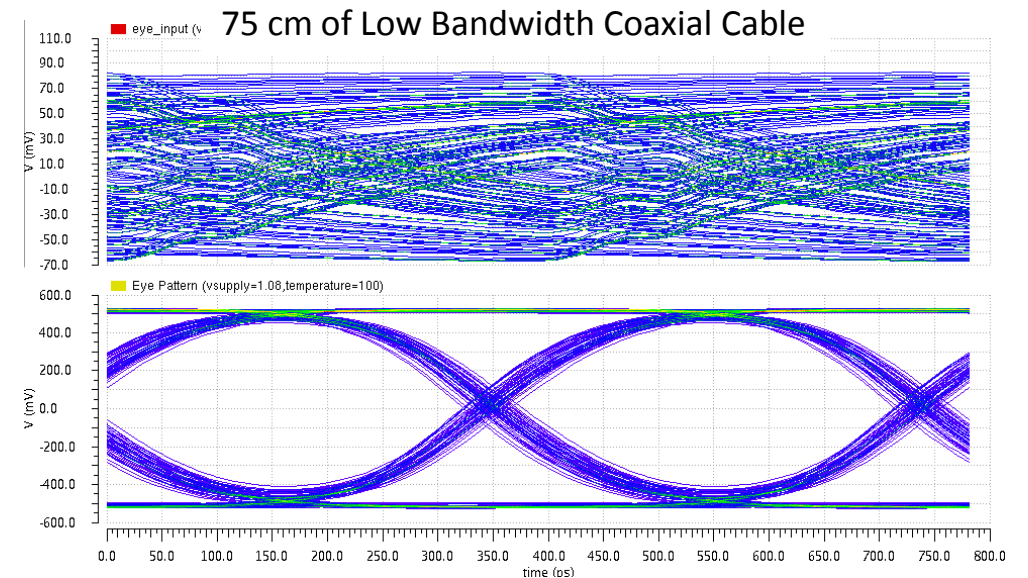
The Equalizer in the LpGBT



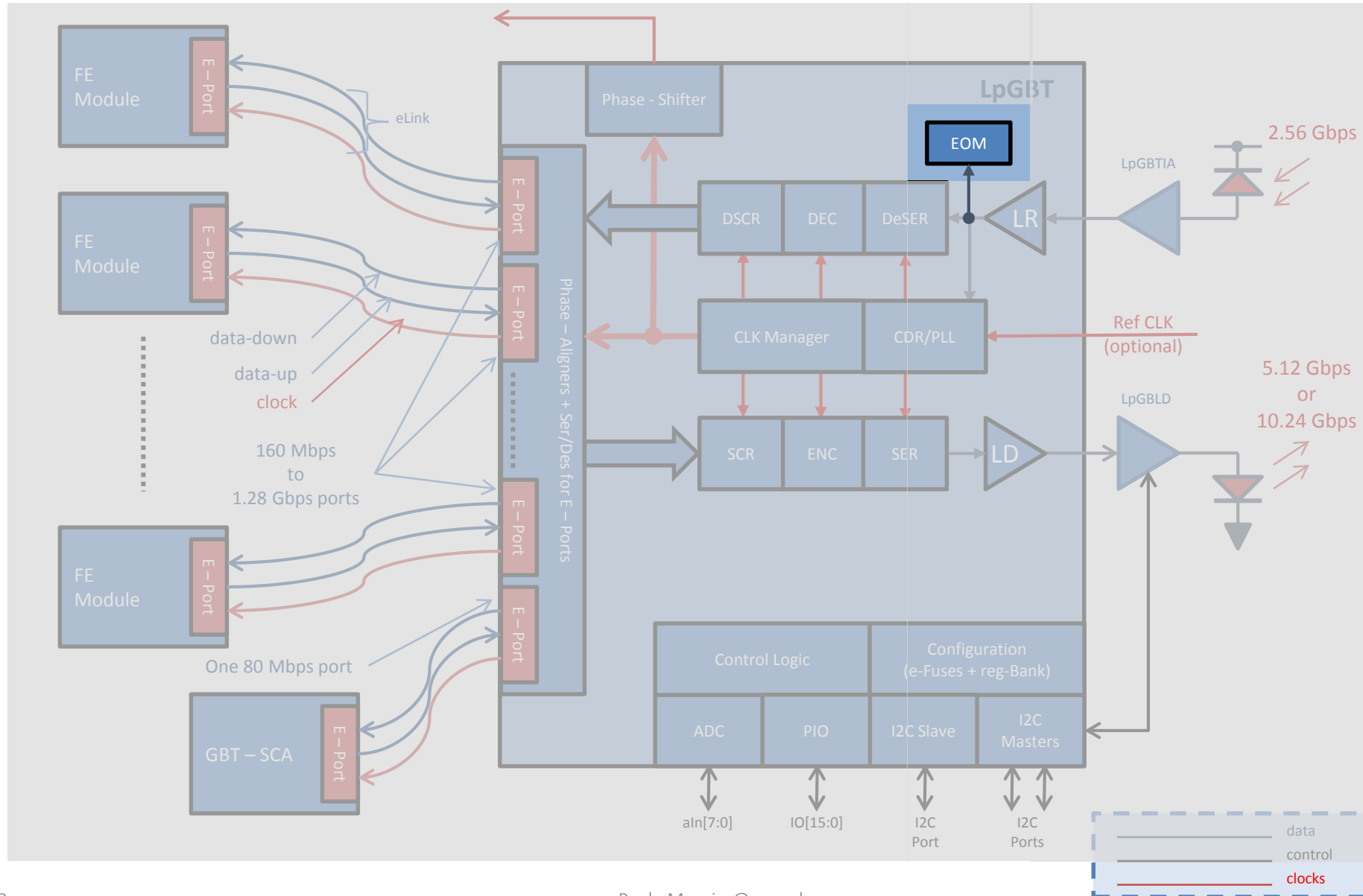
Passive attenuator: allows to handle signals as high as 1 V
Attenuation: 0, -3.5 and -9.5 dB

Four equalizing stages allow to flexibly control the shape of the transfer function.

- To be used in case of “low bandwidth” downlink
 - “Bypassed” by default.
- If needed, user programs the positions of the zeros of the four CTLE stages (and the 1st stage attenuation)
- It is an iterative process in a “case-by-case” basis

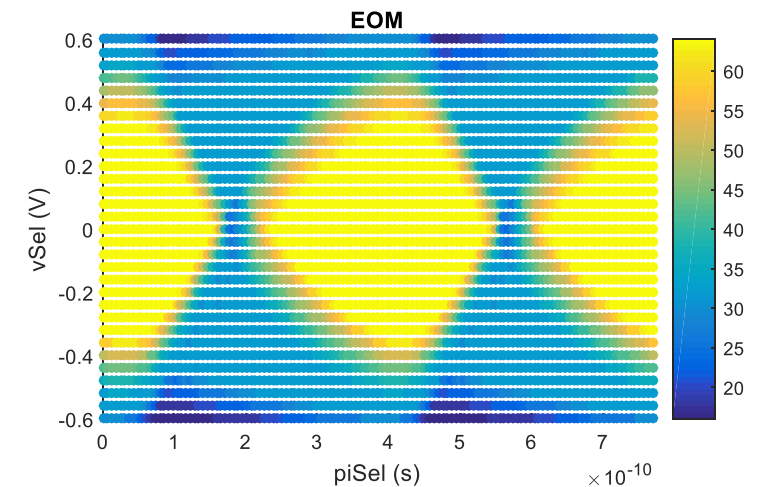
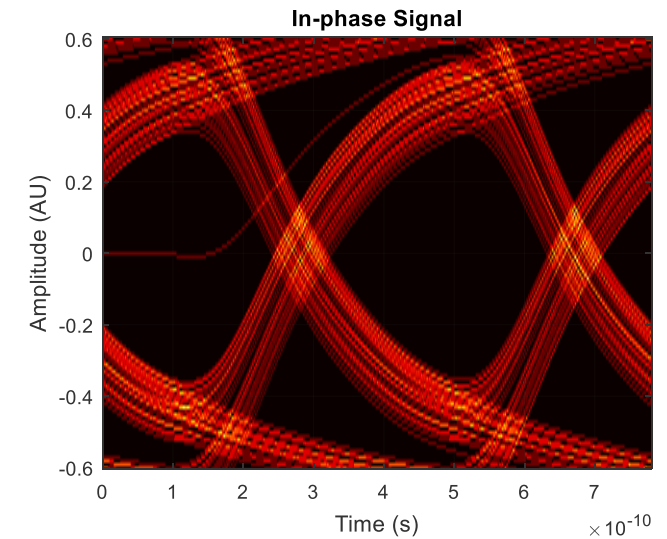
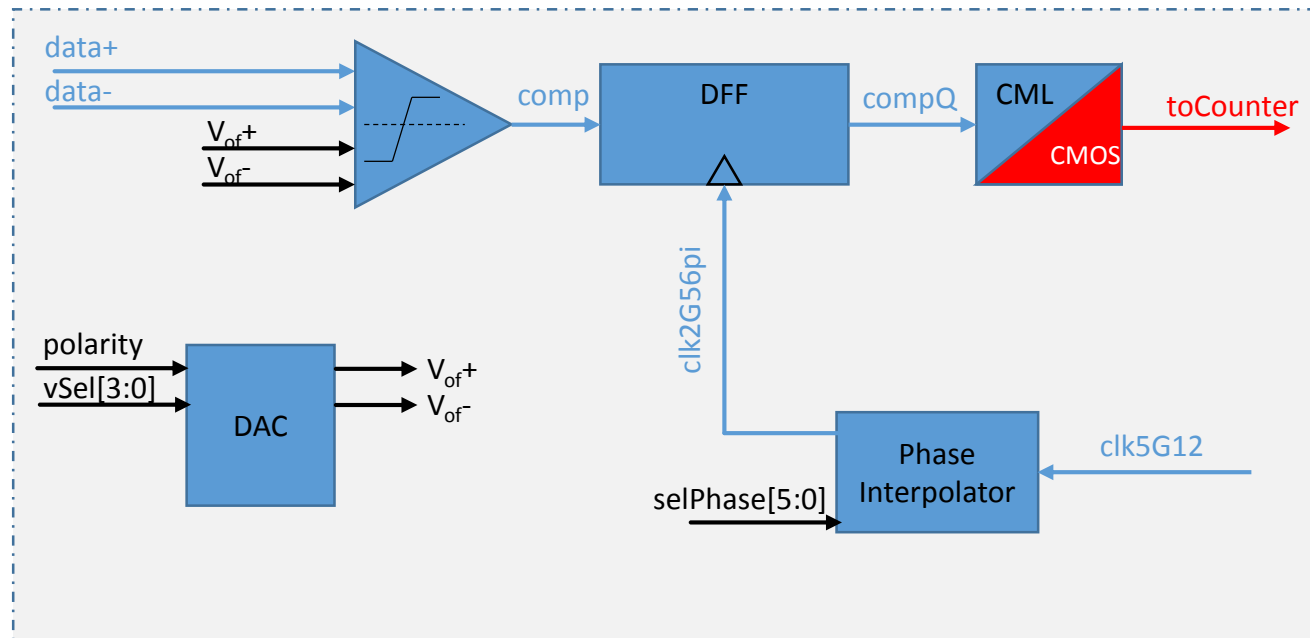


