



# Optical Communications Terminal (OCT) Standard Version 3.1.0

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## Summary of Changes

3.0.1 Section	3.1.0 Section	3.0.1 Req.Num.	3.1.0 Req. Num.	3.0.1 Text	3.1.0 Text	Change Notes
1.3	1.1	OCT-008	<b>Requirement OCT-001</b>	OCT Standard Compliant Systems shall implement all normative and enumerated requirements in this document. Enumerated requirements are assigned an ID and explicitly stated in this Standard in the following format: Requirement OCT-<NNN>: <Requirement Description> Requirements for the OCT System that are not specified in this OCT Standard shall be derived for the specific implementation. This shall include those requirements levied on and by the host (e.g., the spacecraft bus).	OCT Standard Compliant Systems shall implement all normative and enumerated requirements in this document. Requirements for the OCT System that are not specified in this OCT Standard shall be derived for the specific implementation. Derivation shall include those requirements levied on and by the host (e.g., the spacecraft bus).	Moved definition of requirement naming convention to precede the requirements themselves. Explicitly refer to derivation instead of ambiguous 'this'
1.1.1	1.2.1	OCT-001	<b>Requirement OCT-003</b>	OCT Standard v3.0.1-compliant systems shall be interoperable with other OCT Standard v3.0.1-compliant systems.	OCT Standard v3.1.0-compliant systems shall be interoperable with other OCT Standard 3.*.*-compliant systems, with version compliance as described in Requirement OCT-006.	Generalized the version number referenced. Cross-reference to OCT-006 added(formerly OCT-004.)
1.2.1.1	1.3.1.1	OCT-005	<b>Requirement OCT-007</b>	OCT Standard Compliant systems shall not assume access to real-time side-channels for communications and coordination of the PAT process.	OCT Standard Compliant systems shall perform the PAT process without access to real-time side-channels for communications and coordination.	Clarified wording.
2.1.6	2.1.6	OCT-016	<b>Requirement OCT-016</b>	The OCT shall achieve a PAT Acquisition Time of $\leq 100$ seconds for a Cold Start.	The OCT shall achieve a PAT Acquisition Time of $\leq 100$ seconds for both Cold Starts and Warm Starts.	Added warm starts to also be constrained by this requirement.
2.4	2.4	OCT-024	<b>Requirement OCT-024</b>	The OCT receiver shall accommodate signals from transmitters within this channel scheme.	The OCT receiver shall provide the capability to transmit communications and PAT signals from transmitters within this channel scheme.	Defined what is meant by 'accommodate'

2.7	2.7	OCT-027	<b>Requirement OCT-028</b>	The OCT's receiver shall accommodate random, time-varying polarization state.	The OCT receiver shall accommodate any and all received polarization states at the plane of the receive aperture. Note on Requirement OCT-028: The OCT receiver must accomplish all requirements of this OCT Standard regardless of the polarization of the received signal. This OCT Standard does not restrict the polarization of the transmit signal and therefore each receiver must be able to accept any received polarization to enable interoperability.	Clarification on intent and explicit measurement location.
#N/A	2.8.1	#N/A	<b>Requirement OCT-037</b>	#N/A	The OCT shall limit the maximum irradiance delivered at the plane of the remote receive aperture to no more than 10 mW/m <sup>2</sup> at any established link distance.	New requirement.
2.8.1	2.8.1	OCT-037	<b>Requirement OCT-038</b>	The OCT shall be capable of producing an irradiance at the plane of a remote receive aperture at a range of 5,500 km of between 0 (zero) and no less than 25 $\mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ . The required irradiance value specified herein shall mean the mean signal crossing the plane of the aperture at range when considering all flight-like affects such as platform jitter.	The OCT shall be capable of producing an irradiance at the plane of a remote receive aperture greater than or equal to 25 $\mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ at a range of 5,500 km of. The required irradiance value specified herein is defined as the mean signal crossing the plane of the aperture at range when considering all flight-like affects such as platform jitter.	Clarified wording.
#N/A	2.8.1	#N/A	<b>Requirement OCT-039</b>	#N/A	The OCT receiver shall be capable of achieving a post-FEC BER $\leq 10^{-6}$ with an irradiance at the plane of the receive aperture of 25 $\mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ (as defined by <b>Requirement OCT-038</b> ) at all required data rates.	New requirement.
2.8.3	2.8.3	OCT-046	<b>Requirement OCT-048</b>	Throughout the nominal DITL background environment, the receiver shall achieve sufficient SNR to operate at all modes defined in Table 3 2 when that remote transmitter is commanded to an appropriate transmission power within the range stated in OCT-036.	Throughout the nominal DITL background environment, the receiver shall achieve sufficient SNR to operate at all modes defined in Table 3-2 when that remote transmitter is commanded to a transmission power within the range stated in <b>Requirement OCT-036</b> .	Removed redundant wording.

3.4.6.2.1	3.4.6.2.1	OCT-065, 66, 67, 69, 70	<b>Requirement OCT-067, 68, 71, 72</b>	...record... and ...report...	...collect... and ...provide...	Swapped wording to avoid negative technical connotations.
#N/A	3.4.7.2.2	#N/A	<b>Requirement OCT-077</b>	#N/A	The EPHEM_PVTR_DATA structure and the associated data fields described in Table 3-18 shall be updated with valid data from the host at a frequency no less than PVTR_REPORT_FREQUENCY, where PVTR_REPORT_FREQUENCY is between 0 and TS_REPORT_FREQUENCY.	New requirement.
3.4.9	3.4.9	Table 3-27	Table 3-27	Expansion of supported data rates to include lower bandwidth rates.		

# Table of Contents

APPROVAL ROUTING .....	ii
Revision History.....	iii
Summary of Changes .....	iv
1 Introduction .....	1
1.1 Requirements.....	1
1.2 Compliance with the OCT Standard .....	1
1.2.1 Interoperability of OCT Standard Systems.....	1
1.2.2 Errata, Bug Reports, Clarifications, and Modification Requests.....	2
1.2.3 Version Control.....	2
1.3 Elements of the OCT Standard.....	2
1.3.1 Overview of Layer 1: Physical Layer .....	3
1.3.2 Overview of Layer 2: Synchronization and Coding.....	4
1.4 Definitions.....	4
1.5 Table of Acronyms.....	5
2 Layer 1 - Physical Layer.....	8
2.1 Pointing, Acquisition, and Tracking (PAT).....	8
2.1.1 PAT Introduction .....	8
2.1.2 Example Spiral Scan .....	9
2.1.3 Interoperable Pointing, Acquisition, and Tracking.....	10
2.1.4 Acquisition Scheme .....	16
2.1.5 Amplitude Modulation of Signals.....	17
2.1.6 PAT Acquisition Time .....	18
2.2 Modulation .....	19
2.3 Latency.....	19
2.4 Spectral Grid Definition.....	20
2.5 Transmit and Receive Wavelength.....	20
2.6 Channel Selection.....	20
2.7 Polarization.....	21
2.8 Transmitted Signal and Receiver Interoperability.....	21
2.8.1 Signal Power .....	21
2.8.2 Transmitted Power Safety Limit .....	22
2.8.3 Background Noise Signal.....	23

2.8.4	Transmitted Signal Properties .....	23
3	Layer 2 - Synchronization and Channel Coding Layer.....	24
3.1	SDA OCT Standard 3 Protocol Classes .....	24
3.2	Re-Programming .....	24
3.3	Optical Signal Rates: Baud Rates and Encoding .....	24
3.4	Framing, Coding, and Encapsulation .....	25
3.4.1	Frame Structure.....	25
3.4.2	Preamble Sequence .....	25
3.4.3	Header .....	25
3.4.4	Payload.....	26
3.4.5	Error Control Coding .....	27
3.4.6	Frame Header .....	30
3.4.7	Special Frames .....	39
3.4.8	Ethernet Encapsulation .....	46
3.4.9	Effective Data Rate .....	51
3.4.10	LDPC Code Rates .....	53
4	References .....	54

# 1 Introduction

This document provides the interoperability specifications for optical communications systems employed by the Space Development Agency (SDA) and its partners. The scope of optical communication links supported includes space-to-space (S2S, a.k.a. Optical Intersatellite Links or OISLs), space-to-air (S2A), space-to-maritime (S2M), and space-to-ground (S2G) free-space optical communications (FSOC).

The SDA OISL Standard [1] was first published in early 2020 [2] in preparation for the first iteration of the SDA spiral development process: Tranche 0 (T0). T0 added sufficient detail to the initial OISL Standard that multi-vendor interoperability could be demonstrated. Since early 2020, significant advancements have been made across the Optical Communications Terminal (OCT) market. These advancements have prompted the modification of the OISL Standard, and those modifications are captured in this document.

The OISL Standard has been renamed the Optical Communications Terminal (OCT) Standard due to its applicability to S2G, S2M, and S2A links in addition to S2S links. Combined, S2G, S2M, and S2A links are referred to as space-to-terrestrial (S2T) links.

This OCT Standard is intended to enable interoperability between optical communication terminals where at least one endpoint is a space-based terminal.

## 1.1 Requirements

Requirements in this document take two forms:

1. Normative text stating ‘**shall**’ or ‘**must**’ which **indicates a binding and verifiable specification**.
2. Enumerated requirements, which will typically include normative text. These are specifically labeled for reference. Enumerated requirements are assigned an ID and explicitly stated in this Standard in the following format:

**Requirement OCT- $\langle$ NNN $\rangle$ :  $\langle$ Requirement Description $\rangle$**

**Requirement OCT-001:** OCT Standard Compliant Systems shall implement all normative and enumerated requirements in this document.

Requirements for the OCT System that are not specified in this OCT Standard shall be derived for the specific implementation. Derivation shall include those requirements levied on and by the host (e.g., the spacecraft bus).

**Requirement OCT-002:** OCT Standard Compliant Systems shall implement derived requirements as needed to enable successful operations and to ensure interoperability.

**Note on Requirement OCT-002:** Space vehicle and OCT system vendors shall determine derived requirements through their individual systems engineering and design processes.

## 1.2 Compliance with the OCT Standard

### 1.2.1 Interoperability of OCT Standard Systems

Systems that are required to comply with this OCT Standard have, first and foremost, the requirement to be interoperable with other OCT Standard compliant free-space optical communication (FSOC) systems.

**Requirement OCT-003:** OCT Standard v3.1.0-compliant systems shall be interoperable with other OCT Standard 3.\*.\*-compliant systems, with version compliance as described in **Requirement OCT-006**.

### 1.2.2 Errata, Bug Reports, Clarifications, and Modification Requests

**Requirement OCT-004:** Notes, bug reports, requests for clarification, errata, and requests for modifications to this OCT Standard shall be submitted to:

*Space Development Agency / Transport Cell / Optical Communications*

Contact information may be found on the cover page of this document.

### 1.2.3 Version Control

**Requirement OCT-005:** OCT Standard-compliant systems shall document the list of OCT Standard versions and modes with which they are compliant.

**Requirement OCT-006:** OCT Standard Compliance shall be reported as “Compliant with SDA OCT Standard <Version>”. The version number shall be expressed in the following format:

**<Version> = <Major Release Number>.<Minor Release Number>.<Patch Number>**

The components of the version number are defined as follows:

- Patch Number
  - Patches correct errata, address bug reports, and provide clarifications or corrections.
- Minor Release Number
  - Minor Releases add functionality, protocols, or provide significant modifications while enabling existing components to remain compatible within a Major Release
- Major Release Number
  - Major Releases change significant functionality. OCT Systems compliant with a Major Release shall be interoperable with OCT Systems compliant with the same Major Release. Compatibility between different Major Releases is not guaranteed.

Compliance with this version of the OCT Standard is documented as “Compliant with SDA OCT Standard 3.1.0”.

## 1.3 Elements of the OCT Standard

This document provides descriptions of two Open System Interconnection (OSI) Model [3] layers:

- OSI Layer 1: Physical Layer
- OSI Layer 2: Synchronization and Channel Coding Layers (the “lower” portion of OSI Layer 2 as defined by CCSDS in [4])

This document’s scope includes the OCT-to-OCT (O2) interface. Requirements on external systems (e.g., derived requirements such as pointing stability, power, network interfaces, etc.) are driven by requirements within this OCT Standard.

The term *OCT Standard Compliant* denotes an OCT System that fully implements the O2 interface **and** those requirements (directly stated, derived, implied, or otherwise) on the external systems. OCT Standard Compliant OCT Systems are interoperable with other systems within the same Major Version.

This OCT Standard explicitly **does not specify** the following:

- Interfaces to the spacecraft bus
- Telemetry, Tracking and Control (TT&C) System
- Network interface(s)

**Note:** The above list of items not specified by the OCT Standard is not exclusive.

### 1.3.1 Overview of Layer 1: Physical Layer

The Physical Layer (Layer 1) is the lowest layer in the OSI model. For the case of the OCT, the Physical Layer must define both the communications and spatial acquisition channels (referred to as pointing, acquisition, and tracking (PAT)). Section 2 defines the Physical Layer through definition of the laser parameters (e.g., wavelength, channel spacing, and spectral width) and the modulation parameters (e.g., On-Off Keying Non-Return-to-Zero (OOK-NRZ)). This section includes specifications of the user data rate, which, due to overhead from higher layers (e.g., from frame headers, error correction, etc.), is less than the user line rate.

#### 1.3.1.1 Overview of PAT

Unlike optical fiber, which provides a guided transmission medium between modems, free-space optical communications (FSOC) terminals must be spatially co-aligned. This requires the systems to accurately locate the remote terminal at range and point at the remote terminal with an accuracy sufficient to capture its signal.

Spatial acquisition is accomplished through the PAT process, which must be coordinated temporally.

**Requirement OCT-007:** OCT Standard Compliant systems shall perform the PAT process without access to real-time side-channels for communications and coordination.

This acquisition process must be synchronous. Real-time O2 communications do not occur prior to stand-up of the communications channel. This requires that the acquisition processes on the pair of terminals be both well-choreographed and synchronized to a common clock.

**Requirement OCT-008:** OCTs shall have a real-time clock synchronized to absolute time (the OCT Clock).

**Note:** The OCT Clock's accuracy, stability, method of synchronization, and other pertinent clock requirements shall be derived for the specific OCT system implementation.

This choreography is governed by the state machine and its associated parameters.

**Requirement OCT-009:** OCTs shall provide the capability to reference real-time events (e.g., timers, delays, triggers, events, etc.) to the OCT Clock.

Systems in motion, such as the OCTs used on spacecraft and aircraft, must each track their remote counterpart to maintain alignment. This motion includes the general flight path of the host platform as well as the jitter imparted by the platform. OCTs, whose receivers typically have relatively small fields-of-view (FOV), must compensate for this lower-rate motion and higher-rate jitter. This may be accomplished through a closed loop tracking system which uses the remote signal as the measurement reference. Corrections are typically fed to a course-tracking apparatus (e.g., a gimbal) to correct the lower-rate motion and a fast-tracking apparatus (e.g., a Fast-Steering Mirror (FSM)) to correct the higher-rate jitter.

**Note:** This notional course and fine tracking architecture is one potential option and shall not be assumed as a requirement for compliance with the OCT Standard.

### 1.3.2 Overview of Layer 2: Synchronization and Coding

The Synchronization and Channel Coding layer, which corresponds to the “lower” part of the OSI Model’s Layer 2 (see [3]), defines the tools necessary to permit error-corrected transmission (e.g., Forward Error Correction (FEC), scrambling, and line codes) as well as the structure of the data (e.g., framing).

## 1.4 Definitions

Term	Definition
<b>Amplitude Modulation (AM)</b>	Amplitude modulation (AM) is a modulation technique used in electronic communication. In amplitude modulation, the amplitude (signal strength) of the carrier wave is varied in proportion to that of the message signal.
<b>Baud Rate</b>	The number of channel symbols per second.
<b>Baud Time</b>	Baud time is defined as the signaling time required to transmit a single coded frame bit and includes all sources of overhead including line code, preamble, header, cyclic redundancy checks (CRCs) and forward error correction (FEC).
<b>Bit Numbering Convention</b>	The convention used to identify each bit in an N-bit field will conform to Section 3.4.
<b>Bitrate</b>	The number of bits conveyed per unit of time. Default unit of time: seconds.
<b>Channel Capacity</b>	The theoretical upper bound for the maximum net bitrate, exclusive of forward error correction coding, that is possible without bit errors for a certain physical analog node-to-node communication link. <i>Channel capacity</i> may also be referred to as the “Shannon Capacity.” [4]
<b>Coded Bit-Error Rate</b>	The number of bit errors per unit time prior to applying Forward Error Correction.
<b>Data and Symbol Rates</b>	Data and symbol rates are expressed as bits-per-second (bps) and symbols-per-second (baud). Bps is defined as 1 bit/second. Similarly, baud is defined as 1 symbol/sec. SI-prefixes for these rates are expressed in base-10 and not in base-2. For example, 100 Mbps represents $100 \times 10^6$ bps or $10^8$ bps.
<b>Decoded Bit-Error Rate</b>	The number of bit errors per unit time after applying Forward Error Correction.
<b>Extinction Ratio</b>	Extinction ratio is the ratio of two optical power levels.
<b>Field of Regard (FOR)</b>	The field of regard is the total solid angle defined by the allowable motion of the sensor combined with the field of view. The FOR, by default, refers to the terminal’s FOR.
<b>Field of View (FOV)</b>	The field of view is the solid angle that represents the instantaneous viewing angular area of a sensor. The solid angle may be expressed in steradians or, equivalently, as a cone angle. FOVs for rectilinear sensors may be represented the rectangular cone angles. Circular cone angles may represent circular sensors, inscribed or circumscribed rectilinear sensors, circularly symmetric optical systems, etc. Descriptions must be specified for specific FOVs to communicate the solid angle and geometry being represented. See also HFOV and FFOV.
<b>Frame Error Rate</b>	The ratio of number of frames received in error after FEC to total number of transmitted frames.

