



Edition 1.0 2022-09

TECHNICAL REPORT



Optical amplifiers – Part 12: Fibre amplifiers for space division multiplexing transmission

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

ICS 33.180.30, 33.180.10

ISBN 978-2-8322-5755-5

Warning! Make sure that you obtained this publication from an authorized distributor.

CONTENTS

FC	REWC	PRD	4		
IN	NTRODUCTION				
1	Scop	e	7		
2	Norn	native references	7		
3		ns, definitions, and abbreviated terms			
-	3.1	Terms and definitions			
	3.2	Abbreviated terms			
4	-	sification of SDM OFAs			
5		-core OFA technology			
Ũ	5.1	Outline of multi-core EDFAs			
	5.2	State-of-the-art multi-core EDFA development technology			
	5.2.1				
	5.2.2				
	5.2.3				
	5.3	State-of-the-art remotely pumped MC-EDFA and MC-FRA technologies			
	5.4	Specific features and measurements			
6	Few-	mode OFA technology	21		
	6.1	Outline of few-mode EDFA	21		
	6.2	State-of-the-art few-mode EDFA development technology	22		
	6.2.1	Few-LP mode EDFA	22		
	6.2.2	OAM mode EDFA and Coupled-core mode EDFA	25		
	6.3	State-of-the-art FM-FRA development technology	26		
	6.4	Specific feature and measurement	27		
7	Com	bined MC and FM-OFA technology	28		
Bi	oliograp	bhy	30		
Fig	gure 1 -	- Classification of SDM OFAs	10		
Fig	gure 2 -	- Concept of an MC-EDFA	11		
Fie	- gure 3 -	- Amplification media and pump methods for MC-EDFAs	11		
	-	- Configurations of core-pumped MC-EDFAs			
		- Configuration and amplification characteristics of a core-pumped MC-EDFA			
		re MC-EDF and conventional WDM couplers	14		
		- Configuration and amplification characteristics of a core-pumped MC-EDFA			
wi	th 19-c	ore MC-EDF and MC WDM coupler	15		
Fi	gure 7 -	- Configuration of a cladding-pumped MC-EDFA	16		
Fig	gure 8 -	- Pump light combiner	17		
Fie	- aure 9 -	- Configuration and amplification characteristics of an EDFA with 32-core			
		pumped MC-EDF	17		
Fig	gure 10	- Configuration of core and cladding hybrid-pumped MC-EDFA	18		
Fig	gure 11	 Configuration and performance of remotely pumped MC-EDFA and 			
			19		
Fi	gure 12	- Multi-core EDFA evaluation setup for basic optical characteristics	20		
Fig	Figure 13 – XT evaluation methods with different wavelengths				
Fig	gure 14	 Image of each mode propagating through the core 	22		
	-	– Configuration of an FM-EDFA			
•	-	~			

Figure 16 – Example of gain and NF of a 2-LP FM-EDFA (large core, step core index and step erbium doping profile structured as in a conventional EDF)	23
Figure 17 – Configuration and amplification characteristics of a 2-LP mode EDFA prototype consisting of a ring-core FM-EDF, FM WDM coupler, and two FM isolators	24
Figure 18 – Configuration and amplification characteristics of a 3-mode EDFA prototype using 2-LP signal modes employing a ring-core FM-EDF	25
Figure 19 – Configuration and amplification characteristics of a 2-OAM mode EDFA	26
Figure 20 – 2-LP-mode FM-FRA experiment	27
Figure 21 – FM-EDFA evaluation setup for basic optical characteristics	28
Figure 22 – MC-EDFA with FM cores	29

- 4 -

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

OPTICAL AMPLIFIERS –

Part 12: Fibre amplifiers for space division multiplexing transmission

FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
- The formal decisions or agreements of IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested IEC National Committees.
- 3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
- 4) In order to promote international uniformity, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC Publications transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional publications. Any divergence between any IEC Publication and the corresponding national or regional publication shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) IEC itself does not provide any attestation of conformity. Independent certification bodies provide conformity assessment services and, in some areas, access to IEC marks of conformity. IEC is not responsible for any services carried out by independent certification bodies.
- 6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
- 7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
- 8) Attention is drawn to the Normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
- 9) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this IEC Publication may be the subject of patent rights. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

IEC TR 61292-12 has been prepared by subcommittee 86C: Fibre optic systems and active devices, of IEC technical committee 86: Fibre optics. It is a Technical Report.

External document OITDA/TP 33/AM [1] ¹has served as a basis for the elaboration of this document.

¹ Numbers in square brackets refer to the Bibliography.

The text of this Technical Report is based on the following documents:

Draft	Report on voting
86C/1807/DTR	86C/1819/RVDTR

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this Technical Report is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications.

A list of all parts in the IEC 61292 series, published under the general title *Optical amplifiers*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under webstore.iec.ch in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

IMPORTANT – The "colour inside" logo on the cover page of this document indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this document using a colour printer.

INTRODUCTION

Optical amplifiers (OAs) are essential components for designing long-haul optical transmission systems, for which many standards have been published. Recently, research has been conducted to develop higher data rate fibre optic transmission systems using space division multiplexing (SDM) with multi-core and few-mode optical fibres. A development effort is also underway to fabricate optical fibre amplifiers (OFAs) for SDM, which are necessary for extending the transmission distance. The OFAs varieties include multi-core optical fibre amplifiers, few-mode optical fibre amplifiers, and multi-core and few-mode optical fibre amplifiers. This document provides a better understanding of OFAs for SDM fibre transmission systems.

NOTE Few-mode fibres are special types of multimode fibres.

OPTICAL AMPLIFIERS –

Part 12: Fibre amplifiers for space division multiplexing transmission

1 Scope

This part of IEC 61292, which is a Technical Report, provides general information on optical fibre amplifiers for space division multiplexed transmission systems using multi-core, few-mode, and multi-core and few-mode optical fibres. This document describes the classification, concepts, configurations, and implementations of these amplifiers as well as state-of-the-art development technologies, specific features and measurement methods.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60050-731, International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Part 731: Optical fibre communication

IEC 61291-1, Optical amplifiers – Part 1: Generic specification

IEC TR 61931, Fibre optic – Terminology