Eye Opening Monitor



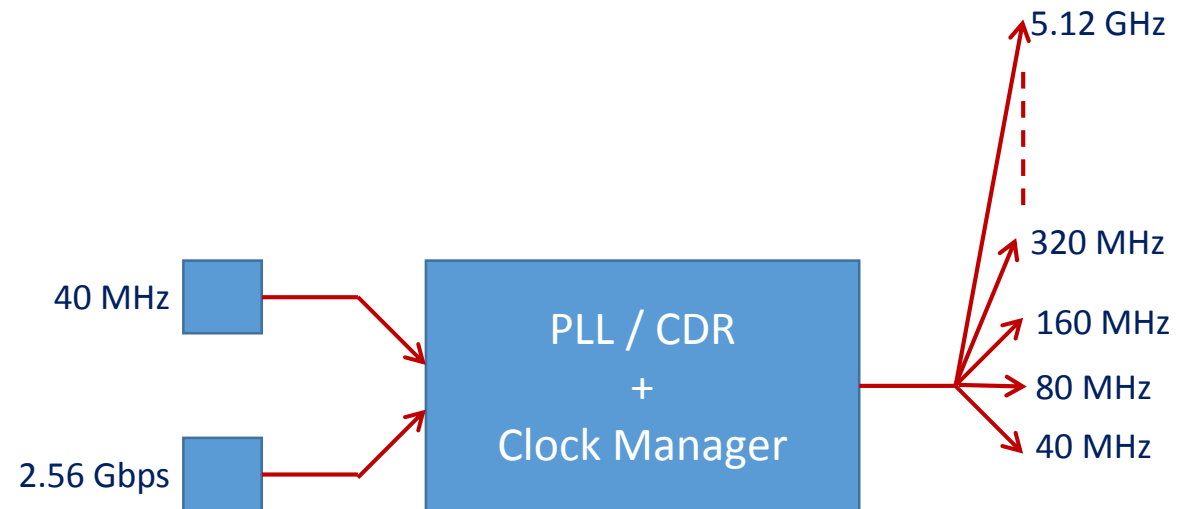
Eye Opening Monitor

- Y-axis:
 - 31 points, step = ~ 20 mV (covers from $V_{DD}/2$ up to V_{DD})
- X-axis:
 - 64 points, step = ~ 6.1 ps in typical
- Operation:
 - Controlled through the I2C interface
 - Eye reconstruction at the "backend"