Term	Definition
<b>Full Field of View (FFOV)</b>	The expression for FOV specified by the diameter (angular or spatial) of the FOV or the half-angle for a general cone.
<b>Half Field of View (HFOV)</b>	The expression for FOV specified by the radius (angular or spatial) of the FOV for a circular cone or the half-angle for a general cone.
<b>Irradiance</b>	Irradiance is the radiant flux through a surface per unit area. The SI unit for irradiance is the watt per square meter ( $W/m^2$ ).
<b>Line Code</b>	A pattern of voltage, current, or photons used to represent digital data transmitted down a transmission line. [4]
<b>Line Rate</b>	The gross bitrate of the physical layer of a communications channel. <i>Line Rate</i> may also be referred to as the “raw bitrate,” “data signaling rate,” “gross data transfer rate,” or “uncoded transmission rate.” [4]
<b>Modulation</b>	The process of varying one or more properties of a periodic waveform, called the carrier signal, with a separate signal called the modulation signal that typically contains information to be transmitted. [4]
<b>Modulation Index (MI)</b>	The ratio of the modulation excursions of a signal to the level of the unmodulated carrier.
<b>Packet Error Rate</b>	The ratio of number of Ethernet packets received in error to total number of transmitted Ethernet packets.
<b>Polarization Extinction Ratio (PER)</b>	The extinction ratio for orthogonal polarizations.
<b>Pseudo-Random Binary Sequence</b>	A pseudorandom binary sequence (PRBS) is a binary sequence that, while generated with a deterministic algorithm, is difficult to predict and exhibits statistical behavior like a truly random sequence.
<b>Radiance</b>	Radiance is the radiant flux transmitted, emitted, or received by a given surface per unit solid angle. The SI unit for radiance is the watt per square meter per ( $W/m^2$ /per steradian).
<b>Solid Angle</b>	The angles defining the sensor, including, FOV and FOR, shall be expressed as a solid angle, typically specified in steradians, square degrees, or square radians. Alternatively, and perhaps more commonly, the solid angle of the sensor may be expressed in degrees, which means, by default, the solid angle defined by equal apex angles of a pyramid’s intersection with a sphere, which defines a spherical cap on a unit sphere. This represents a square sensor’s projection onto a sphere. Deviations of this pyramidal definition are permitted, the most common being a conical approximation, however such deviations must be explicitly annotated.
<b>User Rate</b>	The net bitrate of the communications channel. This is exclusive of protocol overhead (e.g., FEC). User Rate may also be referred to as the “payload rate” or “effective data rate.” The <i>User Rate</i> is always less than or equal to the <i>Channel Capacity</i> . [4]

## 1.5 Table of Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
<b>ACK</b>	Acknowledgement
<b>AM</b>	Amplitude Modulation
<b>ANSI</b>	American National Standards Institute
<b>ARQ</b>	Automatic Repeat Request

Acronym	Meaning
<b>BER</b>	Bit-Error Rate
<b>CCSDS</b>	Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems
<b>CONOPS</b>	Concept of Operations
<b>CoM</b>	Center of Mass
<b>CRC-16</b>	Cyclic Redundancy Check with a 16-bit polynomial
<b>DCE</b>	Data Circuit-terminating Equipment
<b>DTE</b>	Data Terminal Equipment
<b>DWDM</b>	Dense WDM
<b>FCCH</b>	Fast Communications Channel
<b>FEC</b>	Forward Error Correction
<b>FFOV</b>	Full Field of View
<b>FOV</b>	Field of View
<b>FSOC</b>	Free-space Optical Communications
<b>GEP</b>	Ground Entry Point
<b>HDR</b>	High Data Rate
<b>HFOV</b>	Half Field of View
<b>ICD</b>	Interface Control Document
<b>IEEE</b>	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
<b>IFOV</b>	Instantaneous Field of View
<b>ITU</b>	International Telecommunication Union
<b>ITU-T</b>	ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector
<b>LDPC</b>	Low-density parity check
<b>LSB</b>	Least Significant Bit
<b>MI</b>	Modulation Index
<b>MGMT</b>	Management
<b>MSB</b>	Most Significant Bit
<b>NR</b>	New Radio
<b>NAK</b>	Negative Acknowledgement
<b>O2</b>	OCT-to-OCT
<b>OCT</b>	Optical Communications Terminal
<b>OGT</b>	Optical Ground Terminal
<b>OISL</b>	Optical Inter-satellite Link
<b>OOK</b>	On-Off Keying
<b>OOK-NRZ</b>	On-Off Keying Non-Return-to-Zero
<b>OPSCON</b>	Operations Concept
<b>OSI</b>	Open Systems Interconnection
<b>PRBS</b>	Pseudo-Random Binary Sequence
<b>PS</b>	Preamble Sequence
<b>RX PHY</b>	Receiver Physical

Acronym	Meaning
<b>RX_TS</b>	Receiver Timestamp
<b>S2A</b>	Space-to-air
<b>S2G</b>	Space-to-ground
<b>S2M</b>	Space-to-maritime
<b>S2S</b>	Space-to-space
<b>S2T</b>	Space-to-terrestrial
<b>SDA</b>	Space Development Agency
<b>SNR</b>	Signal-to-noise Ratio
<b>T0</b>	Tranche 0
<b>T1</b>	Tranche 1
<b>T2</b>	Tranche 2
<b>TOF</b>	Time Of Flight
<b>TWTT</b>	Two-way Time Transfer
<b>TX PHY</b>	Transmitter Physical Layer
<b>TX_TS</b>	Transmit Timestamp
<b>WDM</b>	Wavelength-division Multiplexing

## 2 Layer 1 - Physical Layer

The Physical Layer as presented in this document corresponds to the Physical Layer as used in the OSI Model and in an equivalent manner by the CCSDS Model. This layer corresponds to the lowest layer in both models.

The Physical Layer defines the transmission and reception of unstructured data between two OCTs. In this case, a diverging optical signal is transmitted through the vacuum of low earth orbit (LEO) space for S2S links and through a turbulent atmosphere for space-to-terrestrial (S2T) links. The atmosphere affects FSOC links in two ways:

- The atmosphere absorbs a portion of the light, resulting in a range-dependent attenuation of the signal.
- Turbulent flow of the atmosphere modifies the wave-front and has several effects resulting in:
  - Scintillation: variations in the signal intensity (and thereby the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR)), color, and position.
  - Time-varying phase imparted on the signal.

Other atmospheric effects, such as weather, are included as part of the Physical Layer. These effects primarily result in reduction of throughput. This reduced performance is handled through application of CONOPS designed to minimize the impact on system performance.

The Physical Layer is separated into two channels:

- Pointing, Acquisition, and Tracking (PAT)
- Communications

The PAT channel's purpose is to provide the required signals and motion control to align two terminals to establish a communications link. The communications channel provides the transmission and receipt of an optical signal with specified parameters, such as wavelength and modulation, required to transport information from the local to remote terminal.

### 2.1 Pointing, Acquisition, and Tracking (PAT)

The spatial acquisition strategy used by this Standard follows the spatial acquisition sequence described in Section 2.3 of the CCSDS Orange Book *OPTICAL HIGH DATA RATE (HDR) COMMUNICATION—1064 NM* [4]. This beaconless PAT procedure employs a time-tagged sequence of search activities. Temporal synchronization is necessary due to the lack of a side-channel for coordination of the acquisition sequence. The procedure is successful once the terminals are spatially aligned.

The spatial acquisition sequence, referred to as the pointing, acquisition, and tracking (PAT) sequence follows the PAT State Machine defined in [4].

**Requirement OCT-010:** The OCT shall provide the pointing, acquisition, and tracking (PAT) functionality as defined in this OCT Standard.

#### 2.1.1 PAT Introduction

The PAT spatial acquisition shall be referred to as a lead and follow strategy (referred to as master-slave in [4]).

The PAT approach below provides the state machine and parameters for a common Pointing, Acquisition and Tracking approach for OCTs employed by the Space Development Agency (SDA) programs. The scope of this PAT approach is limited to space-to-space and space-to-ground optical connections. Space-to-space optical connections between terminals produced by the same vendor may offer, in addition to the PAT approach defined herein, additional PAT modes selectable upon command by the ground.

The details below clarify the framework described in Section 2.3 of [4] and provide details not otherwise provided in [4] necessary to ensure PAT interoperability between multiple vendors. This PAT approach employs a lead/follow strategy with time-constrained state changes and synchronized acquisition/re-acquisition attempt start times to ensure PAT interoperability under large uncertainty cone conditions.

### 2.1.2 Example Spiral Scan

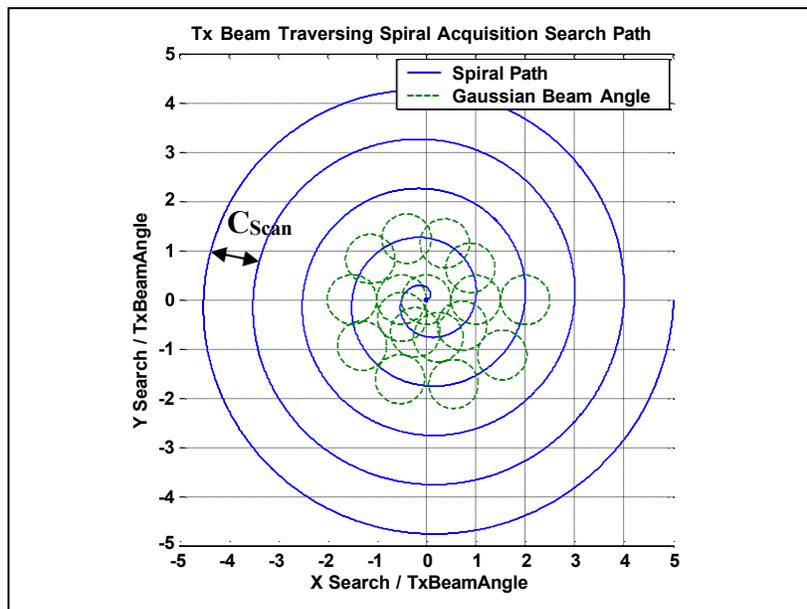


Figure 2-1 Spiral Scan Pattern

Figure 2-1 is the baseline constant velocity Archimedes spiral scan approach and is the minimal amount of time necessary for a scan. The spiral scan approach may vary between OCT implementations, but different scan approaches can increase scan time.

The time to spiral to the search radius  $C_{Search}$  is given by the following equation:

$$T_{Spiral\ Scan} = \pi T_{Scan} \left( \frac{C_{Search}}{C_{Step}} \right)^2 \quad (1)$$

The  $C_{Step}$  parameter must be selected based on the minimum required receive flux  $P_{Rx\_Min}$  for the specific OCT. Simplistically, this is illustrated in the following link equation:

$$P_{Tx} - BeamDivergenceLoss - BeamPointingJitterLoss - Margin - OverlapLoss > P_{Rx\_min} \quad (2)$$

The overlap loss term is related to the ratio of  $C_{Step}$  to the transmit  $\frac{1}{e^2}$  beam divergence  $\theta_{TX}$ . If  $C_{Step} = \theta_{TX}$ , then the  $OverlapLoss = 8.64$  dB. If, on the other hand,  $C_{Step} = \theta_{TX}/1.7$  (which is the full-

width at half maximum (FWHM) diameter), then the *OverlapLoss* = 3 dB, however, the spiral scan will take  $1.7^2 = 2.9x$  longer.

### 2.1.3 Interoperable Pointing, Acquisition, and Tracking

Modeling the PAT sequence as an event-driven finite-state-machine provides a common model for all SDA OCT Standard Terminals. The purpose of this model is to communicate the up-to-date status of the OCT's PAT channel, provide a sequence of events in a geometric construct, and standardize the required parameters.

#### 2.1.3.1 State Machine

In the state machine diagram below, the current time is  $t$  and the  $\delta$ 's represents the time that passes prior to timeout of the state.

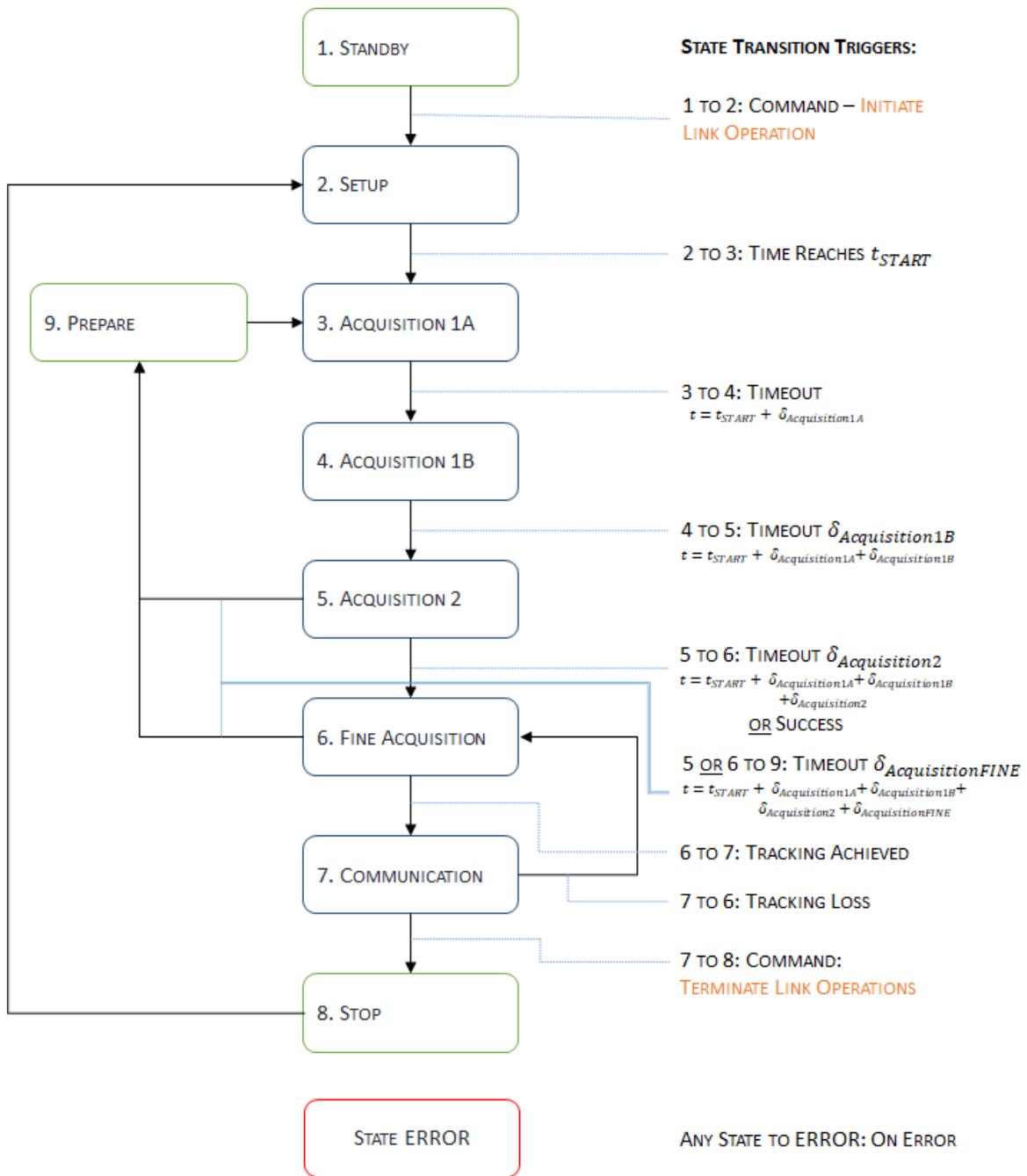


Figure 2-2 Interoperable PAT State Machine. In this figure,  $t$  is the current time.