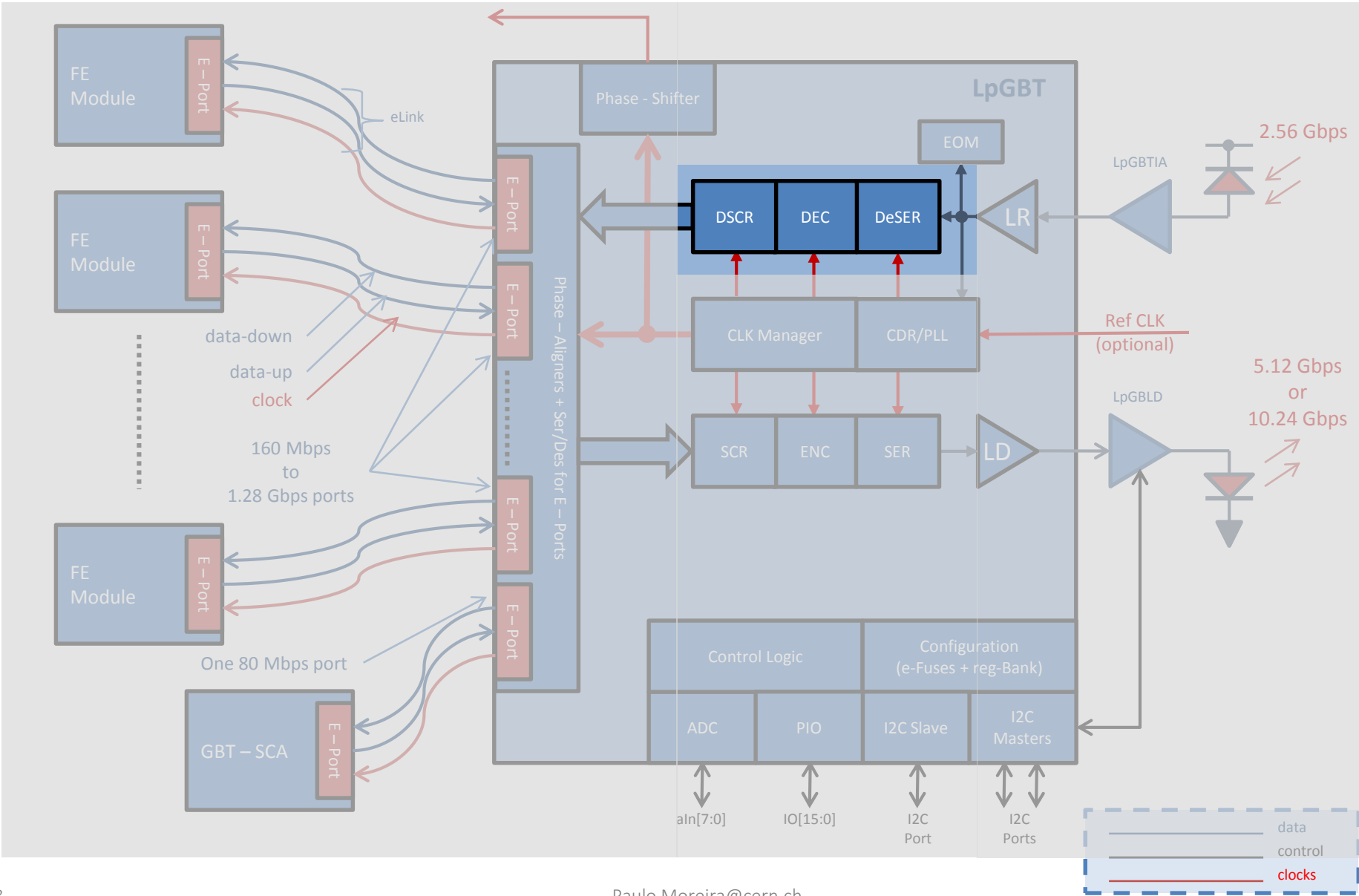


Clock Syntheses

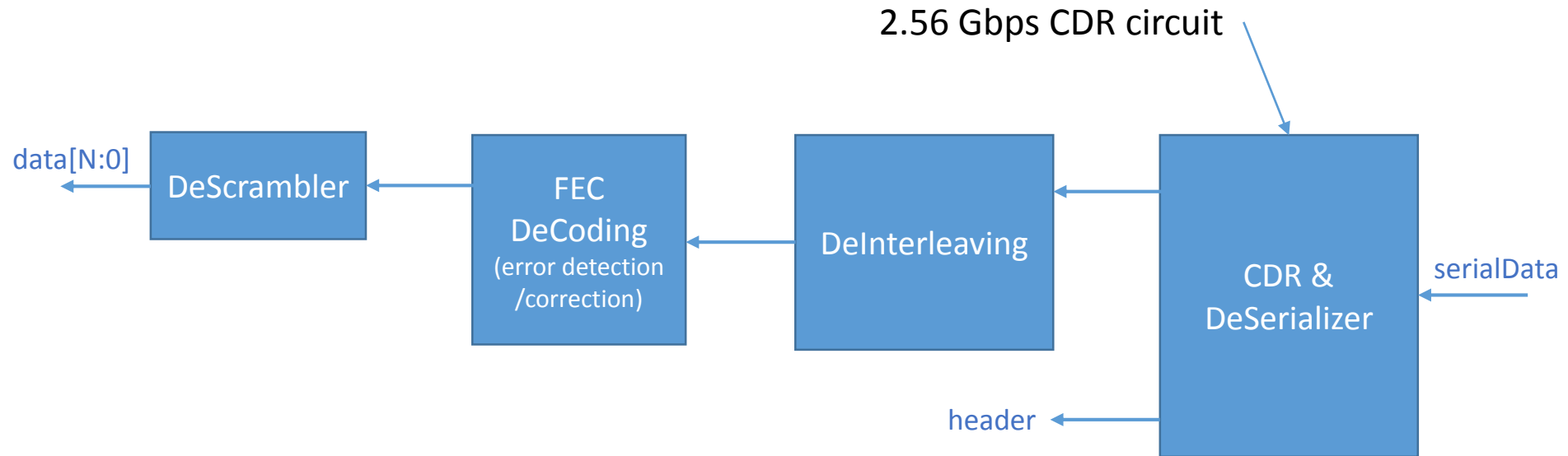
- This circuit generates all the clocks needed by the ASIC:
 - 40 MHz, 80 MHz, ..., 5.12 GHz
 - The 10.24 Gbps Serializer uses a DDR scheme
- Simplex TX:
 - A 40 MHz external reference is needed
- Simplex RX and Transceiver:
 - The downlink serial stream is used as a clock reference
- CDR Locking modes:
 - External reference aided
 - Reference-Less Locking



Down Link Data Path



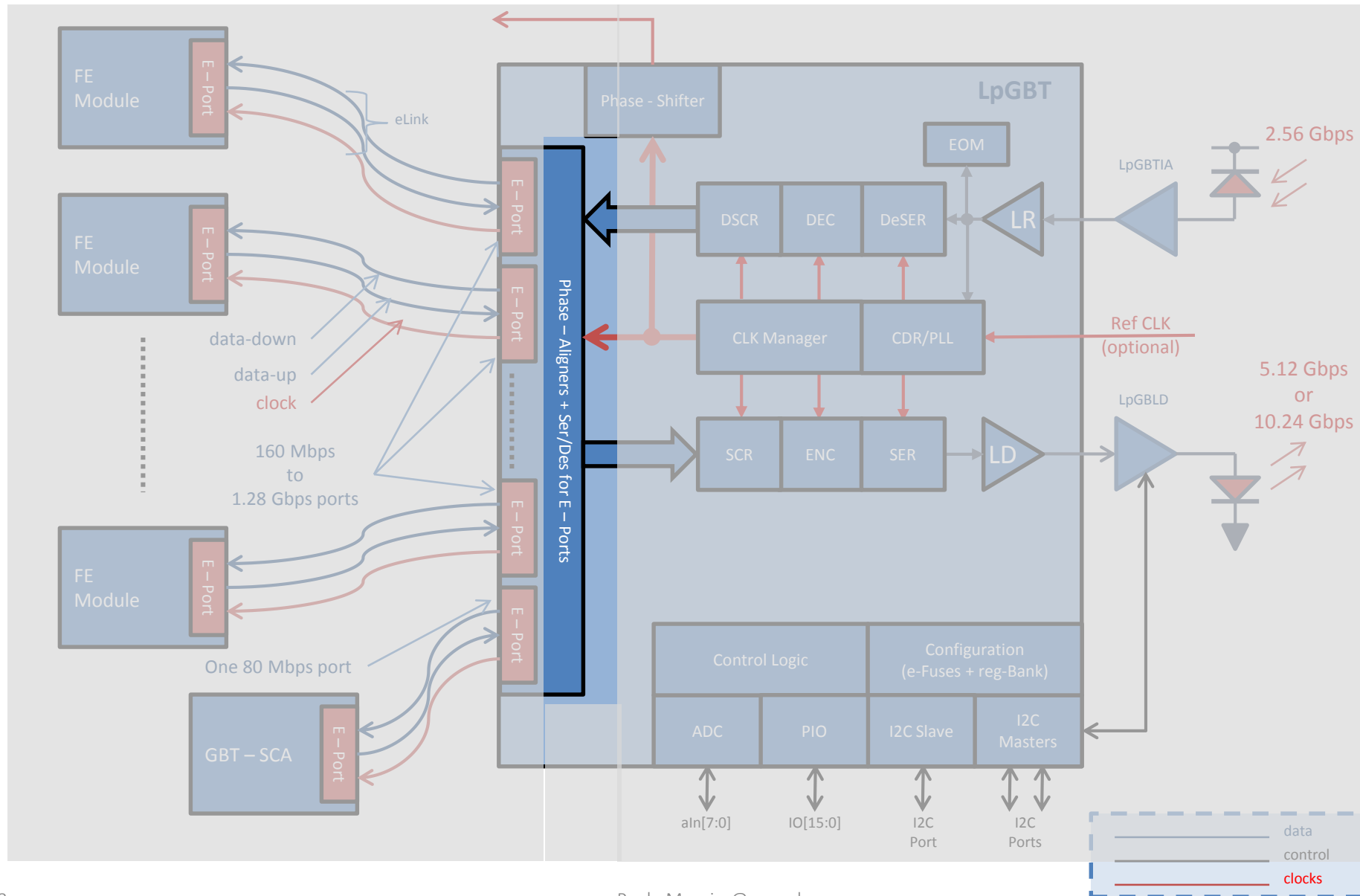
Downlink Data Path



The order of operations is important

[Once again] We avoid the details here since you will not have to worry with them, they will be “handled” by IpGBT-FPGA

eLink Groups and Serialization



eLink Tx Groups & Serialization

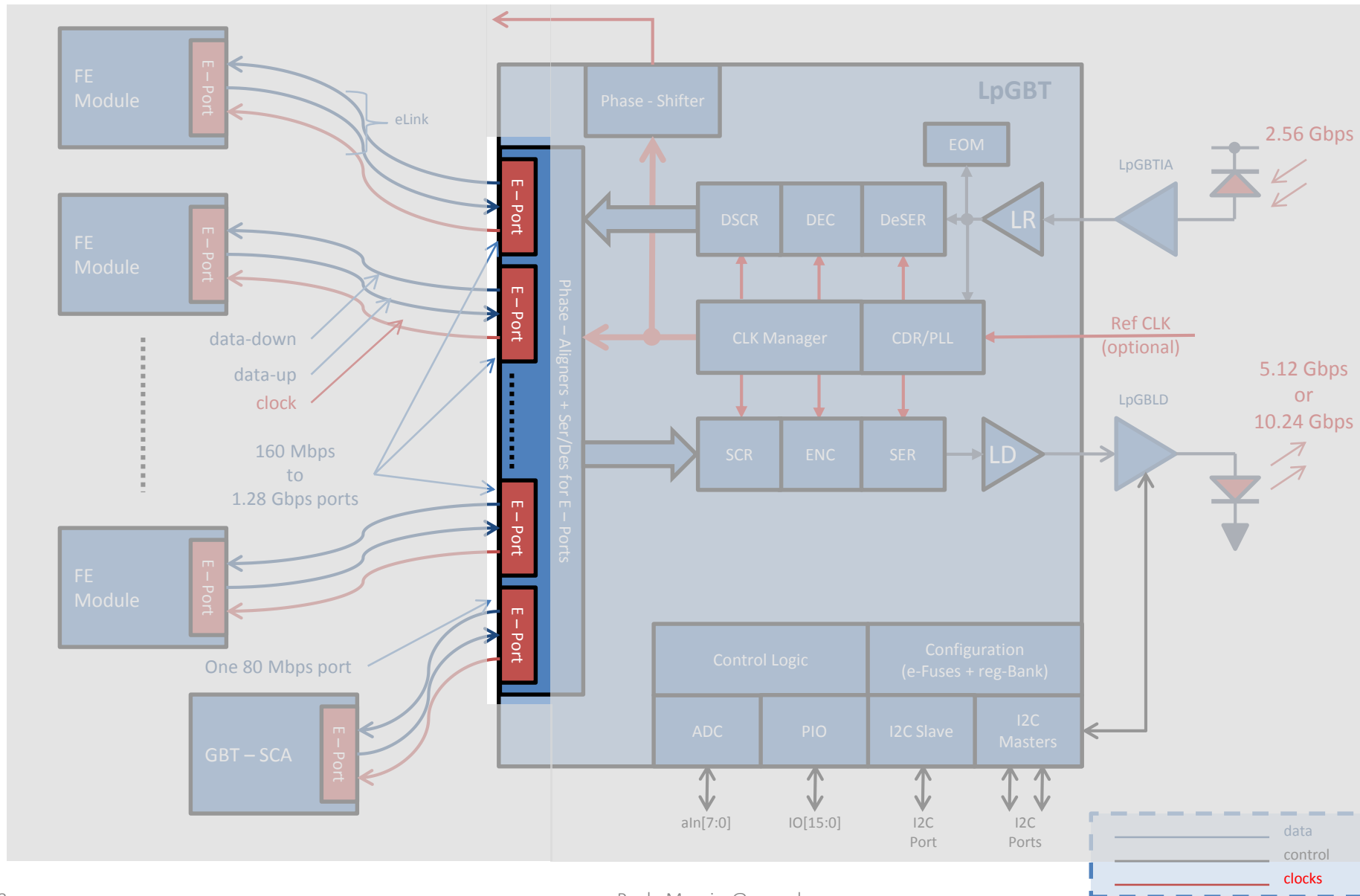
- Tx eLinks are “clustered” in groups of 4 (similar to RX eLinks):
- The data rate of each group can be set independently:
80 / 160 or 320 Mbps
- The number of available eLinks within a group is determined by the Group data rate;
- [Similar to the uplink] Tx eLinks are associated with specific bits within the downlink frame (geographical addressing):
 - The user knows, from the position of the bits (and the selected data rate) in the frame, to which eLink the data will be serialized to.
- EC outputs (pins: EOUTTECP / EOUTTECP) are fixed data rate (80 Mbps) that can be used for Experiment Control in Transceiver mode or participate in the control of the ASIC itself in Simplex TX or RX modes

Output eLinks (down-link)			
Bandwidth [Mb/s]	80	160	320
Maximum number	16	8	4

eLink Tx “Mirror” function

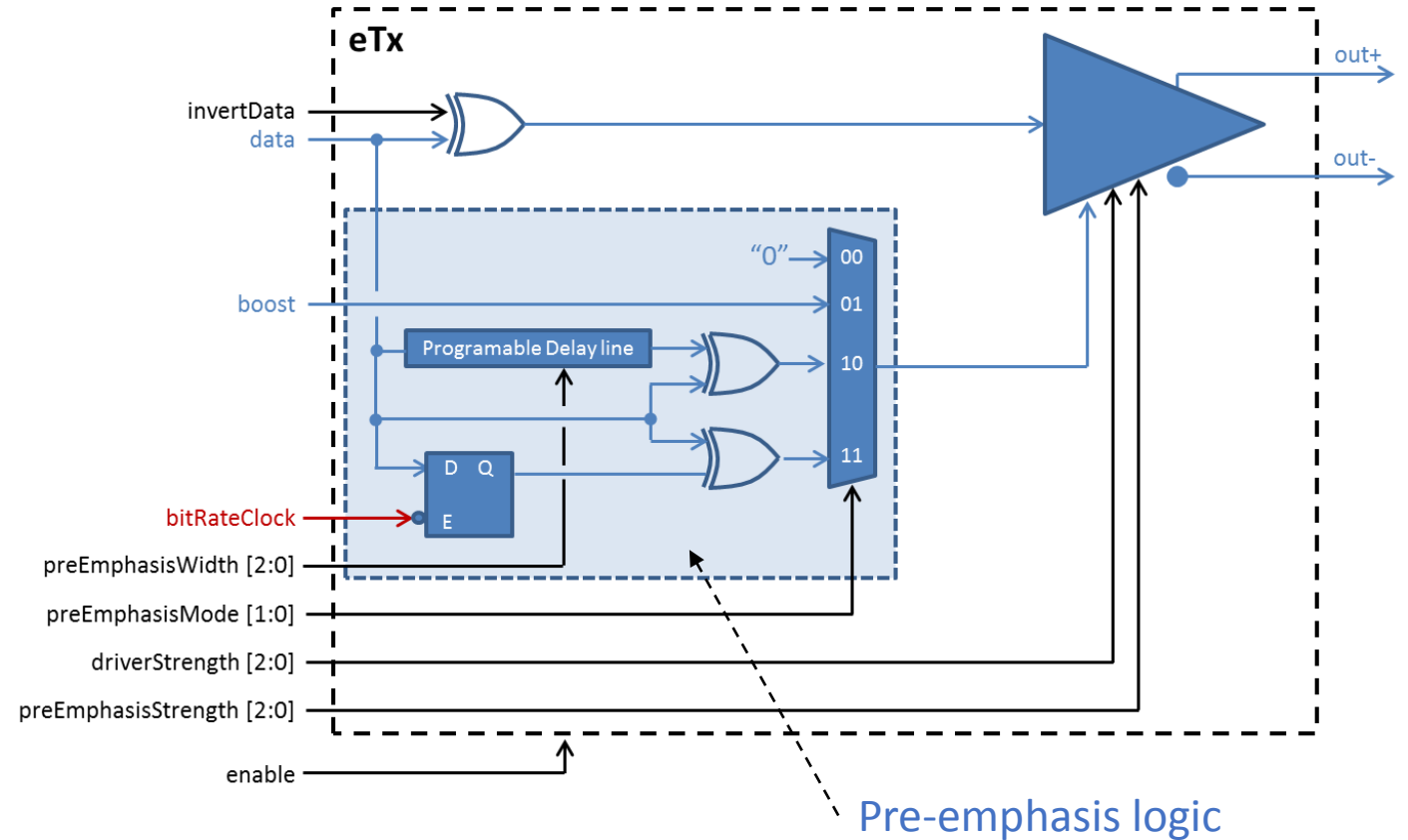
- To help implementing broadcast of data to the frontends, a “mirror” function is implemented for the Tx eLinks:
 - Call it “buffering” if you prefer!
- Since the number of active Tx eLinks depends on the selected data rate, “unused” transmitters can be used to “repeat” the data of the active channels
- This called “mirror” function
- The possibilities are:
 - 80 Mbps:
 - No mirroring
 - 160 Mbps:
 - Each channel is [can be] available on 2 outputs
 - 320 Mbps:
 - Each channel is [can be] available on 4 outputs

eLink Line Transmitter (eTx)



eLink Driver

- Data rate:
 - Up to 1.28 Gbps
- Clock frequency:
 - Up to 1.28 GHz
- Driving current:
 - Programmable: 1 to 4 mA in 0.5 mA steps
- Receiving end termination:
 - 100 Ω
- Voltage amplitude in 100 Ω :
 - 100 mV to 400 mV (SE PP amplitude)
 - 200 mV to 800 mV (DIFF PP amplitude)
- Common mode voltage:
 - 600 mV
- Selectable polarity
- Pre-emphasis:
 - Driving current: 1 to 4 mA in 0.5 mA steps
 - Pulse width:
 - Externally timed
 - Self timed: 120 ps to 960 ps in steps of 120 ps
 - Clock timed: $T_{\text{bit}} / 2$



Macro cell, available for front-end designers (upon request)

eTx Functionality

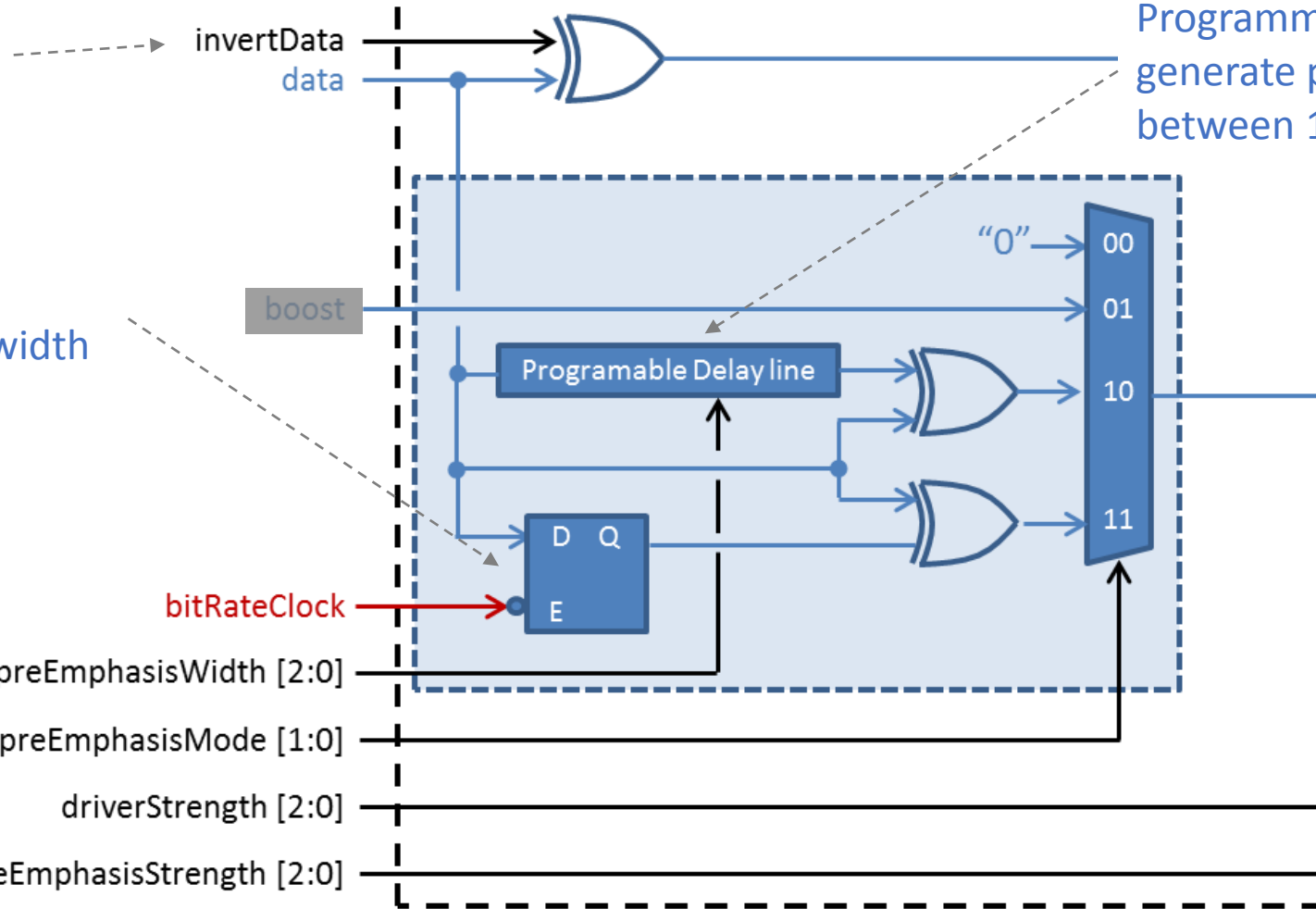
Controls the polarity of the driver

Half bit period pre-emphasis pulse width

Pre-emphasis self-timed pulse width selectable

Pre-emphasis mode selectable

Pre-emphasis amplitude programmable



Programmable delay line allows to generate pre-emphasis pulse widths between 120 and 960 ps