Table 2-1 State Machine Description

ID	Name	Description	Entry Criteria	Exit Criteria
1	<b>Standby</b>	OCT waits for further commanding.		Command Received: Initiate Link Operation → Setup
2	<b>Setup</b>	After a new link command is received, the OCT is configured according to the link parameters and the coarse pointer starts to move towards the target trajectory.	<b>Command Received:</b> Initiate Link Operation  <b>Required Parameters:</b> See Table 2-2	OCT has slewed into position and terminal has been configured ahead of $t_{START}$ being reached Starting time $t_{START}$ is reached →Acquisition Phase 1A
3	<b>Acquisition Phase 1A</b>	During acquisition phase 1A the lead OCT scans the starting cone of uncertainty. The follow OCT detects hits and performs pointing adjustments, reducing the level of starting uncertainty.		Configuration Parameter Phase 1A duration reached ( $\delta_{Acq1A}$ ) →Acquisition Phase 1B
4	<b>Acquisition Phase 1B</b>	During acquisition phase 1B the follow OCT scans the remaining cone of uncertainty. The lead OCT detects hits and performs pointing adjustments, reducing the level of starting uncertainty.		Configuration Parameter Phase 1B duration reached ( $\delta_{Acq1B}$ ) →Acquisition Phase 2
5	<b>Acquisition Phase 2</b>	During acquisition phase 2 either one or both (both if systems are capable of simultaneous transmit and receive during acquisition) of the two OCT scans the remaining cone of uncertainty. The OCT(s) detects hits and performs pointing adjustments, further reducing the level of uncertainty.		Uncertainty reduced such, that target is within FOV of the fine acquisition sensor (if applicable) →Fine Acquisition  Timeout waiting for further hits → Prepare
6	<b>Fine Acquisition</b>	During fine acquisition both OCTs are scanning the remaining cone of uncertainty and both OCTs detect hits and perform pointing adjustments to further reduce the level of uncertainty further.		Stable tracking established, continuous receive signal → Communication.  Timeout waiting to establish tracking → Prepare
7	<b>Communication</b>	Bidirectional data link is established		Command Received: $\delta_{LmtGoStop}$ → Stop Tracking signal lost → Fine Acquisition
8	<b>Stop</b>	The link is terminated by command or due to a		Laser and all mechanism stopped and

ID	Name	Description	Entry Criteria	Exit Criteria
		failure condition. The OCT goes back to standby		goes back to standby
9	<b>Prepare</b>	<p>Prepare for reestablishing the link  Complete acquisition sequence is repeated using the configuration according to the latest Initiate Link Command with the next acquisition start time defined by:</p> $T_{NextAcquisitionStart} = t_{START} + \Omega_{AcqPeriod} \cdot \left\lceil \frac{t - t_{START} + \delta_{AcqPreparation}}{\Omega_{AcqPeriod}} \right\rceil$ <p>Where <math>t</math> is the current time.</p>	If $\Omega_{AcqPeriod} = 0$ , this state is passed through	OCT has slewed into position based on latest ephemeris prediction and terminal configuration and then $t_{START}$ is reached

### 2.1.3.1.1 Configuration Parameters and Telemetry

Table 2-2 provides the state machine configuration parameters. The range of values shall not be interpreted as requirements on the physical or mechanical capabilities of the system.

*Table 2-2 State Machine Configuration Parameters*

Parameter	Parameter Shorthand	Range of Values	Parameter Definition
<b>Starting Uncertainty Cone (<math>\mu\text{rad}</math>)</b>	TUC	0-65535	This is the starting cone of uncertainty and is reported as a circular cone radius. This is the search cone. Starting uncertainty may be larger than the system FOV which may require manual intervention.
<b>Phase 1A duration (seconds)</b>	$\delta_{Acq1A}$	0-65535	Duration of first spiral scanning phase (1A). Nominally symmetric across terminals, but terminal shall act as commanded.
<b>Phase 1B duration (seconds)</b>	$\delta_{Acq1B}$	0-65535	Duration of second spiral scanning phase (1B). Nominally symmetric across terminals, but terminal shall act as commanded.
<b>Lead or follow</b>		Lead or follow	Determines if the terminal shall act as Acquisition Lead or Follow.
<b>TX wavelength</b>		-1 or 20	TX wavelength selection, see Table 2-5.
<b>TX Tracking tone modulation</b>		On or off	Determines if TX laser amplitude modulation used.
<b>TX Tracking tone modulation frequency</b>		40 or 50 kHz	Determines the rate of modulation of the AM tracking tone.
<b>Modulation Index of the TX Tracking tone</b>	MI	0, 10, 20, and $\geq 80\%$	Modulation index is the ratio of the modulation excursions of a signal to the level of the unmodulated carrier.
<b>Spiral-Velocity (<math>\mu\text{rad}/\text{msec}</math>)</b>		0-65535	Spiral velocity compatible with receiver bandwidth of counter terminal. Set per-vendor.
<b>Spiral Separation (<math>\mu\text{rad}</math>)</b>		0-65535	Spiral separation is defined as the pitch between adjacent spiral arms.
<b>Phase 2 Maximum Duration (sec)</b>	$\delta_{MaxPhase2}$	0-255	Max duration in Acquisition Phase 2 without establishing target is within FOV of the fine acquisition sensor (if applicable).

Parameter	Parameter Shorthand	Range of Values	Parameter Definition
<b>Fine Acquisition Maximum Duration (seconds)</b>	$\delta_{MaxFine}$	0-255	Max duration in Fine Acquisition without establishing stable tracking.
<b>Acquisition Period (seconds)</b>	$\Omega_{AcqPeriod}$	0-65535	Periodicity of acquisition restart times. This is a parameter specified by the ground.
<b>Acquisition Preparation Duration (seconds)</b>	$\delta_{AcqPreparation}$	0-255	The amount of time required for the overall system (comprised of both OCT A and B) to be ready for the next acquisition (which is an exit criterion for the “Prepare” state) is $\delta_{AcqPreparation}$ . This is a parameter set by the ground.

Table 2-3 State Machine Telemetry

Parameter	Parameter Shorthand	Parameter Definition
<b>State</b>	S	This is the current state of the top-level state machine.
<b>State Entry Time</b>	$t_{state}$	This is the clock time at which the state was entered.

### 2.1.4 Acquisition Scheme

Figure 2-3 shows the PAT Geometric Acquisition Scheme. The red arrows denote an active TX beam, the cone around the arrow depicts the size of the uncertainty cone (outer scan radius). Green arrows denote pointing adjustment and reduction of uncertainty cone.

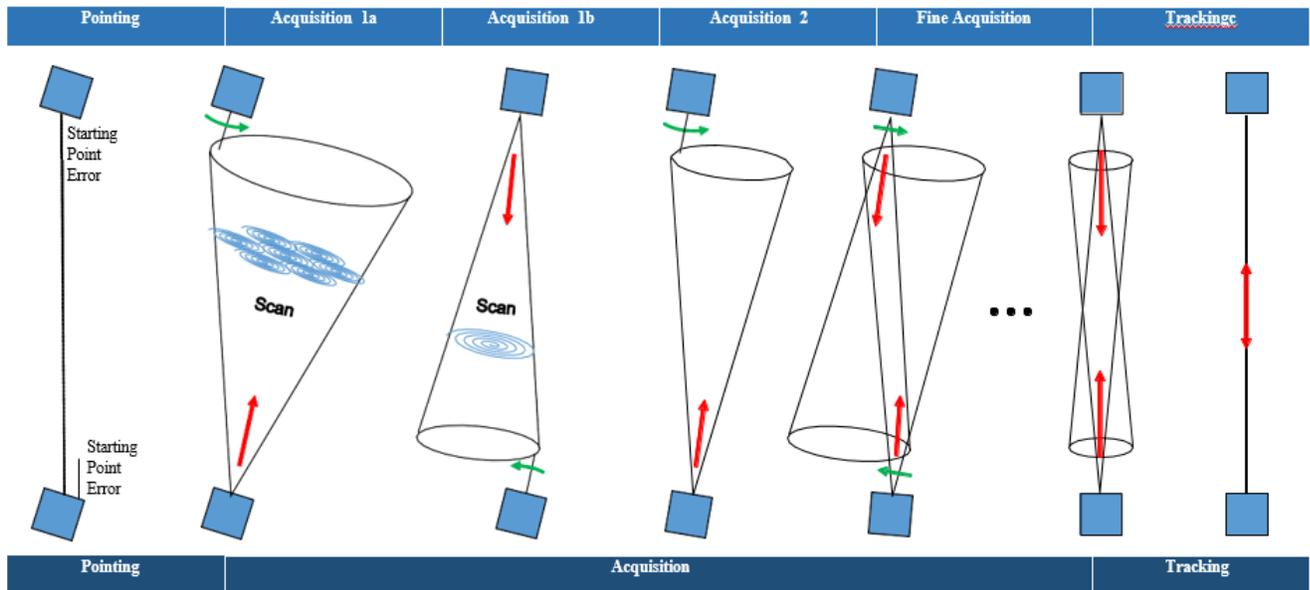


Figure 2-3 Spatial acquisition process diagramming the sub-states of pointing, acquisition, and tracking as defined within the PAT State Machine.

Figure 2-4 provides a notional timeline for each phase and notional uncertainty cone for Phase 1A entry criteria and the transition from Phase 2 to Fine acquisition. Time and uncertainty will be specific for each vendor pairing based on uncertainty determined on orbit after calibration. The leader is on the left column while the follower is on the right column.

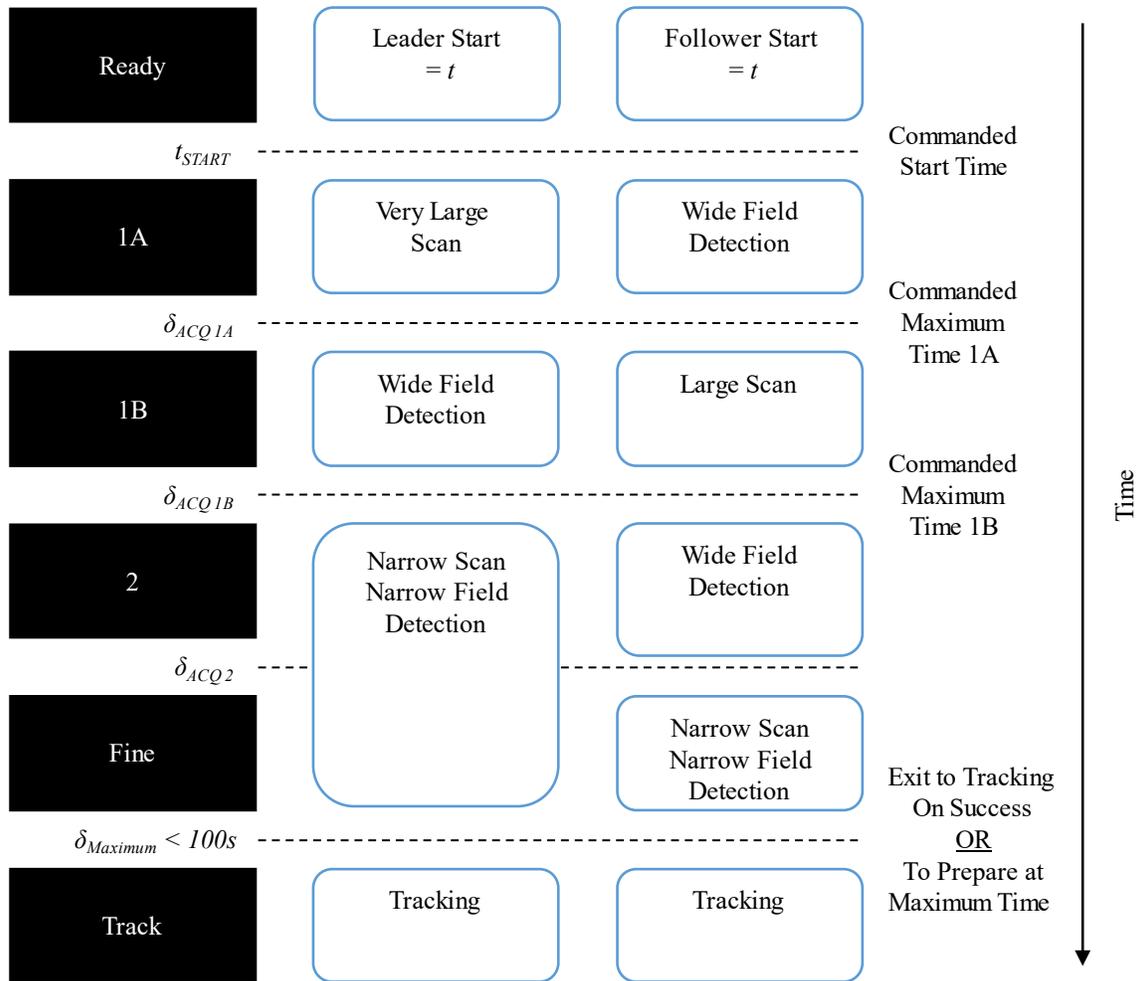


Figure 2-4 PAT Notional OPSCON. Time progresses from top to bottom. The transition from Acquisition 2 to Fine and Fine to Track is triggered by successful tracking. The definition of success for tracking is implementation dependent. In this diagram, the Leader is depicted as having only a single field size. For this reason, the wide- and narrow field scan are combined.

### 2.1.5 Amplitude Modulation of Signals

The transmitted signals will include an amplitude modulation (AM) at a lower frequency than the data signal. The nominal AM Tracking Tone Modulation Index (MI) is defined as:

$$MI = \frac{(P_{max} - P_{min})}{(P_{max} + P_{min})} \quad (3)$$

Figure 2-5 illustrates a notional sinusoidal tone along with the two associated power levels,  $P_{\min}$  and  $P_{\max}$ , used in the definition of MI.

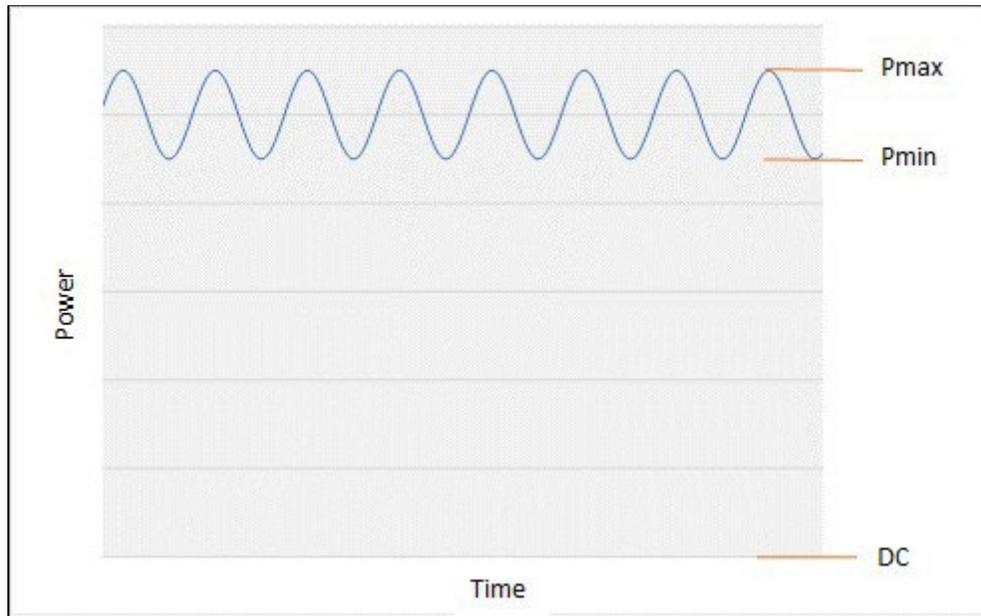


Figure 2-5 AM Tone Tracking Modulation.  $P_{\min}$  and  $P_{\max}$  are the power levels that define the modulation index (MI).

**Requirement OCT-011:** The OCT shall provide the described AM Tracking Tone.

**Requirement OCT-012:** The AM Tracking Tone shall be a sinusoid with selectable, via software command, 40 kHz and 50 kHz frequencies.

**Requirement OCT-013:** The OCT shall reference the amplitude of the transmitted signal to the minimum and maximum amplitude of the transmitted signal to the Modulation Index (MI).

**Requirement OCT-014:** The OCT shall provide the following selectable modulation indices: 0% (MI = 0 = modulation off), 10% (MI = 0.1), 20% (MI = 0.2), and greater than or equal to 80% (MI  $\geq 0.8$  AND MI  $\leq 1$ ). For all MIs greater than 0%, the error in MI shall be no greater than 20%.

**Requirement OCT-015:** The OCT's shall provide, via software command, the capability to set and get the modulation index of the AM tone.

### 2.1.6 PAT Acquisition Time

The acquisition time is the time between the START COMMAND signal and the successful spatial alignment such that the link is “established.” The link is established when the OCT is tracking, and data are being transported across the link.

Definitions:

- **Cold start** means the post-calibration acquisition of a remote terminal where the TUC is sufficiently large such that Phase 1 of the PAT state machine **cannot** be bypassed.
- **Warm start** means the post-calibration acquisition of a remote terminal where the TUC is sufficiently small such that Phase 1 of the PAT state machine **can** be bypassed.
- **Calibration** means the set of activities required to quantify the relationship between the

spacecraft and OCT coordinate systems.

**Examples:**

- For a spacecraft, a *warm start* is the period since the last successful track for which there has been no maneuver by either the local or remote spacecraft and the propagation error of the Tracking Pointing Vector is sufficiently low to enable a significantly more rapid acquisition, typically improved by one or more orders-of-magnitude in acquisition time, when compared to a cold start.
- For a spacecraft to aircraft, a cold start results when the trajectory of the aircraft changed since the Tracking Pointing Vector Epoch.

**Requirement OCT-016:** The OCT shall achieve a PAT Acquisition Time of  $\leq 100$  *seconds* for both Cold Starts and Warm Starts.

**Note on Requirement OCT-016:** This PAT Acquisition Time shall be applicable to any post-calibration PAT activity including the PAT Sequence/State Machine defined herein as well as any modified or alternative PAT Sequence employed by the OCT.