Pre-emphasis pulse

eTx – Pre-Emphasis

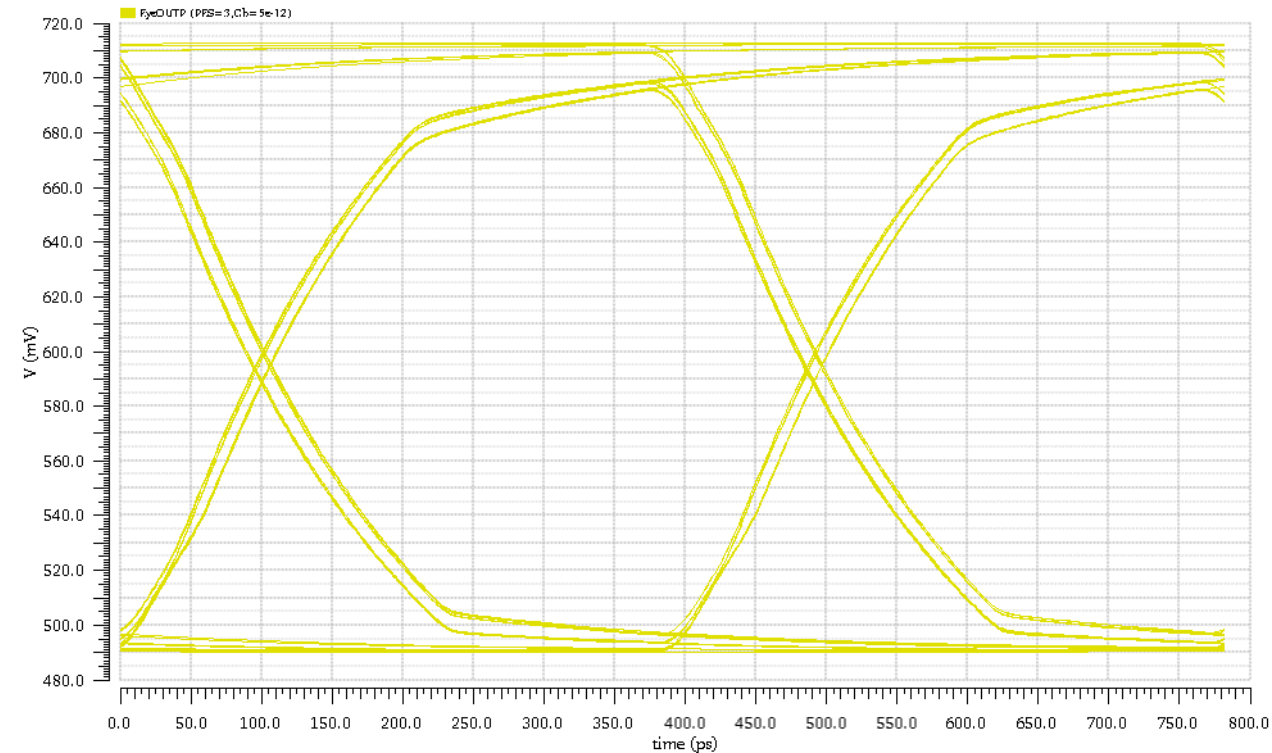
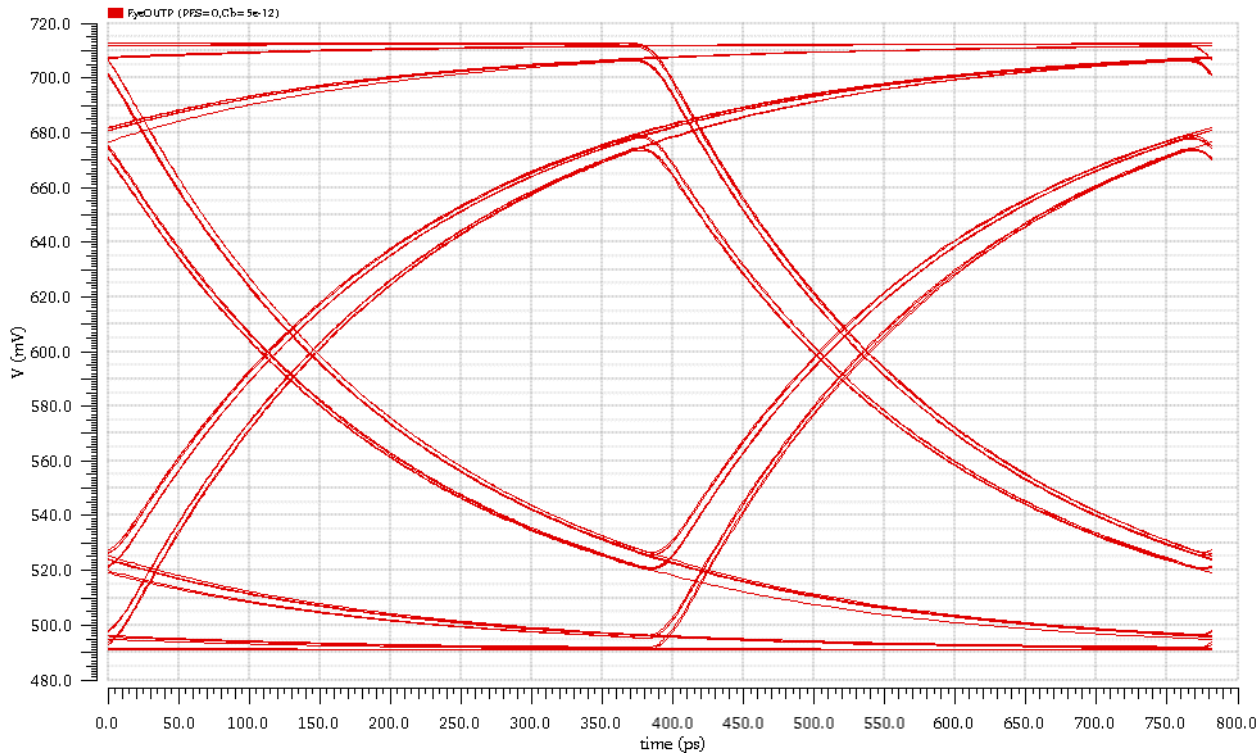
No Pre-Emphasis

Driver Strength = 2 mA
Pre-Emphasis Strength = 0 mA
Pulse width = n.a.

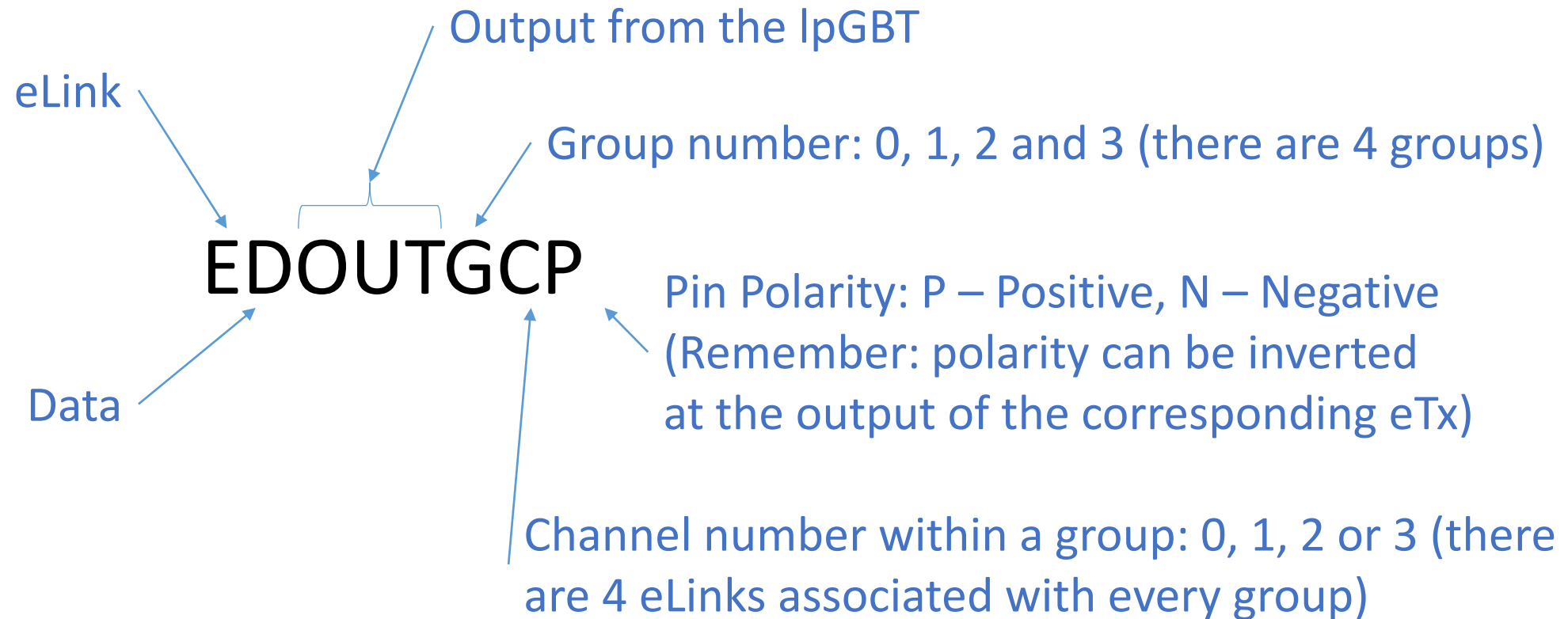
Data: PRBS 7
Data rate: 2.56 Gb/s
 $C_L = 2 \times 5 \text{ pF}$