**Requirement OCT-017:** OCT Calibration shall result in a TUC sufficiently small for the PAT State Machine to close links under the conditions imposed by the OCT’s design and operating environment.

**Note on Requirement OCT-017:** Conditions imposed by the OCT’s design and operating environment include, but are not limited to, transmitter parameters (e.g., beam divergence, power, beam quality, jitter, etc.), receiver parameters (e.g., receiver sensitivity, aperture diameter, jitter, etc.), spacecraft contributions (e.g., thermal, mechanical, etc.), and environmental (e.g., solar load, background signals, etc.).

## 2.2 Modulation

The Amplitude Modulated (AM) signals follow the formats and conventions as described in this section.

**Requirement OCT-018:** The OCT shall support Amplitude Modulation (AM) including OOK-NRZ and Manchester encoding.

For Manchester encoding, the convention implemented is given by Table 2-4 with transmission order of symbols being from left to right.

*Table 2-4 Manchester Encoding*

Coded bit	Transmitted Symbol
0	{0, 1}
1	{1, 0}

## 2.3 Latency

The Receive Latency is defined as the duration of time from the first photon of a message arriving at the OCT through the exit of the reconstituted Ethernet packet from the OCT to the host spacecraft.

**Requirement OCT-019:** The OCT shall achieve a receive latency of no greater than 15 ms.

The transmit latency is defined as the time between entry of an Ethernet packet from the host

spacecraft to the OCT through the transmission of the last photon of that packet.

**Requirement OCT-020:** The OCT shall achieve a transmit latency of no greater than 15 ms.

**Requirement OCT-021:** The OCT transmit and receive latencies shall, in the cases of S2G, S2A, or S2M links, be extended by the fadeout time due to atmospheric conditions and the ARQ retransmit time.

**Note on Requirement OCT-021:** The fadeout times for S2G links will vary depending on atmospheric conditions. Fadeout times are the time periods in which atmospheric effects reduce the SNR below the required threshold for communications.

## 2.4 Spectral Grid Definition

To permit operations of multiple communications channels through wavelength division multiplexing (WDM), the ITU-T G.694 [5] 100 GHz channel will serve as the basis for SDA Optical Communications channels. This grid follows the ITU-T G.694.1 recommendation and is limited to the 44 channels in the optical C-Band (1530 nm to 1565 nm).

The channels are defined by:

$$F_{center}(n) = 193.1 \text{ THz} + n \times 100.000 \text{ GHz} \quad (4)$$

Where  $n$  is the channel number. The width of each channel is 100.000 GHz.

**Requirement OCT-022:** The OCT shall comply with the spectral grid as described in this section.

**Requirement OCT-023:** The OCT shall accommodate all range rate effects (e.g., Doppler, clock frequency deviations, etc.) for S2S in-plane and out-of-plane links, S2G, S2A, and S2M links.

**Requirement OCT-024:** The OCT receiver shall provide the capability to transmit communications and PAT signals from transmitters within this channel scheme.

## 2.5 Transmit and Receive Wavelength

Table 2-5 defines the transmit and receive wavelengths. Either channel may be used for transmitting while the other is used for receiving. The same channel may not be used simultaneously for send and receive.

*Table 2-5 Channel Definitions*

Channel Number (n)	Frequency (THz)	Wavelength (nm)
-1	193.000	1553.33
20	195.100	1536.61

**Requirement OCT-025:** The OCT shall provide the capability to transmit communications and PAT signals on the channels corresponding to those defined in this section.

**Requirement OCT-026:** The OCT shall provide the capability to receive communications and PAT signals on the channels corresponding to those defined in this section.

## 2.6 Channel Selection

**Requirement OCT-027:** The OCT shall provide, via software command, the capability to set and

get the selected channel for both transmit and receive.

## 2.7 Polarization

**Requirement OCT-028:** The OCT receiver shall accommodate any and all received polarization states at the plane of the receive aperture.

**Note on Requirement OCT-028**The OCT receiver must accomplish all requirements of this OCT Standard regardless of the polarization of the received signal. This OCT Standard does not restrict the polarization of the transmit signal and therefore each receiver must be able to accept any received polarization to enable interoperability.

## 2.8 Transmitted Signal and Receiver Interoperability

This Standard is intended to promote interoperability between makes and models of OCTs. To achieve compatible designs, the transmitted signal properties are described in this section. The transmitted signal must ultimately result in an irradiance at the receive aperture of sufficient stability for constant data transmission across the communications channel. Requirements described herein define a minimum viable product (MVP) for interoperability. It is required that, first and foremost, systems be interoperable.

**Requirement OCT-029:** OCT transmitters shall provide signals compatible with OCT Standard Compliant receivers.

**Requirement OCT-030:** OCT system engineering shall be performed to show, through link budget analysis, a margin of no less than 3 dB for like-designed systems for both the communications and PAT channels.

**Requirement OCT-031:** OCT system engineering shall be performed to show, through link budget analysis, a margin of no less than 3 dB for OCT-Standard-Compliant systems for both the communications and PAT channels.

**Requirement OCT-032:** OCT link testing shall demonstrate a margin of no less than 3 dB for like-designed systems for both the communications and PAT channels.

**Requirement OCT-033:** OCT link testing shall demonstrate a margin of no less than 3 dB for OCT-Standard-Compliant systems for both the communications and PAT channels.

**Note:** The requirements in this section do not specify a range or geometry. The specified margin shall be achieved for any link within the ranges or geometries specified in this document.

### 2.8.1 Signal Power

The full signal power within the channel provided at the plane of the receive aperture is defined as follows: the portion of the signal that remains after application of an ideal top-hat filter with width equal to the channel width and centered at the channel frequency.

**Requirement OCT-034:** The OCT shall provide, via software command, the capability to *set* and *get* the transmitted power. The minimum selectable transmitted power shall be 0 (zero). The maximum selectable transmitted power shall be the maximum transmitted power achievable by the system design.

**Requirement OCT-035:** The OCT shall achieve maximum transmitted power flux through the plane of the transmit aperture of no less than 2.5 W.

**Note on Requirement OCT-035:** This requirement shall not be interpreted as an upper limit placed on the OCT's transmit power capability (e.g., systems capable of transmitting 5 W of power are compliant).

**Requirement OCT-036:** The output power shall be selectable between the minimum and maximum power output. The step size shall be no greater than 3 dB.

- The OCT's minimum power output is a key driver of the lowest operating range (the "minimum range"). Lower minimum power output permits closer ranges. The OCT shall have a minimum power output value of less than or equal to 40 mW.
- The OCT's maximum power output is a key driver of the highest operating range (the "maximum range"). Higher maximum power output permits longer ranges. The OCT shall have a maximum power output value of greater than or equal to 2.5 W.

**Note:** The transmitted power refers to the average power transmitted by the OCT as measured at the plane of the transmit aperture over a duration of at least 10,000 seconds of continuous stream IDLE frames in any and all modes at a constant set power level, within the constraints imposed by the eye diagram in Section 2.8.4.

**Requirement OCT-037:** The OCT shall limit the maximum irradiance delivered at the plane of the remote receive aperture to no more than  $10 \text{ mW}/\text{m}^2$  at any established link distance.

**Note on Requirement OCT-037:** The OCT may limit the maximum provided irradiance by adjusting the output power based on the link distance.

**Requirement OCT-038:** The OCT shall be capable of producing an irradiance at the plane of a remote receive aperture greater than or equal to  $25 \text{ }\mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2$  at a range of 5,500 km of. The required irradiance value specified herein is defined as the mean signal crossing the plane of the aperture at range when considering all flight-like affects such as platform jitter.

**Note on Requirement OCT-038:** Transmitters are permitted to provide transmitted powers above that produce larger irradiances so long as it does not exceed the irradiance limits defined in **Requirement OCT-037**.

**Requirement OCT-039:** The OCT receiver shall be capable of achieving a post-FEC BER  $\leq 10^{-6}$  with an irradiance at the plane of the receive aperture of  $25 \text{ }\mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2$  (as defined by **Requirement OCT-038**) at all required data rates.

**Requirement OCT-040:** The OCT shall provide a transmitted beam of no less than 1.5 meters in diameter (FWHM) at a ranges of  $\geq 100 \text{ km}$  and achieve a BER of  $\leq 10^{-6}$  in the absence of atmospheric effects and pointing error.

**Requirement OCT-041:** The OCT shall provide the required pointing control and provide a transmitted beam of sufficient diameter, as defined in **Requirement OCT-040**, at a ranges of  $\geq 100 \text{ km}$  and achieve a BER of  $\leq 10^{-6}$  in the presence of pointing error.

**Requirement OCT-042:** The OCT shall provide the required pointing control and provide a transmitted beam of no less than 0.5 meters in diameter (FWHM) at a ranges of  $\geq 500 \text{ km}$  and achieve a BER of  $\leq 10^{-6}$  in the presence of atmospheric effects and pointing error.

## 2.8.2 Transmitted Power Safety Limit

**Requirement OCT-043:** The OCT shall provide, via software command, the capability to *set* and

get the Transmitted Power Safety Limit (TPSL).

**Requirement OCT-044:** The OCT shall, under no circumstances, transmit power greater than the TPSL.

**Requirement OCT-045:** The *Default TPSL* shall be 0 (zero) W.

**Requirement OCT-046:** The OCT shall set the TPSL to the *Default TPSL* at system startup.

**Requirement OCT-047:** The TPSL shall only be modifiable by external command except upon system error. On system error, the TPSL shall be immediately set to the *Default TPSL*.

### 2.8.3 Background Noise Signal

The nominal day-in-the-life (DITL) background environment shall include all points in time for 24-hour period in which neither the sun nor moon is within 30 degrees of either the transmitter or receiver's boresight and the background is consistent with the geometry of the S2S and S2T links.

**Requirement OCT-048:** Throughout the nominal DITL background environment, the receiver shall achieve sufficient SNR to operate at all modes defined in Table 3-2 when that remote transmitter is commanded to a transmission power within the range stated in **Requirement OCT-036**.

### 2.8.4 Transmitted Signal Properties

The specification of pulse shape characteristics is made using an eye diagram mask. This section follows the prescription described in Section 7.2.2.14 of [6]. The pulse shape characteristics of the OOK- NRZ signals including rise and fall times, pulse overshoot and undershoot, and ringing are defined.

**Requirement OCT-049:** OCT transmitted signals shall comply with parameters defined through the eye diagram mask as defined in in Section 7.2.2.14 of [6] with parameters described in Figure 7-3 of the same ("Mask of the eye diagram for NRZ optical transmit signals except ratio masks"). For this requirement, the eye diagram mask defined by the "NRZ 10G 1550nm Region" column of the table in Figure 7-3 of [6] shall be used.

**Note:** When Manchester encoding is used, the same eye diagram mask shall apply to each half-bit of the Manchester symbol.

### 3 Layer 2 - Synchronization and Channel Coding Layer

This section defines the synchronization and channel coding layer for OCT Standard Compliant Systems. The current system employs a single protocol for S2S and S2T links. This protocol employs a Hybrid FEC ARQ approach for S2T channels. Within this protocol, the capability to turn both ARQ and FEC on or off is provided. For high signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) S2S channels, it is expected that ARQ will normally be “off” and FEC may be turned on or off based on the expected system and environmental conditions.

The 5G New Radio (NR) low-density parity check (LDPC) defined in [7] has been adopted as the primary FEC for SDA OCT Standard 3.1.0.

The Baud Rate and Code Rates in SDA OCT Standard 3.1.0 have been specified to provide S2S and S2T service with sufficient Ethernet packet throughput to provide continuous 1 Gbps bi-directional Ethernet communications both without and in the presence of atmospheric turbulence-induced channel fadeouts.

#### 3.1 SDA OCT Standard 3 Protocol Classes

Table 3-1 lists the current SDA OCT Standard 3 protocols. This list may be appended with additional classes.

*Table 3-1 SDA OCT Standard 3.1.0 Protocols*

Name	Shorthand
SDA OCT Standard 3 - 3GPP 5G NR LDPC	SDA3-5G NR-LDPC

**Requirement OCT-050:** The OCT shall provide the protocol set listed in Table 3-1 for full-duplex transmit and receive.

#### 3.2 Re-Programming

**Requirement OCT-051:** The OCT shall be reprogrammable on orbit. This shall include both protocol and all OCT software and firmware.

**Requirement OCT-052:** During reprogramming, links may be interrupted.

**Requirement OCT-053:** The OCT shall, via remote command, provide the capability to load new software (and firmware) as required to update, modify, or add protocols (not limited to protocols defined in Table 3-1) within the OCT’s hardware capabilities.

#### 3.3 Optical Signal Rates: Baud Rates and Encoding

Protocol Parameter Sets are grouped into Baud Rate categories. Protocol ID format given as:

<Protocol ID>-<Optical Signaling Rate (GHz)>-<Encoding>

*Table 3-2 SDA OCT Standard Protocol IDs and Baud Rates.*

Protocol ID and Rate Designator	Optical Signaling Rate	Baud Rate	Encoding
SDA3-5G NR-LDPC-2500-Manchester	2.5 GHz	1.25 Gbps	Manchester
SDA3-5G NR-LDPC-2500-OOK-NRZ	2.5 GHz	2.5 Gbps	OOK-NRZ

**Requirement OCT-054:** The OCT shall be capable of transmitting and receiving in full duplex at the rates and encodings defined in Table 3-2 with 100% operational duty cycle.

### 3.4 Framing, Coding, and Encapsulation

#### 3.4.1 Frame Structure

The structure of the OTA frames used by the OCT modem is shown in Table 3-3.

**Requirement OCT-055:** All OTA frames in the OCT modem shall be constructed identically: a preamble sequence concatenated with a fixed-length header followed by data bits (fixed size, plus Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC)) then a variable number of parity bits. The number of parity bits is governed by the configured codec and code rate (Section 3.4.6.1).

*Table 3-3 Modem Frame Format*

Field	# Of bits	Comments
<b>Preamble</b>	64	Preamble: 64'53225b1d0d73df03. The MSB (64 <sup>th</sup> ) bit is transmitted first followed in order down to the LSB (1 <sup>st</sup> ).
<b>Header</b>	960	See Section 3.4.3.
<b>Payload - Data</b>	8416	Information payload. Fixed size for all modem frame configurations.
<b>Payload - CRC</b>	32	Cyclic redundancy check covering payload bits.
<b>Payload Parity</b>	Variable	Number of parity bits depends on the configured payload FEC codec and code rate.

**Requirement OCT-056:** Transmission of modem frames shall be synchronous with no pauses between frames and no pauses between any of the bits comprising the frame components in Table 3-3.

#### 3.4.2 Preamble Sequence

**Requirement OCT-057:** Every frame shall start with a Preamble Sequence (PS), which is used by the receive modem for frame synchronization.

**Requirement OCT-058:** The preamble sequence shall be identical for all OCT modem frames and takes the value shown in Table 3-3.

#### 3.4.3 Header

**Requirement OCT-059:** A modem header shall be present in every modem frame immediately following the preamble sequence.

**Requirement OCT-060:** The OCT modem frame header shall have these characteristics:

- Modem headers are a fixed size (i.e., number of coded bits) for all configurations.
- Modem headers are protected by a strong Forward Error Correction (FEC) scheme with a fixed code rate (Section 3.4.5.2)
- The payload of the modem header is protected by a CRC-16 (Section 3.4.5.1).

The contents of the OCT modem frame header are detailed in Section 3.4.6.

### 3.4.4 Payload

This section describes how payload information bits are encoded into the OCT modem frame.

#### 3.4.4.1.1 Data Bits

**Requirement OCT-061:** All modem frames shall carry a payload of exactly 8448 information bits.

#### 3.4.4.1.2 CRC-32

**Requirement OCT-062:** All modem frames shall protect the integrity of the payload information bits with a 32-bit CRC (Section 3.4.3.1).

#### 3.4.4.1.3 Parity Bits

The OCT modem features strong payload FEC.

**Requirement OCT-063:** The payload shall implement FEC with the following properties:

- Systematic FEC (i.e., a copy of the payload data bits appears in the encoded payload codeword).
- Zero or more parity bits.
- The number of parity bits is a function of the codec and code rate selection can be as few as zero bits (uncoded) up to as many as 9216 bits (LDPC, code rate 1/2).
- The payload FEC is a quasi-cyclic low-density parity check (QC-LDPC) code defined in [7].

#### 3.4.4.2 Scrambling

**Requirement OCT-064:** All portions of the modem frame, except for the Preamble Sequence, shall be scrambled prior to transmission as described herein.

The scrambling sequence is a maximal length sequence (equivalently referred to as an  $m$ -sequence) generated by the primitive polynomial:

$$x = 1 + x^{14} + x^{15} \quad (5)$$

The sequence can be generated by a linear-feedback shift-register circuit. A reference implementation producing the correct scrambling sequence is shown in Figure 3-1. The following describe the sequence employed in the generation of the scrambling sequence:

- The shift-register is initialized to a seed value of  $[x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{14}] = [000011011011100]$  at the start of every frame.
- The shift register circuit is clocked once per transmitted bit for the totality of the frame. However, scrambling is not applied to the Preamble Sequence (initial 64 bits of the frame). Beginning with the first bit *after* the Preamble Sequence, frame bits  $f_k$  are exclusive-or with the scrambling sequence  $s_k$ .
- Scrambled sequence  $y_k = f_k + s_k$  is transmitted over the air, where “addition” is over GF(2). Binary addition on GF(2) is mathematically equivalent to an exclusive OR (XOR) operation.

The circuit shown in Figure 3-1 generates a scrambling sequence with period  $2^{15} - 1 = 32767$  bits.

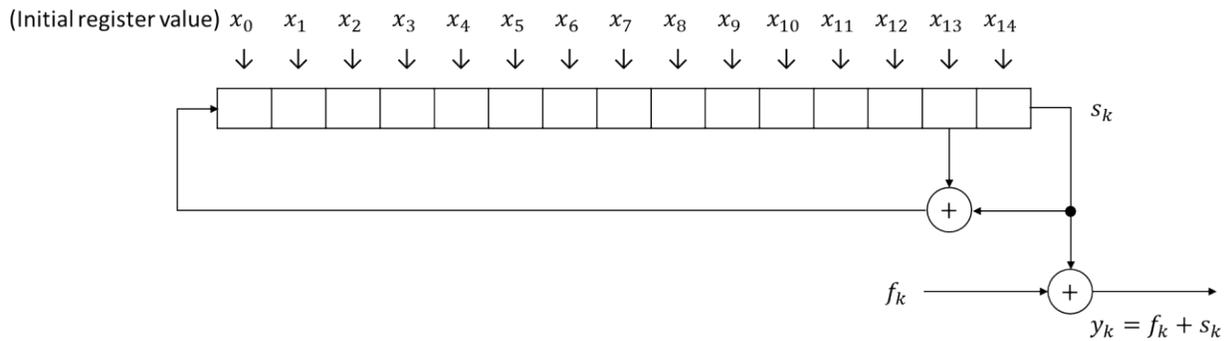


Figure 3-1 Generation of Scrambling Sequence

The modem starts preamble sequence application at the first bit of the header. The preamble sequence is not scrambled. The same scrambling seed is applied at the start of every modem frame. Figure 3-2 depicts the steps for frame generation.

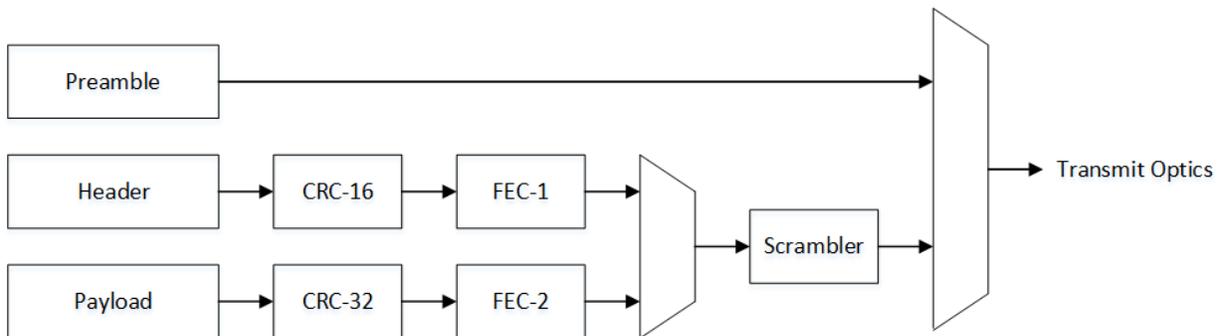


Figure 3-2 OCT Modem Frame Construction

All frame types (Section 3.4.7) are constructed identically.

### 3.4.5 Error Control Coding

**Requirement OCT-065:** All OCT modem frames shall feature strong error control coding as described herein.

The error control coding features the following:

- Information bits are protected by CRCs (Section 3.4.5.1, header: 16 bits, payload: 32 bits).
- Fixed-rate convolutional code (CC) for the frame header (Section 3.4.5.2).
- 5G NR Block 1 LDPC for the frame payload (Section 3.4.5.3).

This section details the encoders for all the error control codes.

#### 3.4.5.1 Cyclic Redundancy Checks

Two CRCs are required to generate the modem frame: a CRC-16 protects the header while a CRC-32 protects the payload. A functional description of a generic  $L$ -bit CRC encoder circuit is shown in Figure 3-3. The circuit consists of a  $L$ -bit register ( $L = 16$  for CRC-16 and  $L = 32$  for CRC-32).

The connection polynomials (i.e., values  $g_k$ ) are defined in Table 3-4 for each of the two CRC's required to create the modem frame.

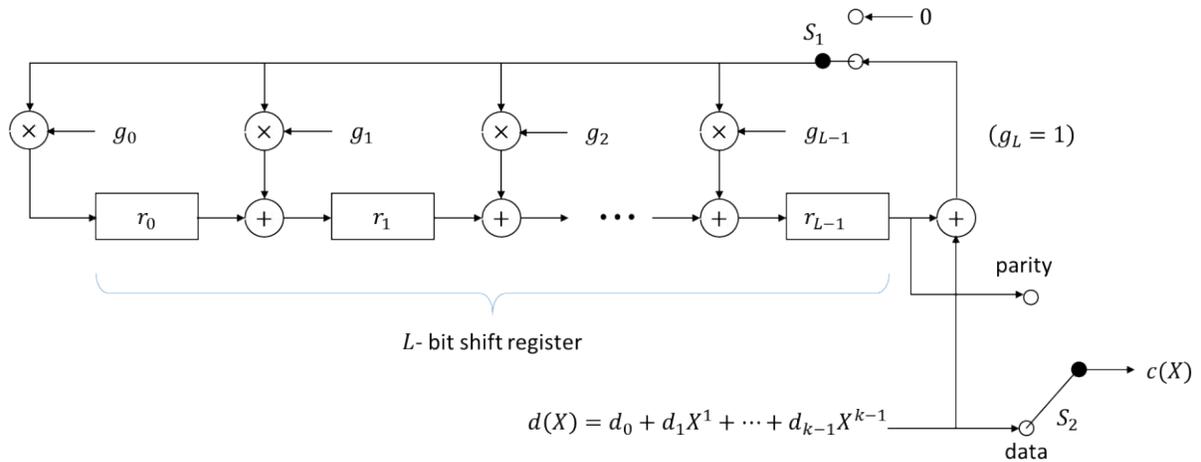


Figure 3-3 L-bit CRC Calculation Circuit

Calculation of the CRC for a block of  $k$  payload bits:

- Initialize the  $L$ -bit encoder register state to zero at the start of each new CRC calculation.
- Clock in the  $k$  payload bits with switches  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  both in the down position.
- After the last payload bit has been loaded the encoder register contains the  $L$ -bit CRC value. It can be clocked-out with switches  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  in the up position.

Table 3-4 CRC Polynomials

Location	Length	Polynomial	Source
<b>Frame Header</b>	16 bits	$g(x) = x^{16} + x^{12} + x^5 + 1$	CCITT X.25
<b>Frame Payload</b>	32 bits	$g(x) = x^{32} + x^{26} + x^{23} + x^{22} + x^{16} + x^{12} + x^{11} + x^1 + x^8 + x^7 + x^5 + x^4 + x^2 + x + 1$	ANSI, IEEE 802.3, ITU-T V.42

### 3.4.5.2 Header FEC

The modem header payload is encoded by a non-systematic constraint length 7, rate 1/6 convolutional code prior to transmission. Generator polynomials for this (7, 1/6) code are listed in Table 3-5.

Table 3-5 Rate 1/6 Convolutional Code for Frame Header

Coded bit	Generator Polynomial (Octal)
0	0175
1	0171
2	0151
3	0133
4	0127
5	0117

The header data structure is described in Section 3.4.4.

A 16-bit checksum is attached to the block of header information bits. 16 zero-valued pad bits are appended after the checksum to complete the CRC attachment and to initialize the convolutional encoder to zero state at the start of every new header.

For consistency with the bit ordering in the header, the encoding order for the header FEC is:

- First 8 information bits into the header FEC encoder: byte d0: bit 7, bit 6, bit 5, ... , bit 0
- Second 8 information bits into the header FEC encoder: byte d1: bit 7, bit 6, bit 5, ... , bit 0
- Bits are fed into the encoder (after CRC attachment and zero padding) until 20 bytes have entered the header FEC encoder.

The total size of the encoded header as transmitted “over the air” is  $16 \times 8 + 16 + 16 = 160$  bits to be fed into the Header FEC encoder.

#### 3.4.5.2.1 Transmission Order

Let  $\{c_{k,5}, c_{k,4}, \dots, c_{k,0}\}$  be the 6 coded bits emitted by the convolutional encoder for the  $k$ th input information bit, where  $c_{*,n}$  is associated with the  $n$ th code polynomial. Then, encoded header bits are transmitted in this order:

- First six coded bits corresponding to the first ( $k=0$ ) information bit:  $c_{0,5}, c_{0,4}, \dots, c_{0,0}$
- Next six coded bits corresponding to the second ( $k=1$ ) information bit:  $c_{1,5}, c_{1,4}, \dots, c_{1,0}$

#### 3.4.5.3 Payload FEC

All OCT modem frames carry an 8416-bit payload per frame which is protected by both a CRC-32 and by an LDPC FEC.

The 5G NR User LDPC code is described in 5.2.2 of [7]. Key parameters are defined in Table 3-6.

Note: 5G NR LDPC punctures the first 768 bits of the information block which are offset by the generation of 768 additional parity bits.

Table 3-6 LDPC Parameters

Parameter	Value or Range	Notes
Base Graph	Base graph 1	Bg = 0

<b>Lifting Factor (Z)</b>	384	
<b>Number of parity bits (mb)</b>	4-46	$4 \leq mb \leq 46$
<b>Information Block Size</b>	8448	$Z * Kb$ ( $Kb = 22$ )
<b>Base graph cyclic shift set (z_set)</b>	1	$a = 3$
<b>Lifting Factor Component (z_j)</b>	7	$Z = a * 2^{z_j}$
<b>Scale factor index</b>	0.75	$sc\_idx = 12$
<b>Algorithm</b>	Normalized Min-Sum	

### 3.4.6 Frame Header

This section details the contents of the OCT modem header. The modem header specifies the signaling required for implementation of the modem features.

#### 3.4.6.1 Header Fields

The frame header fields are listed in Table 3-7. A single header is present in every modem frame.

Table 3-7 Frame Header Fields

Function	Field Name	Bits	Description
	TXFN	16	Sequence number of this (outgoing) TX frame
<b>ARQ</b>	ACK_START_FN	16	Sequence number of first ACK
	ACK_SPAN	3	ACK/NAK applies to $2^{ACK\_SPAN}$ consecutive RXFN
			000-101: legal values (ACK_SPAN = 1, ... ACK_SPAN = 32)
			1100-1111: Reserved
	ACK_valid	1	0: no ACK/NAK in this frame
			1: ACK/NAK valid
	ACK	1	0: NAK for RXFN and $2^{ACK\_SPAN}$ consecutive RXFN
			1: ACK for RXFN and $2^{ACK\_SPAN}$ consecutive RXFN
	TX_NUM	3	transmission attempt (0=initial, max re-Tx=5)
	ARQ_NFRAMES	8	ARQ_HOLDOFF_NFRAMES
	ARQ_MAX_RETX	3	ARQ_MAX_RETX
<b>FEC</b>	PL_RATE	4	0000: no parity bits
			0001: 2304 parity bits
			0010: 3456 parity bits
			0011: 4992 parity bits
			0100: 9216 parity bits
			0101-1111: reserved
<b>MAC</b>	FRAME_TYPE	2	00: IDLE
			01: DATA
			10: MGMT
			11: reserved
<b>pseudo-range</b>	TX_TS	40	TX timestamp (frame egress), number of picoseconds of whole second in time-of-day epoch: 0-999,999,999,999
	TOD_SECONDS	6	number of seconds in time-of-day epoch: 0-59
	TS-applies	3	TX_TS applies to current frame (0), preceding frames (1-7)
<b>Fast Control Channel</b>	FCCH_OPCODE	6	time-multiplexed control signaling
	FCCH_PL	16	Payload contents depends on FCCH_TYPE
<b>CRC</b>	CRC-16	16	
<b>Zero-Tail</b>	ZT	16	
<b>Total</b>		160	

TX\_NUM is limited to five retransmission attempts due to ARQ\_MAX\_RETX.

*The physical order in which the logical header fields shall be mapped for input is shown in*

Table 3-8.

Table 3-8 Mapping of Logical Fields into Physical Order

	b <sub>7</sub>	b <sub>6</sub>	b <sub>5</sub>	b <sub>4</sub>	b <sub>3</sub>	b <sub>2</sub>	b <sub>1</sub>	b <sub>0</sub>
<b>d<sub>0</sub></b>	TXFN[7]	TXFN[6]	TXFN[5]	TXFN[4]	TXFN[3]	TXFN[2]	TXFN[1]	TXFN[0]
<b>d<sub>1</sub></b>	TXFN[15]	TXFN[14]	TXFN[13]	TXFN[12]	TXFN[11]	TXFN[10]	TXFN[9]	TXFN[8]
<b>d<sub>2</sub></b>	ACK_START_FN[7]	ACK_START_FN[6]	ACK_START_FN[5]	ACK_START_FN[4]	ACK_START_FN[3]	ACK_START_FN[2]	ACK_START_FN[1]	ACK_START_FN[0]
<b>d<sub>3</sub></b>	ACK_START_FN[15]	ACK_START_FN[14]	ACK_START_FN[13]	ACK_START_FN[12]	ACK_START_FN[11]	ACK_START_FN[10]	ACK_START_FN[9]	ACK_START_FN[8]
<b>d<sub>4</sub></b>	TX_NUM[2]	TX_NUM[1]	TX_NUM[0]	ACK	ACK_VALID	ACK_SPAN[2]	ACK_SPAN[1]	ACK_SPAN[0]
<b>d<sub>5</sub></b>	ARQ_NFRAMES[7]	ARQ_NFRAMES[6]	ARQ_NFRAMES[5]	ARQ_NFRAMES[4]	ARQ_NFRAMES[3]	ARQ_NFRAMES[2]	ARQ_NFRAMES[1]	ARQ_NFRAMES[0]
<b>d<sub>6</sub></b>	FRAME_TYPE[1]	PL_RATE[3]	PL_RATE[2]	PL_RATE[1]	PL_RATE[0]	ARQ_MAX_RETX[2]	ARQ_MAX_RETX[1]	ARQ_MAX_RETX[0]
<b>d<sub>7</sub></b>	TX_TS[6]	TX_TS[5]	TX_TS[4]	TX_TS[3]	TX_TS[2]	TX_TS[1]	TX_TS[0]	FRAME_TYPE[0]
<b>d<sub>8</sub></b>	TX_TS[14]	TX_TS[13]	TX_TS[12]	TX_TS[11]	TX_TS[10]	TX_TS[9]	TX_TS[8]	TX_TS[7]
<b>d<sub>9</sub></b>	TX_TS[22]	TX_TS[21]	TX_TS[20]	TX_TS[19]	TX_TS[18]	TX_TS[17]	TX_TS[16]	TX_TS[15]
<b>d<sub>10</sub></b>	TX_TS[30]	TX_TS[29]	TX_TS[28]	TX_TS[27]	TX_TS[26]	TX_TS[25]	TX_TS[24]	TX_TS[23]
<b>d<sub>11</sub></b>	TX_TS[38]	TX_TS[37]	TX_TS[36]	TX_TS[35]	TX_TS[34]	TX_TS[33]	TX_TS[32]	TX_TS[31]
<b>d<sub>12</sub></b>	TS_APPLIES[2]	TOS_SECONDS[5]	TOS_SECONDS[4]	TOS_SECONDS[3]	TOS_SECONDS[2]	TOS_SECONDS[1]	TOS_SECONDS[0]	TX_TS[39]
<b>d<sub>13</sub></b>	FCCH_OPCODE[5]	FCCH_OPCODE[4]	FCCH_OPCODE[3]	FCCH_OPCODE[2]	FCCH_OPCODE[1]	FCCH_OPCODE[0]	TS_APPLIES[1]	TS_APPLIES[0]
<b>d<sub>14</sub></b>	FCCH_PL[7]	FCCH_PL[6]	FCCH_PL[5]	FCCH_PL[4]	FCCH_PL[3]	FCCH_PL[2]	FCCH_PL[1]	FCCH_PL[0]
<b>d<sub>15</sub></b>	FCCH_PL[15]	FCCH_PL[14]	FCCH_PL[13]	FCCH_PL[12]	FCCH_PL[11]	FCCH_PL[10]	FCCH_PL[9]	FCCH_PL[8]
<b>d<sub>16</sub></b>	CRC	CRC	CRC	CRC	CRC	CRC	CRC	CRC
<b>d<sub>17</sub></b>	CRC	CRC	CRC	CRC	CRC	CRC	CRC	CRC
<b>d<sub>18</sub></b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>d<sub>19</sub></b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

The CRC-16 bit ordering is consistent with the T0 implementation [1].

- First 8 information bits into the CRC-16: byte d0: bit 7, bit 6, bit 5, ... , bit 0
- Second 8 information bits into the CRC-16: byte d1: bit 7, bit 6, bit 5, ... , bit 0
- Bits are fed into the CRC-16 until 16 bytes have entered the computer with the last information bit being byte d15, bit 0.