With Pre-Emphasis

Driver Strength = 2 mA
Pre-Emphasis Strength = 2 mA
Pulse width = T/2

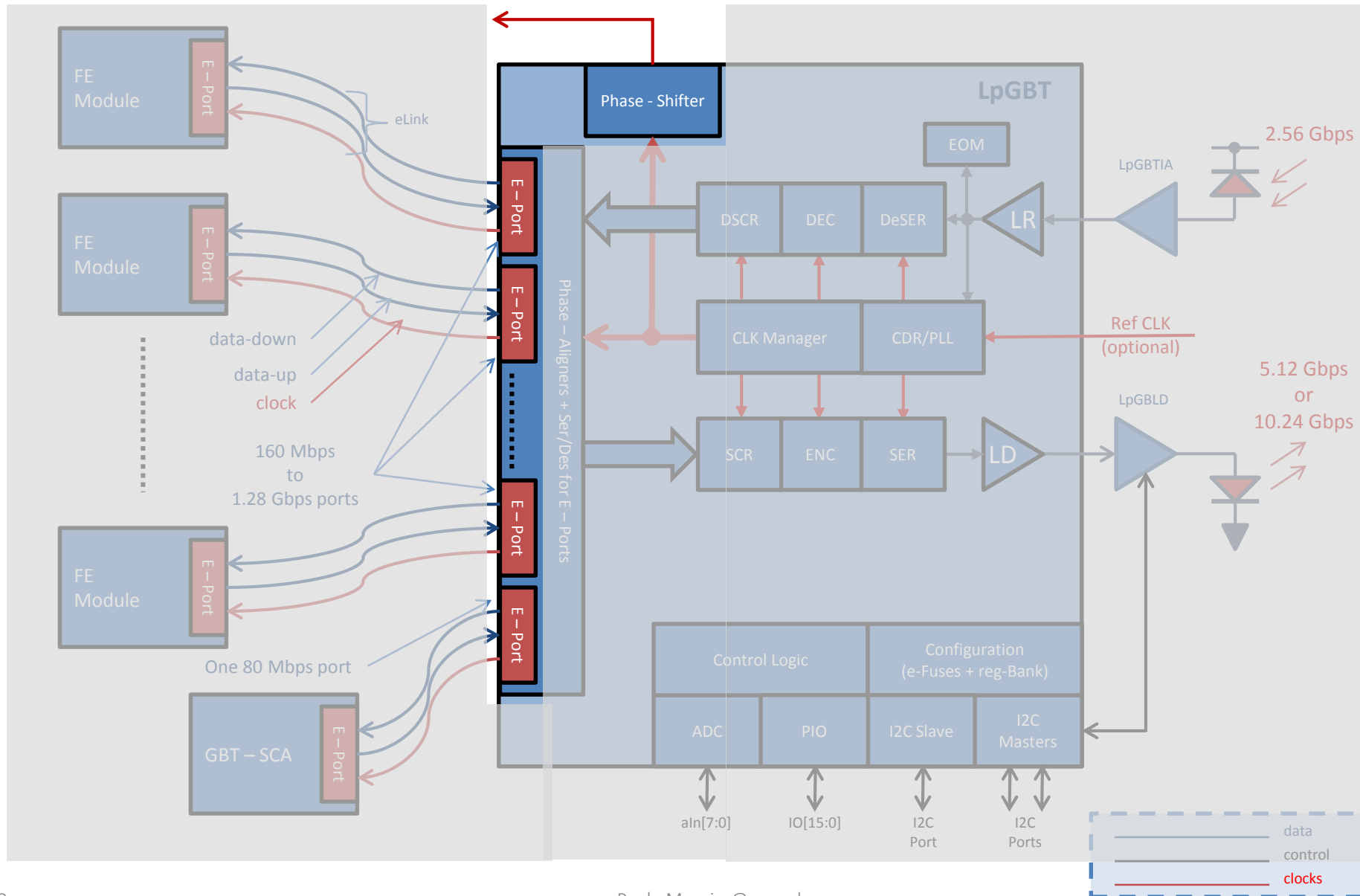


Note about eLink Output Pin Names



Example: EDOUT32N – eLink data output group 3 channel 2 negative polarity pin

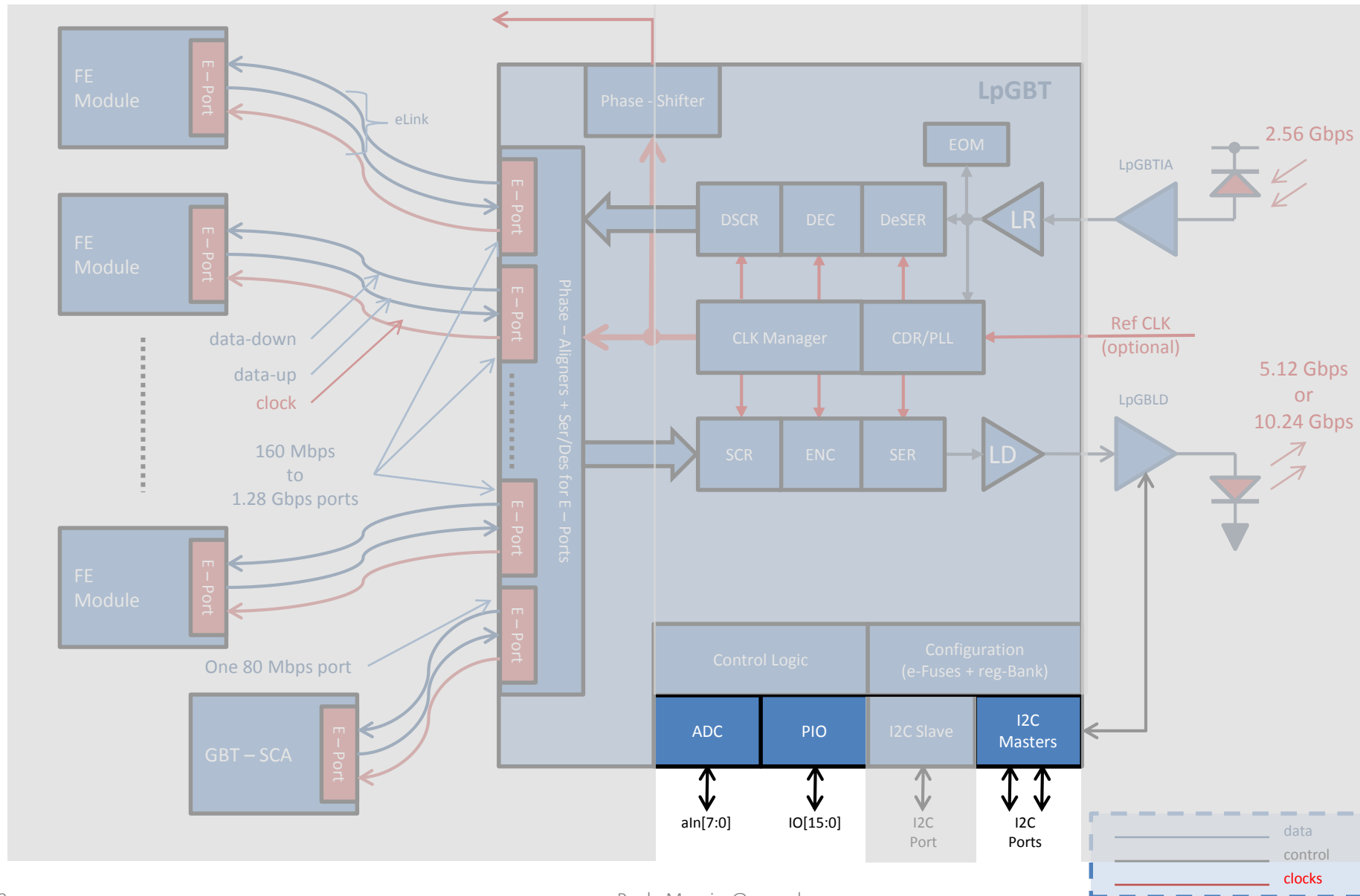
eLink Clocks



eLink Clocks

- Same drivers as for the Tx data eLinks, thus:
 - Programmable: polarity, driving strength and pre-emphasis
- 4 programmable Phase/Frequency clocks:
 - 4 independent
 - Phase resolution: 50 ps
 - Frequencies: 40 / 80 / 160 / 320 / 640 / 1280 MHz
- eLink Clocks:
 - 28 independent
 - Fixed phase
 - Frequency programmable
 - Frequencies: 40 / 80 / 160 / 320 / 640 / 1280 MHz