This accounts for the processing of  $16 \times 8 = 128$  information bits into the CRC-16 computer.

#### 3.4.6.1.1 Frame Sequence Numbers

The TX frame sequence number (TXFN) shall be incremented on every transmitted frame in link session without regard to the FRAME\_TYPE.

#### 3.4.6.1.2 Automatic Repeat Request (ARQ)

Header fields supporting implementation of the Automatic Repeat Request modem feature are grouped as the “ARQ” fields. The ARQ configuration parameters shall remain static for the duration of a session. The ARQ configuration shall only be changed prior to the onset of acquisition. ARQ operation shall be applied upon command. ARQ shall be used for space-to-ground links but may be utilized on other links if both terminals support ARQ.

Only DATA and MGMT frames are subject to ARQ. IDLE frames shall not be subject to ARQ. The receive terminal is only required to ACK frames received correctly. Successful reception of a frame is defined as the payload CRC-32 passing. Terminals shall treat frames for which an ACK is not explicitly received as NAK'd.

The automatic repeat request scheme shall be configured with the set of parameters in Table 3-9. When operating with ARQ “on,” the receive terminal shall support these configurable ARQ parameters.

*Table 3-9 ARQ Parameters*

Parameter	Valid Range	Number of bits	Description
<b>ARQ_HOLDOFF_NFRAMES</b>	0, 16, 32, ..., 4096  N x 16, N=0...2 <sup>8</sup>	8	Window size of ARQ shall be a multiple of 16. The maximum value is 16 times 2 <sup>8</sup> = 4096. The value of ARQ_HOLDOFF_NFRAMES determines the hold off time: Window size and hold-off time are not set independently.
<b>ARQ_MAX_RETX</b>	0-5	3	Maximum number of retransmission attempts.
<b>ARQ_HOLDOFF_TIME</b>	0-1000ms	12	Hold-off time between re-transmissions

ARQ shall be disabled by setting the number of re-transmission attempts to zero.

The ACK/NAK field in the frame header shall be ignored unless ACK-valid is set to one. When ACK-valid is one, the ACK shall apply to the FSO frame with sequence number RXFN.

The implementation shall buffer received frames such that, after the maximum number of retransmission attempts has been exhausted or all frames have been ACK'd. Correctly received FSO frames shall be released to the Ethernet reassembly block (Section 3.4.8.1.6) in order. FSO frames for which an ACK was never received shall be dropped. This scheme produces in-order delivery of

Ethernet packets to the space vehicle for all values of ARQ (including settings where ARQ is disabled).

The implementation shall provision ARQ buffers for both TX and RX duplexes. The storage required shall support the effective number of frames per ARQ cycle multiplied by the configured maximum number of retransmissions.

Sample calculations for the maximum supported link distance as a function of the configured parameter ARQ\_HOLDOFF\_NFRAMES are illustrated in Table 3-10.

Table 3-10 Sample Calculations for ARQ Max Link Distance

ARQ_HOLDOFF_NFRAMES	Effective NFRAMES	Round Trip Supported TOF (msec)			Link Distance (km)		
		by Baud Rate (Mbaud)			by Baud Rate (Mbaud)		
		312.5	625	1250	312.5	625	1250
<b>1</b>	16	1.277	0.638	0.319	191.508	95.754	47.877
<b>16</b>	256	20.428	10.214	5.107	3064.136	1532.068	766.034
<b>160</b>	2560	204.276	102.138	51.069	30641.357	15320.678	7660.339

The effective number of frames in a single ARQ cycle is ARQ\_HOLDOFF\_NFRAMES × 16. The time required to transmit all the frames in a single ARQ cycle is computed as the effective number of frames multiplied by the frame duration at the configured baud rate. The deadline for an ACK/NAK to be received from the far-end modem for a previously transmitted FSO frame is exactly the time required for the modem to TX all the frames in a single ARQ cycle. Therefore, the ARQ\_HOLDOFF\_NFRAMES parameter, along with the modem processing time, determines the supported link distance.

Sample time intervals for three baud rates and three values of ARQ\_HOLDOFF\_NFRAMES of interest are pre-computed in the Table 3-10. The time required to transmit the effective number of frames in a single ARQ cycle is labelled “Supported TOF.” The ideal link distances corresponding to the computed TOF at the speed of light in a vacuum ( $3 \times 10^8$  m/sec) are tabulated in the table assuming an ideal modem (i.e., zero processing time). The link distance calculation should be modified in a practical implementation by subtracting the modem processing time from the supported TOF. In other words, the ARQ deadline is the “Supported TOF” column of the table. That time budget is shared by both propagation at the speed of light and modem processing delay.

### 3.4.6.2 Payload FEC

The OCT modem features strong payload FEC (Section 3.4.5.3).

Table 3-11 Payload FEC Code Rates (LDPC)

PL_RATE	Number of parity bits	Payload Code Rates (LDPC)
<b>0</b>	0	N/A
<b>1</b>	2304	0.8462
<b>2</b>	3456	0.7586
<b>3</b>	4992	0.6667
<b>4</b>	9216	0.5000

### 3.4.6.2.1 Timestamps

In support of external ranging and time transfer calculations, the OCT is required to provide frame timestamps for all frame types indicating the egress time from the plane of the transmit aperture and ingress time at the plane of the receive aperture.

For frames transmitted by the OCT, the OCT is required to populate the timestamps. This is in addition to populating the timestamp in the header of the outgoing frame. For frames received by the OCT, the OCT is required to populate both time-of-transmit timestamps from the received frame as well as time-of-receipt timestamps measured locally. The OCT is required to provide up to an integer number of frames (TS\_RECORD\_FRAMES) per second to the host via the OCT-Host ethernet interface. The OCT is required to transmit MGMT frames at frequency of no less than 1 Hz.

**Requirement OCT-066:** The OCT shall apply a timestamp in the header of every modem frame (TX\_TS field, TOD\_SECONDS) to create two-way time transfer (TWTT) between SV's via OISL, and SV OCT and GEP with OGT.

- The implementation shall reference the applied timestamp to the egress point of the rising edge of the first bit of the modem frame (exiting the aperture).
- The implementation shall compensate timestamp (as required) for systematic time delays due to propagation paths outside the over-the-air connection between a pair of terminals.
- The TS-applies header bit indicates if the TS-applies to current frame (0) or preceding frames (1-7).

**Note:** There is no need for the OCT to store recorded optical frame data beyond TS-applies number of frames.

**Requirement OCT-067:** The OCT shall collect the timestamp from the header of transmitted modem frames and provide these to the host for TWTT/PNT processing.

**Requirement OCT-068:** The OCT shall collect the timestamp from the header of received modem frames and provide these to the host for TWTT/PNT processing.

**Requirement OCT-069:** The OCT shall collect the ingress time of received modem frames and provide these to the host for TWTT/PNT processing.

**Note on Requirement OCT-069:** The means for calibrating path delays and compensating timestamp biases is implementation dependent.

**Requirement OCT-070:** The OCT shall provide the valid TWTT timestamps from the MGMT frame to the host for TWTT/PNT processing from each MGMT frame received and matched to the corresponding frame specified by TS-applies.

**Note on Requirement OCT-070:** Valid TWTT timestamps are determined from FIELD\_VALID\_STRUCTURE of the MGMT payload, shown in Table 3-15. Timestamps with their valid flags set to false are not required to be provided to the host.

**Requirement OCT-071:** The OCT shall provide the collected timestamp information via the network interface.

**Note on Requirement OCT-071:** The format of the timestamp report is implementation specific.

**Requirement OCT-072:** The OCT shall collect timestamp information at a rate of

TS\_RECORD\_FRAMES per second. The OCT shall be capable of a TS\_RECORD\_FRAMES of no less than one per second.

**Note on Requirement OCT-072:** Timestamps of IDLE frames other than those required to be recorded and reported may be dropped.

**Requirement OCT-073:** The reports shall be at a frequency TS\_REPORT\_FREQUENCY in Hz. The OCT shall be capable of a TS\_REPORT\_FREQUENCY of no less than 1 Hz.

**Requirement OCT-074:** Timestamps shall be accurate to within 3 ns of the host’s clock.

### 3.4.6.3 Fast Control Channel

**Requirement OCT-075:** The OCT modem frame shall provide an embedded fast control channel (FCCH) as described herein.

The FCCH is a low-rate channel with reserved bandwidth for robust, low-latency transport of short messages between OCTs. The FCCH enjoys the benefit of both error detection (via the header CRC) and error correction (via the header FEC) by virtue of residing in the frame header. No ARQ is provided for the FCCH channel.

The FCCH physical channel shall be time-multiplexed:

- FCCH\_OPCODE (6 bits): opcode which determines the format of the FCCH payload
- FCCH\_PL (16 bits): payload bits

A single FCCH shall be transmitted and received in every frame and can be valid for any FRAME\_TYPE.

The higher layers of the modem divide the capacity of the FCCH physical channel into multiple logical channels through time-multiplexing. The effective average data rate of these logical channels is a function of the payload FEC, baud rate, and the frequency of which the logical channel is scheduled by the modem higher layers. The FCCH logical channels are defined in Table 3-12 FCCH Logical Channels. If no FCCH data is waiting for transport, the FCCH opcode 11111 shall be specified. In this case the FCCH payload bits shall be all logical ones. Payload values for RESERVED opcodes shall be all logical zeros.

*Table 3-12 FCCH Logical Channels*

Description	FCCH_Type	FCCH_OPCODE(6 bits)	Message Rate
<b>Link Quality Reports</b>	LAPC_BLER_REPORT	000000	1 Hz
	LAPC_RSSI_REPORT	000001	1 Hz
	LAPC_SYNC_REPORT	000010	1 Hz
<b>Reserved</b>	RESERVED	000011	
<b>OCT Reports</b>	OCT_CAPABILITIES	000100	During Link Acquisition
<b>Link Quality Reports Expansion</b>	LAPC_RSSI_FAST	000101	100 Hz
<b>Reserved</b>	RESERVED	000110-111110	
<b>Not Preset</b>	N/A	111111	

The payload for each FCCH message shall be 16-bits. Payloads for each of the FCCH\_TYPES are defined in Table 3-13.

Table 3-13 FCCH

FCCH_TYPE	Field	Bits	Description
LAPC_BLER_REPORT (Opcode = 000000)	LAPC_RPT_PL_BLER	16	Number of payload CRC errors.  (Trailing 1 sec from 1 PPS)
LAPC_RSSI_REPORT (Opcode = 000001)	LAPC_RPT_PIF_MEAN	8	Received power mean.  (Average, trailing 1 sec from 1 PPS, step size = -0.25 dBm)
	LAPC_RPT_PIF_SDEV	8	Received Power standard deviation. (Average, trailing 1 sec from 1 PPS, step size = -0.25 dBm)
LAPC_SYNC_REPORT (Opcode = 000010)	LAPC_RPT_FS_LOSS	14	Number of times frame sync lost  (Trailing 1 sec from 1 PPS)
	LAPC_RPT_FS_STATE	2	Frame sync status (at 1 PPS sample time) 00: not locked 01: locked 10-11: reserved
OCT_CAPABILITIES (Opcode = 000100)	PROTOCOL_VERSION	16	15-12: Major  11-8: Minor  7-0: Patch
LAPC_RSSI_FAST (Opcode = 000101)	LAPC_RPT_RSSI_FAST	14	Received Signal Power  An LSB of $\leq 75 \text{ nW/m}^2$ (equivalent irradiance at target) is required. The reported value shall only cover the last 10 ms and shall not be integrated over a longer period.
	LAPC_RPT_FS_FAST	2	Frame sync status, last 10 msec. 00: not locked 01: locked 10: reserved 11: reserved

The frequency at which the FCCH messages are sent is application dependent subject to these requirements:

- LAPC\_RSSI\_FAST\_REPORT shall be sent at rate at least 100 Hz.
- LAPC\_BLER\_REPORT, LAPC\_RSSS\_REPORT and LAPC\_SYNC\_REPORT shall be sent at rate at least 1 Hz.

The OCT implementation shall be designed to tolerate loss of any FCCH messages.

### 3.4.7 Special Frames

**Requirement OCT-076:** The FRAME\_TYPE field of the frame shall signal the type of modem frame as described herein.

This section defines the IDLE and MGMT frame types and their intended usage on the optical interface. The DATA frame type is addressed in Section 3.4.8. Features signaled through the frame header are available in all frame types.

#### 3.4.7.1 IDLE Frames

By design the modem *always* transmits frames with no gap between adjacent frames during nominal operation. In the case that data is not available for transmission the modem shall insert consecutive IDLE frames into the transmitted stream until other types of traffic frames become available. There shall not be a gap between frames under any circumstance.

##### 3.4.7.1.1 IDLE Header Construction

Modem IDLE frames are signaled in the frame header by field FRAME\_TYPE = 00.

Modem IDLE frame headers are otherwise identical to normal data frame headers with the exception that the TXFN field in an IDLE frame header is always equal to the TXFN counter.

##### 3.4.7.1.2 IDLE Payload Construction

Modem IDLE frames are subject to the same payload FEC and are protected by the same CRC-32 as the data frames.

The information payload in IDLE frames is constructed as a pseudo-random binary sequence (PRBS) using the same generator as the frame scrambler (Figure 3-1) except with its initial seed equal to the value of the lower 15-bits of the TXFN field in the frame header. If the value of the lower 15-bits of TXFN used to seed the PRBS is equal to the state of the frame scrambler, the seed shall be over-written with a different value for its seed. If the value of the lower 15-bits of TXFN used to seed the PRBS would null the m-sequence, the seed shall be over-written. Specific implementations shall document and publish the seed value selection method for this case.

The size of the IDLE information payload is the same as for data frames.

#### 3.4.7.2 MGMT Frames

The MGMT frame type is provided for management frames. These frames are used for inter-OCT communications.

##### 3.4.7.2.1 MGMT Header Construction

Modem MGMT frames are signaled in the frame header by field FRAME\_TYPE = 10.

### 3.4.7.2.2 MGMT Payload Construction

Modem MGMT frames are subject to the same payload FEC and are protected by the same CRC-32 as the data frames. The size of the MGMT information payload is the same as for data frames. Data structures (defined below) are assigned positions in the MGMT frame.

Table 3-14 MGMT Payload Field Structure

Field	Data Type	Field Size (bits)
<b>FIELD_VALID</b>	FIELD_VALID_STRUCTURE	128
<b>TWTT_DATA</b>	TWTT_DATA_STRUCTURE	376
<b>EPHEM_PVTR_DATA</b>	PVTR_DATA_STRUCTURE	1902
<b>Not yet allocated</b>	Pseudorandom Data	6010
<b>32-bit Payload CRC</b>	CRC	32
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8448</b>

**Requirement OCT-077:** The EPHEM\_PVTR\_DATA structure and the associated data fields described in Table 3-18 shall be updated with valid data from the host at a frequency no less than PVTR\_REPORT\_FREQUENCY, where PVTR\_REPORT\_FREQUENCY is between 0 and TS\_REPORT\_FREQUENCY.

The FIELD\_VALID\_STRUCTURE of the MGMT payload is shown in Table 3-15.

Table 3-15 FIELD\_VALID\_STRUCTURE

Field	Field Size (bits)
<b>TWTT_VALID_1</b>	1
<b>TWTT_VALID_2</b>	1
<b>TWTT_VALID_3</b>	1
<b>TWTT_VALID_4</b>	1
<b>EPHEM_PVTR_VALID</b>	1
<b>RESERVED</b>	123
<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>

The TWTT\_DATA\_STRUCTURE of the MGMT payload is shown in Table 3-16.

Table 3-16 TWTT\_DATA\_STRUCTURE

Symbol	Field Valid Flag	Data Type	Field Size (bits)	Description
$t_1$	TWTT_VALID_1	FRAME_TIME_STAMP_STRUCTURE	94	Time of Egress of Remote OCT
$t_2$	TWTT_VALID_2	FRAME_TIME_STAMP_STRUCTURE	94	Time of Egress of Local OCT
$t_3$	TWTT_VALID_3	FRAME_TIME_STAMP_STRUCTURE	94	Time of Ingress of Remote OCT
$t_4$	TWTT_VALID_4	FRAME_TIME_STAMP_STRUCTURE	94	Time of Ingress of Local OCT
		<b>Total</b>	<b>376</b>	

**Note:** Timestamp  $t_1$  is equivalent to TX\_TS in the header frame. Timestamp  $t_2$  is loaded into header

frame by the modem. Timestamps  $t_3$  and  $t_4$  are receive timestamps, modified by TS-applies. Timestamps  $t_3 - t_1$  provides the one-way pseudo-range for the remote OCT and timestamps  $t_4 - t_2$  provide the one-way pseudo-range for the local OCT. Timestamps not available to the OCT at the time of MGMT frame generation will have their respective TWTT\_VALID\_\* flag set to 0 (zero) and those timestamps will be ignored for purposes of TWTT.

The detail of the FRAME\_TIME\_STAMP\_STRUCTURE is shown in the Table 3-17.

Table 3-17 FRAME\_TIME\_STAMP\_STRUCTURE

Field	Field Size (bits)	Description
<b>TXFN</b>	16	Sequence number of this (outgoing) TX frame.
<b>TX_TS</b>	40	TX timestamp (frame egress), number of picoseconds of whole second in time-of-day epoch: 0-999,999,999,999
<b>TOD_SECONDS</b>	6	number of seconds in time-of-day epoch: 0-59
<b>RESERVED</b>	32	
<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>	

The PVTR\_DATA\_STRUCTURE of the MGMT payload is shown in the table below. Filling this structure, and it's associated sub-structures, with valid data is optional for only OCT Standard 3.0.1 compliant systems.

Table 3-18 PVTR\_DATA\_STRUCTURE

Field	Data Type	Field Size (bits)
<b>SC_POSITION_VELOCITY</b>	SC_POSITION_VELOCITY_VECTOR_STRUCTURE	384
<b>SC_POSITION_VELOCITY_COVAR</b>	SC_POSITION_VELOCITY_COVARIANCE_DATA_STRUCTURE	384
<b>SC_ATTITUDE_QUATERNION</b>	QUATERNION_STRUCTURE	256
<b>SC_TO_OCT_TRANSLATION</b>	VECTOR_STRUCT	192
<b>SC_TO_OCT_ROTATION_QUATERNION</b>	QUATERNION_STRUCTURE	256
<b>OCT_LOS_UNIT_VECTOR</b>	VECTOR_STRUCT	192
<b>OCT_LEVER_ARM_VECTOR</b>	VECTOR_STRUCT	192
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1902</b>

When data is updated inside the PVTR\_DATA\_STRUCTURE fields, the timestamps inside the PVTR\_DATA\_TIMESTAMP\_STRUCT shall be updated by copying the timestamps found in the appropriate header frame, as designated by TS-applies, TX\_TS and TOD\_SECONDS. The PVTR timestamps are not updated if PVTR\_DATA\_STRUCTURE is not updated. PVTR\_DATA\_TIMESTAMP\_STRUCT fields are shown in the table below.

Table 3-19 PVTR\_DATA\_TIMESTAMP\_STRUCT

Field	Field Size (bits)	Description
<b>PVTR_TS</b>	40	TX timestamp (frame egress), number of picoseconds of whole second in time-of-day epoch: 0-999,999,999,999
<b>PVTR_TOD</b>	6	The number of seconds in time-of-day epoch: 0-59
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>	

The detail of the SC\_POSITION\_VELOCITY\_VECTOR\_STRUCTURE is shown in Table 3-20.

Table 3-20 SC\_POSITION\_VELOCITY\_VECTOR\_STRUCTURE

Field	Field Size (bits)
<b>X</b>	64
<b>Y</b>	64
<b>Z</b>	64
$\dot{\mathbf{X}}$	64
$\dot{\mathbf{Y}}$	64
$\dot{\mathbf{Z}}$	64
<b>Total</b>	<b>384</b>

The detail of the SC\_POSITION\_VELOCITY\_COVARIANCE\_DATA\_STRUCTURE is shown in Table 3-21.

Table 3-21 SC\_POSITION\_VELOCITY\_COVARIANCE\_DATA\_STRUCTURE

Field	Field Size (bits)
<b>COV_XX</b>	64
<b>COV_XY</b>	64
<b>COV_XZ</b>	64
<b>COV_YY</b>	64
<b>COV_YZ</b>	64
<b>COV_ZZ</b>	64
<b>Total</b>	<b>384</b>

The detail of the QUATERNION\_STRUCTURE is shown in Table 3-22.

Table 3-22 QUATERNION\_STRUCTURE

Field	Field Size (bits)
<b>a</b>	64
<b>b</b>	64
<b>c</b>	64
<b>d</b>	64
<b>Total</b>	<b>256</b>

The detail of the VECTOR\_STRUCT is shown in Table 3-23.

Table 3-23 VECTOR\_STRUCT

Field	Field Size (bits)
<b>x</b>	64
<b>y</b>	64
<b>z</b>	64
<b>Total</b>	<b>192</b>

The physical order for the MGMT frame packing is given by Table 3-24.

Table 3-24 Physical Mapping for the MGMT Frame

	D <sub>0</sub>			D <sub>1</sub>			D <sub>2</sub>			D <sub>3</sub>		
<b>0</b>	FIELD_VALID	127	96	FIELD_VALID	95	64	FIELD_VALID	63	32	FIELD_VALID	31	0

	D <sub>0</sub>			D <sub>1</sub>			D <sub>2</sub>			D <sub>3</sub>		
<b>1</b>	TWTT_DATA	375	344	TWTT_DATA	343	312	TWTT_DATA	311	280	TWTT_DATA	279	248
<b>2</b>	TWTT_DATA	247	216	TWTT_DATA	215	184	TWTT_DATA	183	152	TWTT_DATA	151	120
<b>3</b>	TWTT_DATA	119	88	TWTT_DATA	87	56	TWTT_DATA	55	24	TWTT_DATA	23	0
										EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1901	1894
<b>4</b>	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1893	1862	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1861	1830	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1829	1798	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1797	1766
<b>5</b>	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1765	1734	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1733	1702	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1701	1670	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1669	1638
<b>6</b>	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1637	1606	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1605	1574	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1573	1542	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1541	1510
<b>7</b>	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1509	1478	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1477	1446	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1445	1414	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1413	1382
<b>8</b>	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1381	1350	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1349	1318	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1317	1286	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1285	1254
<b>9</b>	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1253	1222	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1221	1190	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1189	1158	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1157	1126
<b>10</b>	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1125	1094	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1093	1062	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1061	1030	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	1029	998
<b>11</b>	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	997	966	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	965	934	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	933	902	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	901	870
<b>12</b>	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	869	838	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	837	806	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	805	774	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	773	742
<b>13</b>	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	741	710	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	709	678	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	677	646	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	645	614
<b>14</b>	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	613	582	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	581	550	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	549	518	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	517	486
<b>15</b>	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	485	454	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	453	422	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	421	390	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	389	358
<b>16</b>	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	357	326	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	325	294	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	293	262	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	261	230
<b>17</b>	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	229	198	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	197	166	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	165	134	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	133	102
<b>18</b>	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	101	70	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	69	38	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	37	6	EPHEM_PVTR_DATA	5	0
										Pseudorandom Data	6009	5984
<b>19</b>	Pseudorandom Data	5983	5952	Pseudorandom Data	5951	5920	Pseudorandom Data	5919	5888	Pseudorandom Data	5887	5856
<b>20</b>	Pseudorandom Data	5855	5824	Pseudorandom Data	5823	5792	Pseudorandom Data	5791	5760	Pseudorandom Data	5759	5728
<b>21</b>	Pseudorandom Data	5727	5696	Pseudorandom Data	5695	5664	Pseudorandom Data	5663	5632	Pseudorandom Data	5631	5600

	D <sub>0</sub>			D <sub>1</sub>			D <sub>2</sub>			D <sub>3</sub>		
<b>22</b>	Pseudorandom Data	5599	5568	Pseudorandom Data	5567	5536	Pseudorandom Data	5535	5504	Pseudorandom Data	5503	5472
<b>23</b>	Pseudorandom Data	5471	5440	Pseudorandom Data	5439	5408	Pseudorandom Data	5407	5376	Pseudorandom Data	5375	5344
<b>24</b>	Pseudorandom Data	5343	5312	Pseudorandom Data	5311	5280	Pseudorandom Data	5279	5248	Pseudorandom Data	5247	5216
<b>25</b>	Pseudorandom Data	5215	5184	Pseudorandom Data	5183	5152	Pseudorandom Data	5151	5120	Pseudorandom Data	5119	5088
<b>26</b>	Pseudorandom Data	5087	5056	Pseudorandom Data	5055	5024	Pseudorandom Data	5023	4992	Pseudorandom Data	4991	4960
<b>27</b>	Pseudorandom Data	4959	4928	Pseudorandom Data	4927	4896	Pseudorandom Data	4895	4864	Pseudorandom Data	4863	4832
<b>28</b>	Pseudorandom Data	4831	4800	Pseudorandom Data	4799	4768	Pseudorandom Data	4767	4736	Pseudorandom Data	4735	4704
<b>29</b>	Pseudorandom Data	4703	4672	Pseudorandom Data	4671	4640	Pseudorandom Data	4639	4608	Pseudorandom Data	4607	4576
<b>30</b>	Pseudorandom Data	4575	4544	Pseudorandom Data	4543	4512	Pseudorandom Data	4511	4480	Pseudorandom Data	4479	4448
<b>31</b>	Pseudorandom Data	4447	4416	Pseudorandom Data	4415	4384	Pseudorandom Data	4383	4352	Pseudorandom Data	4351	4320
<b>32</b>	Pseudorandom Data	4319	4288	Pseudorandom Data	4287	4256	Pseudorandom Data	4255	4224	Pseudorandom Data	4223	4192
<b>33</b>	Pseudorandom Data	4191	4160	Pseudorandom Data	4159	4128	Pseudorandom Data	4127	4096	Pseudorandom Data	4095	4064
<b>34</b>	Pseudorandom Data	4063	4032	Pseudorandom Data	4031	4000	Pseudorandom Data	3999	3968	Pseudorandom Data	3967	3936
<b>35</b>	Pseudorandom Data	3935	3904	Pseudorandom Data	3903	3872	Pseudorandom Data	3871	3840	Pseudorandom Data	3839	3808
<b>36</b>	Pseudorandom Data	3807	3776	Pseudorandom Data	3775	3744	Pseudorandom Data	3743	3712	Pseudorandom Data	3711	3680
<b>37</b>	Pseudorandom Data	3679	3648	Pseudorandom Data	3647	3616	Pseudorandom Data	3615	3584	Pseudorandom Data	3583	3552
<b>38</b>	Pseudorandom Data	3551	3520	Pseudorandom Data	3519	3488	Pseudorandom Data	3487	3456	Pseudorandom Data	3455	3424
<b>39</b>	Pseudorandom Data	3423	3392	Pseudorandom Data	3391	3360	Pseudorandom Data	3359	3328	Pseudorandom Data	3327	3296
<b>40</b>	Pseudorandom Data	3295	3264	Pseudorandom Data	3263	3232	Pseudorandom Data	3231	3200	Pseudorandom Data	3199	3168
<b>41</b>	Pseudorandom Data	3167	3136	Pseudorandom Data	3135	3104	Pseudorandom Data	3103	3072	Pseudorandom Data	3071	3040
<b>42</b>	Pseudorandom Data	3039	3008	Pseudorandom Data	3007	2976	Pseudorandom Data	2975	2944	Pseudorandom Data	2943	2912
<b>43</b>	Pseudorandom Data	2911	2880	Pseudorandom Data	2879	2848	Pseudorandom Data	2847	2816	Pseudorandom Data	2815	2784

	D <sub>0</sub>			D <sub>1</sub>			D <sub>2</sub>			D <sub>3</sub>		
<b>44</b>	Pseudorandom Data	2783	2752	Pseudorandom Data	2751	2720	Pseudorandom Data	2719	2688	Pseudorandom Data	2687	2656
<b>45</b>	Pseudorandom Data	2655	2624	Pseudorandom Data	2623	2592	Pseudorandom Data	2591	2560	Pseudorandom Data	2559	2528
<b>46</b>	Pseudorandom Data	2527	2496	Pseudorandom Data	2495	2464	Pseudorandom Data	2463	2432	Pseudorandom Data	2431	2400
<b>47</b>	Pseudorandom Data	2399	2368	Pseudorandom Data	2367	2336	Pseudorandom Data	2335	2304	Pseudorandom Data	2303	2272
<b>48</b>	Pseudorandom Data	2271	2240	Pseudorandom Data	2239	2208	Pseudorandom Data	2207	2176	Pseudorandom Data	2175	2144
<b>49</b>	Pseudorandom Data	2143	2112	Pseudorandom Data	2111	2080	Pseudorandom Data	2079	2048	Pseudorandom Data	2047	2016
<b>50</b>	Pseudorandom Data	2015	1984	Pseudorandom Data	1983	1952	Pseudorandom Data	1951	1920	Pseudorandom Data	1919	1888
<b>51</b>	Pseudorandom Data	1887	1856	Pseudorandom Data	1855	1824	Pseudorandom Data	1823	1792	Pseudorandom Data	1791	1760
<b>52</b>	Pseudorandom Data	1759	1728	Pseudorandom Data	1727	1696	Pseudorandom Data	1695	1664	Pseudorandom Data	1663	1632
<b>53</b>	Pseudorandom Data	1631	1600	Pseudorandom Data	1599	1568	Pseudorandom Data	1567	1536	Pseudorandom Data	1535	1504
<b>54</b>	Pseudorandom Data	1503	1472	Pseudorandom Data	1471	1440	Pseudorandom Data	1439	1408	Pseudorandom Data	1407	1376
<b>55</b>	Pseudorandom Data	1375	1344	Pseudorandom Data	1343	1312	Pseudorandom Data	1311	1280	Pseudorandom Data	1279	1248
<b>56</b>	Pseudorandom Data	1247	1216	Pseudorandom Data	1215	1184	Pseudorandom Data	1183	1152	Pseudorandom Data	1151	1120
<b>57</b>	Pseudorandom Data	1119	1088	Pseudorandom Data	1087	1056	Pseudorandom Data	1055	1024	Pseudorandom Data	1023	992
<b>58</b>	Pseudorandom Data	991	960	Pseudorandom Data	959	928	Pseudorandom Data	927	896	Pseudorandom Data	895	864
<b>59</b>	Pseudorandom Data	863	832	Pseudorandom Data	831	800	Pseudorandom Data	799	768	Pseudorandom Data	767	736
<b>60</b>	Pseudorandom Data	735	704	Pseudorandom Data	703	672	Pseudorandom Data	671	640	Pseudorandom Data	639	608
<b>61</b>	Pseudorandom Data	607	576	Pseudorandom Data	575	544	Pseudorandom Data	543	512	Pseudorandom Data	511	480
<b>62</b>	Pseudorandom Data	479	448	Pseudorandom Data	447	416	Pseudorandom Data	415	384	Pseudorandom Data	383	352
<b>63</b>	Pseudorandom Data	351	320	Pseudorandom Data	319	288	Pseudorandom Data	287	256	Pseudorandom Data	255	224
<b>64</b>	Pseudorandom Data	223	192	Pseudorandom Data	191	160	Pseudorandom Data	159	128	Pseudorandom Data	127	96
<b>65</b>	Pseudorandom Data	95	64	Pseudorandom Data	63	32	Pseudorandom Data	31	0	Payload CRC	31	0

### 3.4.8 Ethernet Encapsulation

This section describes the structure of the DATA frame type.

#### 3.4.8.1 Overview of Ethernet Packet Encapsulation

**Requirement OCT-078:** The OCT data plane shall encapsulate Ethernet packets as Free Space Optical (FSO) frames for transport across the optical link as described herein.

The process is illustrated in Figure 3-4.

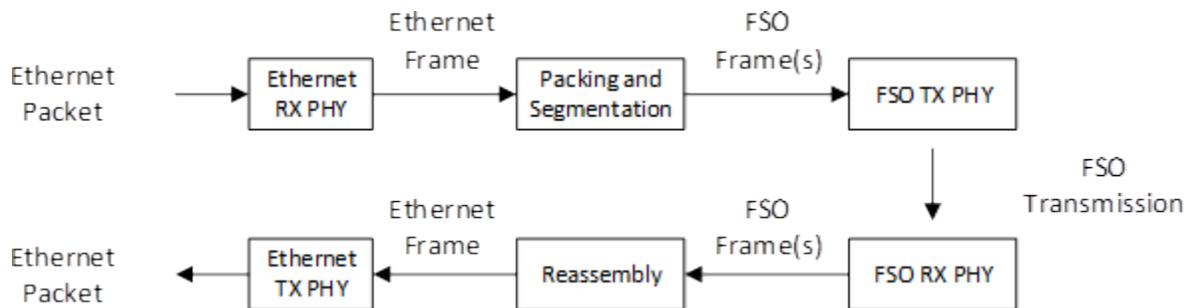


Figure 3-4 Ethernet Encapsulation

This scheme permits the OCT to carry virtually any form of Ethernet traffic transparently between a pair of optical terminals. The presence of the OCT is largely transparent to the endpoints.

##### 3.4.8.1.1 Ethernet Packet Handling

On ingress to the modem, the Ethernet frame shall be extracted from every Ethernet packet by stripping the Preamble and the Start Frame Delimiter (SFD) from the packet. The Ethernet frames must be queued to the Packing and Segmentation block for encapsulation as FSO frames.

On egress from the modem, the TX Ethernet PHY must construct Ethernet packets from the received (reconstructed) Ethernet frames by pre-pending for each frame the Ethernet Preamble and Start Frame Delimiter (SFD) and appending an appropriate Interpacket Gap (IPG). The reconstructed Ethernet packet must be emitted by the Ethernet PHY.

##### 3.4.8.1.2 Packing and Segmentation

The *Packing and Segmentation* operation (Figure 3-4) must perform the following functions in the TX PHY of the optical terminal:

- Segments large Ethernet frames into one or more FSO frames (as needed)
- Packs small Ethernet frames into FSO frames

##### 3.4.8.1.3 FSO Frame Payload Format

This section defines how the output of the Packing and Segmentation operation is formatted in the payload section of an FSO DATA frame. The structure is illustrated logically in Figure 3-5. The bytes must be written into the payload FEC frame in physical byte order. The bytes must be consecutive, per word in Figure 3-5, with the lower 8 bits (0 to 7) denoting the first byte, followed by the next grouping of bytes up to the upper set of 8 bits (24 to 31) denoting the fourth byte. The numbering of bytes for the purpose of defining their ordering entering the payload FEC must increment naturally for each 32-bit word in Figure 3-5.