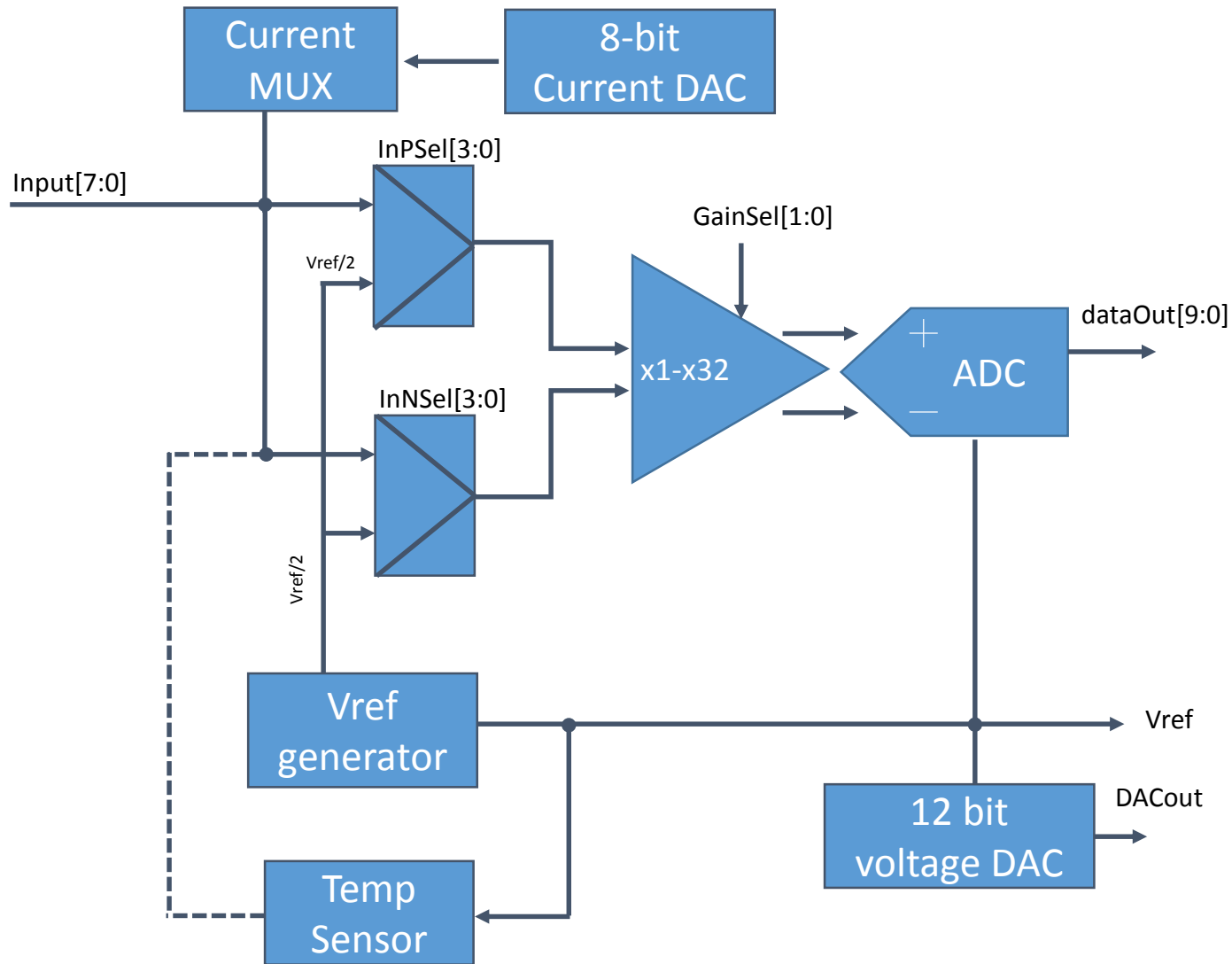
Experiment Control and Environment Monitoring



Digital

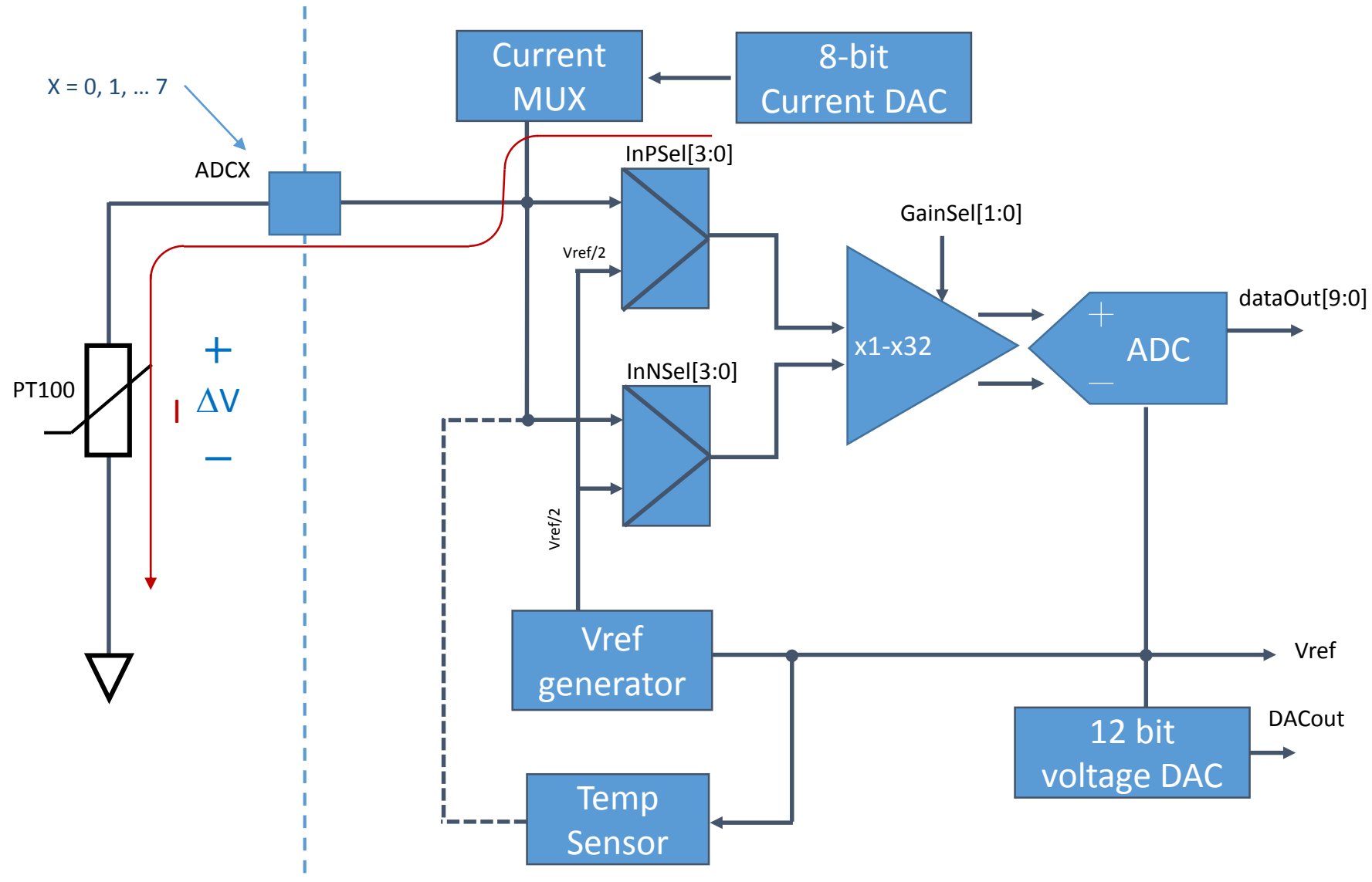
- Three I2C Masters:
 - Three general purpose masters
 - But one typically dedicated to control the laser driver (LDQ10)
 - Transfer rates: 100 KHz, 200 KHz, 400 KHz, 1 MHz
 - 7-bit and 10-bit addressing standards
 - Single-byte and multi-byte I2C read/write bus operations
 - Masters themselves controlled by:
 - The I2C slave port (always possible)
 - The IC – channel (only possible in transceiver mode)
 - The EC – port (Only possible in Simplex RX or TX mode)
- General Purpose I/O
 - 16-bit I/O port
 - Optional internal pull-up / pull-down resistors
 - Controlled by the same means as the I2C masters
- Output reset pin
 - Active low
 - Programmable pulse duration