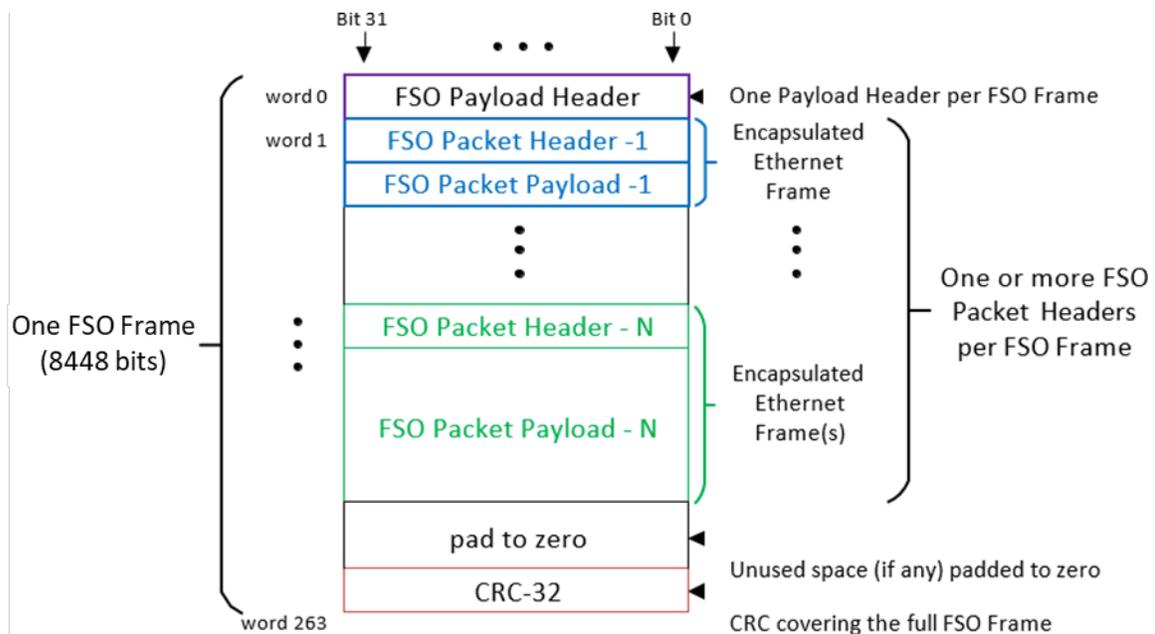


Figure 3-5 FSO Payload Frame Format

The FSO payload and FSO frame headers split Ethernet frame payloads across multiple frames, enabling efficient packing of Ethernet frames into FSO frames.

There must not be any zero-pad space except at the end of the FSO frame as illustrated in Figure 3-5.

Note that the CRC-32 described in Figure 3-5 is the same CRC-32 previously described in and is repeated here for clarity.

#### 3.4.8.1.4 FSO Payload and Packet Headers

**Requirement OCT-079:** Every FSO frame shall start with an FSO payload header.

**Requirement OCT-080:** There shall be exactly one FSO payload header (32 bits) per FSO frame.

**Requirement OCT-081:** The contents of the FSO frame and packet headers shall follow the definition presented in Table 3-25.

Table 3-25 FSO Payload and Packet Headers

	Field	Bit Numbers	#Bits
<b>FSO Payload Header (32 bits)</b>	0xAB	31:24	8
	seq_num	23:14	10
	Length	13:0	14
<b>FSO Packet Header (32 bits)</b>	0xCDEF	31:16	16
	reserved	15:14	2
	Length	13:0	14

The FSO payload header is constructed as an 8-bit magic number (0xAB) followed by a 10-bit sequence number and a 14-bit length field. Sequence numbers shall increment sequentially for every

DATA frame and wrap naturally around zero. The sequence number referenced in Table 3-25 is unrelated to the modem's ARQ signaling.

The system must be capable of splitting an encapsulated Ethernet frame payload across multiple FSO frames. The FSO payload header length field shall have a non-zero value only when an Ethernet frame is segmented across the preceding and current FSO DATA frames, signaling the length of the preceding encapsulated packet remaining. Otherwise, the length field shall be zero.

The FSO packet header (Table 3-25) shall signal encapsulation of an Ethernet frame. The header shall be constructed as a 16-bit magic number (0xCDEF) followed by two reserved bits (0b00) and a 14-bit length field. The length field shall signal the number of payload bytes to follow where the length field excludes the length of the packet header regardless of whether the Ethernet frame is segmented into the following FSO frame.

### 3.4.8.1.5 Ethernet Byte Ordering, Padding, and CRC

FSO packet headers are aligned to a 32-bit boundary. If the encapsulated Ethernet frame length is not a multiple of 4 bytes, the implementation must pad the remaining unused space in the FSO frame with zeros.

Ethernet frame payload bytes shall be written into the FSO frame (Figure 3-5) in natural (ascending) order with the first ingress byte of the Ethernet frame written into the first word after the FSO Packet header starting at byte 0 (bit positions [7:0]), incrementing up through byte 3 (bit positions [31:24]), then incrementing to the next word in the FSO frame. Unused bytes in the FSO frame shall be padded with zeros.

An example of the byte ordering for the encapsulation of a hypothetical Ethernet frame of length  $n$  bytes is illustrated in Table 3-26. The payload header (Table 3-25) is written into FSO frame word 0. In this example, suppose that there is no Ethernet frame continued from a preceding FSO frame. Then a packet header is written into FSO frame word 1. This marks the start of the encapsulated Ethernet frame bytes. The bytes of the Ethernet frame (ETH\_Byte\_0... ETH\_Byte\_n) are written sequentially in the natural (ascending) byte order in which they were received starting in the first FSO word following the packet header until either the entire Ethernet frame is written or the available space in the FSO frame is consumed.

Table 3-26 Ethernet Frame Byte Ordering into FSO Logical Frame

FSO word number	Contents	31-24	23-16	15-8	7-0
word 0	Payload Header	AB[31:24], seq_num[23:14], length[13:0]			
word 1	Packet Header	CDEF[31:18], reserved[17:16], length[13:0]			
word 2	Ethernet bytes	ETH_Byte_3	ETH_Byte_2	ETH_Byte_1	ETH_Byte_0
		...			
word M		Zero_Pad	Zero_Pad	ETH_Byte_n-1	ETH_Byte_n-2

The implementation shall be capable of emitting FSO frames with partially packed Ethernet frames. In the case that the Ethernet frame is segmented, the Ethernet bytes are continued into the immediately following FSO DATA frame with the appropriate signaling in the FSO payload header as previously described in Section 3.4.8.1.4.

Every FSO frame shall end with a 32-bit CRC. In all cases, the CRC shall cover the entire frame, including any portions of the frame padded with zeros.

Figure 3-6 provides the implementation convention for data bits into the encoder.



- Any FSO packet header whose length field is inconsistent shall be discarded.

### 3.4.8.1.7 Transmission Order

The convention for serializing the DATA frame for transmission: data bits enter the scrambler in row major order, with bits within each row serialized as MSB (first) to LSB (last). The process as a function of PL\_RATE is illustrated in Figure 3-7.

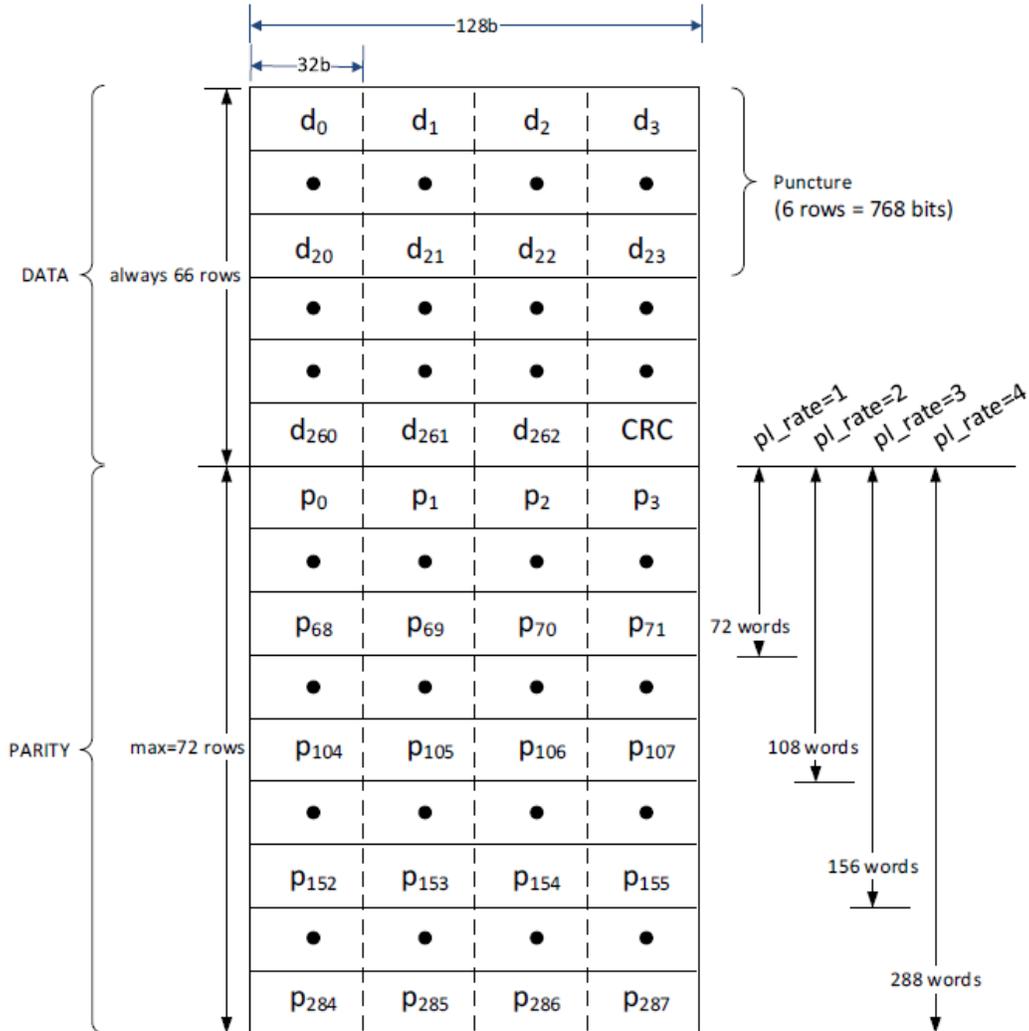


Figure 3-7 Serialization Order when Payload FEC is Enabled

### 3.4.9 Effective Data Rate

Table 3-27 summarizes the frame configurations, pertinent metrics, and the resulting data rates for each.

*Table 3-27 Effective Data Rates for Frame Configurations*

Baud Rate (Mbps)	Line Code	PL RATE	LDPC Code Ratio	Pre-amble (bits)	Header (bits)	Payload (bits)	Parity (bits)	Punctured Data (bits)	TX Codeword Size (Data + Parity - Punctured)	Optical Signaling Rate (MHz)	Baud Time (ns)	Frame Duration (μs)	Max Theoretical Payload Data Rate (Mbps)	FCCH Data Rate (Mbps)
2500	None	0	0.0000	64	960	8448	0	0	8448	2500	0.400	3.7888	2221.28	12.67
2500	None	1	0.8462	64	960	8448	2304	768	9984	2500	0.400	4.7104	1786.68	10.19
2500	None	2	0.7586	64	960	8448	3456	768	11136	2500	0.400	5.1712	1627.48	9.28
2500	None	3	0.6667	64	960	8448	4992	768	12672	2500	0.400	5.7856	1454.65	8.30
2500	None	4	0.5000	64	960	8448	9216	768	16896	2500	0.400	7.4752	1125.86	6.42
1250	Manchester	0	0.0000	64	960	8448	0	0	8448	2500	0.800	7.5776	1110.64	6.33
1250	Manchester	1	0.8462	64	960	8448	2304	768	9984	2500	0.800	9.4208	893.34	5.10
1250	Manchester	2	0.7586	64	960	8448	3456	768	11136	2500	0.800	10.3424	813.74	4.64
1250	Manchester	3	0.6667	64	960	8448	4992	768	12672	2500	0.800	11.5712	727.32	4.15
1250	Manchester	4	0.5000	64	960	8448	9216	768	16896	2500	0.800	14.9504	562.93	3.21
1250	None	0	0.0000	64	960	8448	0	0	8448	1250	0.800	7.5776	1110.64	6.33
1250	None	1	0.8462	64	960	8448	2304	768	9984	1250	0.800	9.4208	893.34	5.10
1250	None	2	0.7586	64	960	8448	3456	768	11136	1250	0.800	10.3424	813.74	4.64
1250	None	3	0.6667	64	960	8448	4992	768	12672	1250	0.800	11.5712	727.32	4.15
1250	None	4	0.5000	64	960	8448	9216	768	16896	1250	0.800	14.9504	562.93	3.21
625	Manchester	0	0.0000	64	960	8448	0	0	8448	1250	1.600	15.1552	555.32	3.17
625	Manchester	1	0.8462	64	960	8448	2304	768	9984	1250	1.600	18.8416	446.67	2.55
625	Manchester	2	0.7586	64	960	8448	3456	768	11136	1250	1.600	20.6848	406.87	2.32
625	Manchester	3	0.6667	64	960	8448	4992	768	12672	1250	1.600	23.1424	363.66	2.07
625	Manchester	4	0.5000	64	960	8448	9216	768	16896	1250	1.600	29.9008	281.46	1.61
625	None	0	0.0000	64	960	8448	0	0	8448	625	1.600	15.1552	555.32	3.17
625	None	1	0.8462	64	960	8448	2304	768	9984	625	1.600	18.8416	446.67	2.55
625	None	2	0.7586	64	960	8448	3456	768	11136	625	1.600	20.6848	406.87	2.32
625	None	3	0.6667	64	960	8448	4992	768	12672	625	1.600	23.1424	363.66	2.07

Baud Rate (Mbps)	Line Code	PL RATE	LDPC Code Ratio	Pre-ambble (bits)	Header (bits)	Payload (bits)	Parity (bits)	Punctured Data (bits)	TX Codeword Size (Data + Parity - Punctured)	Optical Signaling Rate (MHz)	Baud Time (ns)	Frame Duration (μs)	Max Theoretical Payload Data Rate (Mbps)	FCCH Data Rate (Mbps)
625	None	4	0.5000	64	960	8448	9216	768	16896	625	1.600	29.9008	281.46	1.61
313	Manchester	0	0.0000	64	960	8448	0	0	8448	626	3.195	30.2620	278.10	1.59
313	Manchester	1	0.8462	64	960	8448	2304	768	9984	626	3.195	37.6230	223.69	1.28
313	Manchester	2	0.7586	64	960	8448	3456	768	11136	626	3.195	41.3035	203.76	1.16
313	Manchester	3	0.6667	64	960	8448	4992	768	12672	626	3.195	46.2109	182.12	1.04
313	Manchester	4	0.5000	64	960	8448	9216	768	16896	626	3.195	59.7061	140.96	0.80
313	None	0	0.0000	64	960	8448	0	0	8448	313	3.195	30.2620	278.10	1.59
313	None	1	0.8462	64	960	8448	2304	768	9984	313	3.195	37.6230	223.69	1.28
313	None	2	0.7586	64	960	8448	3456	768	11136	313	3.195	41.3035	203.76	1.16
313	None	3	0.6667	64	960	8448	4992	768	12672	313	3.195	46.2109	182.12	1.04
313	None	4	0.5000	64	960	8448	9216	768	16896	313	3.195	59.7061	140.96	0.80
156	Manchester	0	0.0000	64	960	8448	0	0	8448	312	6.410	60.7179	138.61	0.79
156	Manchester	1	0.8462	64	960	8448	2304	768	9984	312	6.410	75.4872	111.49	0.64
156	Manchester	2	0.7586	64	960	8448	3456	768	11136	312	6.410	82.8718	101.55	0.58
156	Manchester	3	0.6667	64	960	8448	4992	768	12672	312	6.410	92.7179	90.77	0.52
156	Manchester	4	0.5000	64	960	8448	9216	768	16896	312	6.410	119.7949	70.25	0.40

### 3.4.10 LDPC Code Rates

The OCT modem implementation supports the four payload FEC code rates listed in Table 3-28.

*Table 3-28 Payload FEC Code Rates*

PL Rate	Total Size (Bits)	Z	mb	Parity Check (Bits)	K mod	Actual Code-Rate Ratio	K, Information Block size (Bits)
<b>1</b>	9984	384	6	2304	7680	0.8462	8448
<b>2</b>	11136	384	9	3456	7680	0.7586	8448
<b>3</b>	12672	384	13	4992	7680	0.6667	8448
<b>4</b>	16896	384	24	9216	7680	0.5000	8448

## 4 References

The following publications contain provisions that, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this document. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All publications are subject to revision, and users of this document are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the publications indicated below.

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