Analogue Peripherals



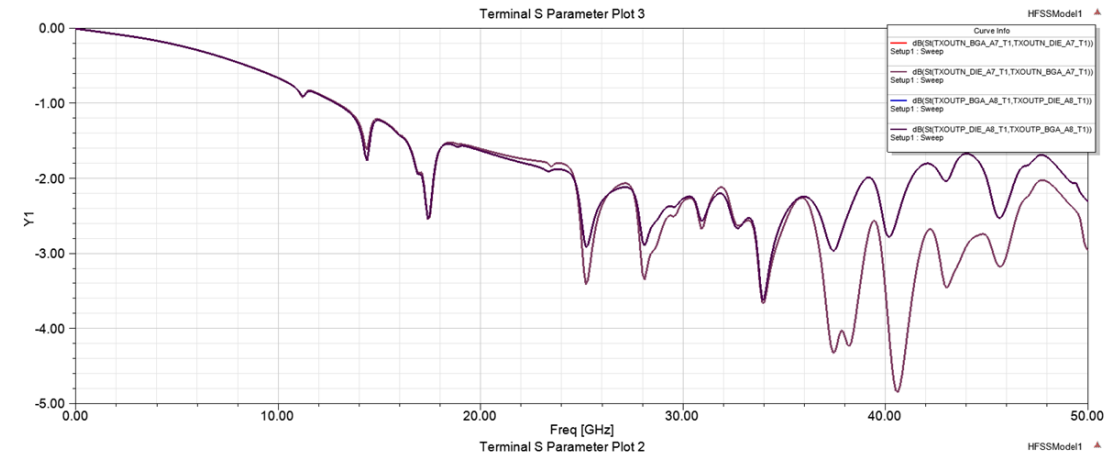
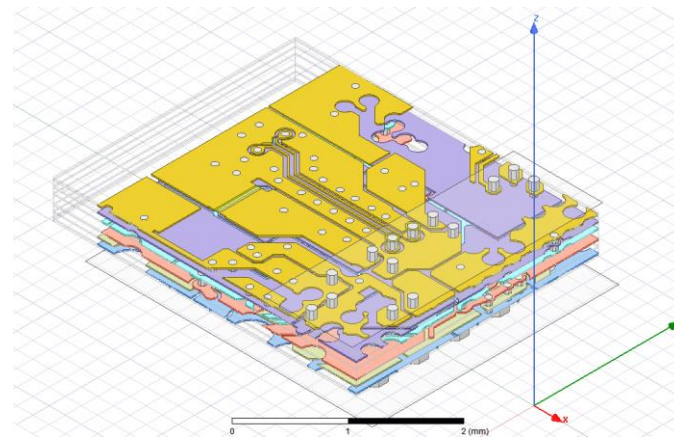
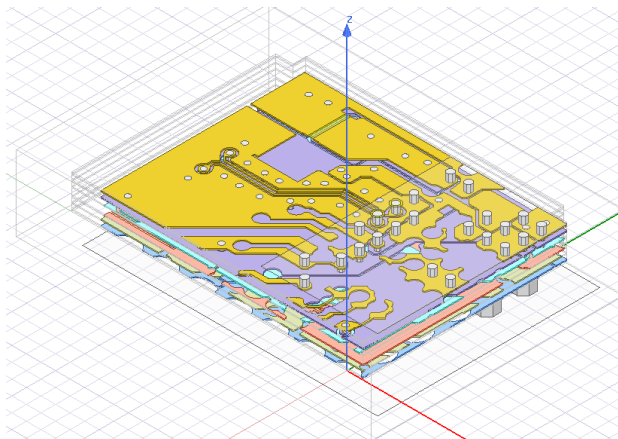
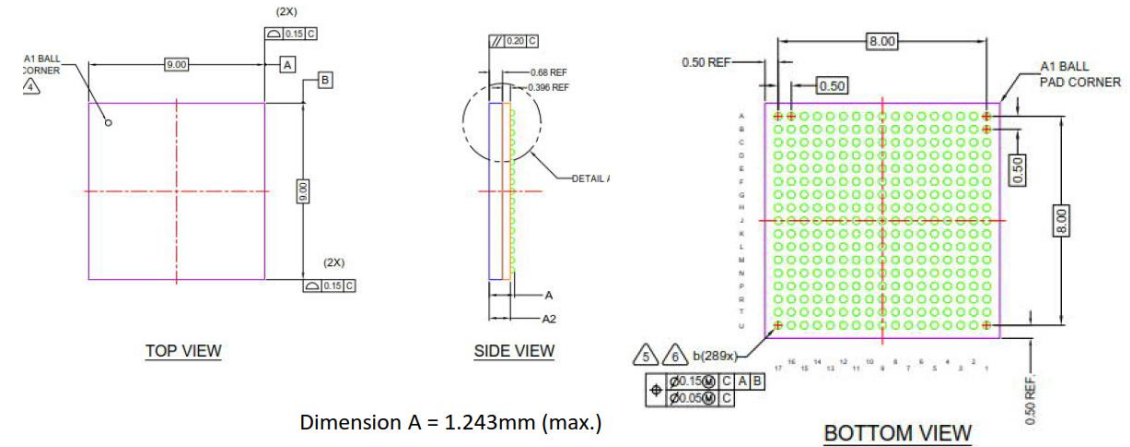
- 10 bit ADC
 - Core: fully differential SAR
 - 8 channels (single ended or differential)
 - Voltage amplifier (x1 .. x32)
 - Sampling rate up to ~ 1MSps (limited by the control channel)
 - Monitoring of internal signals (like VDD)
- 12 bit voltage DAC
- 8 bit current DAC
 - can be attached to any analog input
 - range: 0-1mA (8bit)
- Temperature sensor

Example: Using an External Temperature Sensor



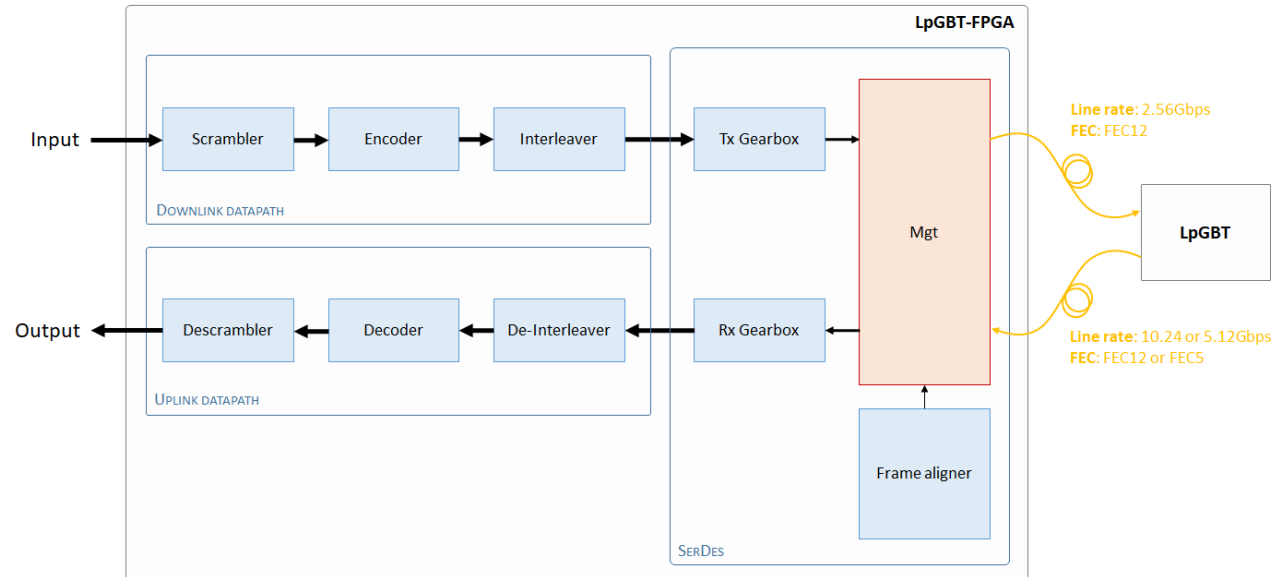
Package

- Small Footprint BGA package:
 - Size: 9 mm x 9 mm x 1.25 mm
 - Fine Pitch: 0.5 mm
 - Pin count: 289 (17 x 17)
- Routing of high speed signals optimized and simulated
 - Very small loss @ 10GHz
 - Models used for line driver simulations



IpGBT FPGA

- The IpGBT-FPGA provides a back-end counterpart to the IpGBT ASIC
- Warning:
 - “Strategy” departures from that used for the GBT-FPGA
 - Not a single generic “block”;
 - But a set:
 - Of modules;
 - Of implementation examples;
 - Of reference notes.
 - To help the user designing its own system!



IpGBT Simulation Model

- The IpGBT model (will be) available to the users:
 - To simplify the design and verification of front-end (ASIC) and back-end (FPGA) systems
- Contains all essential features related to the data transition and slow control interfaces:
 - Some of the chip's analogue features are not modelled:
 - e.g.: pre-emphasis, equalization, analogue I/O (ADC,DAC), pull up/down resistors;
- “Distributed” as one System Verilog file, compatible with:
 - Cadence Incisive
 - Mentor Questa
 - Synopsys VCS

“Additional” Slides

Using the eRx(s)

Equalization:

- Should only be used if needed (low bandwidth transmission line)
- Only effective for the high bit rates
- Equalization has (only) three coarse settings
- User must choose the most appropriate!
- This requires a verification / scanning procedure from the user:
 - a) Ideally the front-end designer implements a PRBS7 that the lpGBT can automatically verify;
 - b) The user verifies the transmitted data at the counting room;
 - c) A detailed scan procedure will also be proposed by the lpGBT team...

eRx Check list:

- Turn ON the receivers corresponding to the eLinks in use.
 - Obviously the others should be OFF
- Choose the polarity (non-invert / invert)
- Turn on the termination:
 - Most likely the case (unless the chip in a multiple drop configuration – unlikely, or AC coupling to be optimized)
- Enable the internal bias, if using AC coupling
- Choose the appropriate equalization setting

Using the Line Driver

The user must:

- Enable the line driver for Transceiver and Simplex Transmitter modes;
- Enable the pre-emphasis if needed;
- Set the amplitude of the:
 - Modulation current;
 - Pre-emphasis current.
- Set the pre-emphasis pulse duration;
- It is possible to invert HS output polarity to simplify the PCB design:
 - The inversion is done @40M (before the Serializer) at the frame level.