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TDM-PON 上行信号光功率均衡器的锁模特性

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摘要: 为了减小时分复用无源光网络(TDM-PON)上行信号光波长的飘移, 基于TDM-PON上行信号光功率均衡器架构, 采用单模激光注入锁定光网络单元(ONU)法布里-珀罗(F-P)激光器(LD)方法, 研究了F-P LD输出光波长的锁模特性, 包括锁模的范围、驱动电流对锁模特性的影响、锁模前后温度变化引起F-P LD光波长变化情况等。结果表明, 当驱动电流为9mA时, F-P LD可被锁模的波长范围为0.38nm, 大于ONU上行光波长因环境温度变化5°C而产生的波长位移量0.25nm, F-P LD被锁模可使ONU上行信号的光波长相同且稳定, 降低光功率均衡后的噪声。

关键词: 光通信; 光功率均衡; 光注入锁定; 法布里-珀罗激光器; 分布反馈半导体激光器

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Mode-locking characteristics of TDM-PON upstream traffic optical power equalizers

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Abstract: In order to reduce the wavelength drift of the time division multiplexing passive optical network (TDM-PON) upstream traffic, based on a architecture with optical power equalization of the upstream traffic in a TDM-PON, using single mode laser injection locking Fabry-Perot laser diode (F-P LD) of optical network unit (ONU), the mode-locking characteristics of Fabry-Perot output laser wavelength was discussed, such as the range of injection-locking, the influence of driving current on mode-locking characteristics, the influence of temperature variation on the wavelength with or without injection-locking. The results show that, for such a laser, when the driving current is 9mA, the injection-locking wavelength range is 0.38nm which is larger than the 0.25nm upstream wavelength drift of the ONU caused by the 5°C change of environmental temperature. The identical and stable wavelength of the ONU upstream traffic and the low noise after the optical power equalization were achieved by the injection-locking F-P LD.

Key words: optical communications; optical power equalization; optical injection-locked; Fabry-Perot laser diode; distributed feedback semiconductor laser

引言

目前实现光纤到家最受欢迎的方法是采用成本低廉的无源光网络 (passive optical network, PON)^[1-2]。一个无源光网络包含一个位于局端的光

线路终端(optical line termination, OLT)和多个位于用户端的光网络单元(optical network unit, ONU)^[3]。在无源光网络中, 因每个用户端到局端的距离不一样, 造成上行光信号光功率大小不同, 因此, 局端必须用突发模式光接收机接收ONU的上传信号, 导致局端OLT设计复杂度上升, 且ONU实际可用带宽下降。为此, 参考文献[4]~参考文献[13]中研究了用不同方法实现光功率均衡。参考文献[7]中采用上行光注入于工作在临界电流以下的法布里-珀罗(Fabry-Perot, F-P)二极管激光器(laser diode, LD)来实现光功率均衡, 本方法要求ONU上行信号的光波长相同且稳定, 实际上用户端ONU

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上传光波长容易因温度效应而飘移,当注入光波长差超过 0.08nm 时,信号将产生严重噪声。参考文献[8]中对参考文献[7]中的方法进行了改进,在时分复用无源光网络(time division multiplexing passive optical network,TDM-PON)上行光注入F-P LD前,用单模激光注入用户端ONU,锁定各用户端F-P LD上行光波长,使ONU上行光波长不会因温度效应而飘移,有效降低光功率均衡后的直流噪声。

参考文献[8]中的方法,其关键是单模激光注入锁定各用户端F-P LD上行光波长。实验中发现,如果没有锁模,光功率均衡器输出光强会突然变小,光输出眼图张开程度变小、噪声大,不能有效地传输信号。基于TDM-PON上行信号光功率均衡器架构,通过实验研究单纵模激光波长增减变化能注入锁定F-P LD光波长的范围,驱动电流对锁模特性的影响,锁模前后温度变化引起F-P LD光波长变化情况。

1 光注入锁模原理

图1所示是TDM-PON之ONU上行信号的光功率均衡器架构图,LD₁用作光功率均衡,其驱动电流略低于F-P LD临界电流,1490nm LD用于下行信号光发射机,分布反馈式(distributed feedback,DFB)激光器作为各ONU的外部注入光源。由于F-P LD温度效应特性,输出的模态会因升温而往长波长移动,使ONU上行信号波长发生漂移,为了不使它移动,在局端OLT中,1310nm的分布反馈式激光器输出单纵模激光,经光纤传输至远程节点处,单纵模激光于远程节点处由光环形器第一光纤输入,从光环形器第二光纤输出注入每个ONU之F-P LD,锁定后从光环形器第三光纤输出同一稳定波长光,避免不同ONU的上行信号光波长不一或因温度效应而发生漂移。远程节点处DFB LD单纵模激光注入锁定ONU之F-P LD示意图如图2所示。

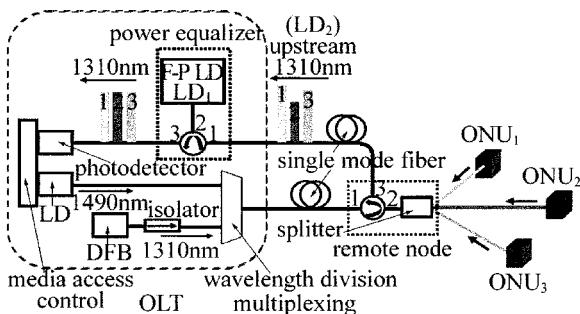


Fig. 1 Architecture with power equalization of the upstream traffic in a TDM-PON structure

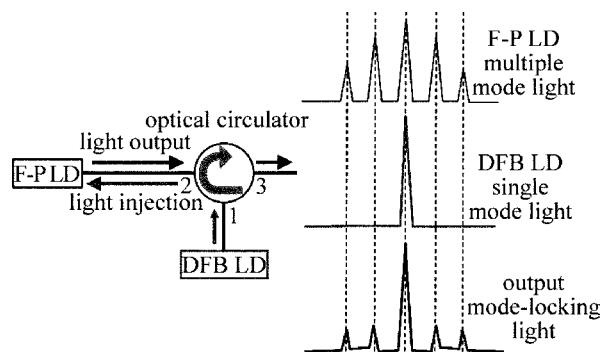


Fig. 2 Schematic diagram of the injection-locked F-P LD

当DFB LD单纵模激光与F-P LD的模态相互对应,外部注入的单模光将影响激光介质的增益与折射率分布,使其可于激光共振腔中共振放大,获得激光介质的大部分功率,其它模态的光强度将被大幅抑制,边模抑制比大增(大于40dB),F-P LD输出与原来DFB LD光谱类似的单纵模激光。图3为光环形器第三光纤锁模前后输出的光谱图,由光谱变化可知,F-P LD模态被锁定后有单纵模激光输出。

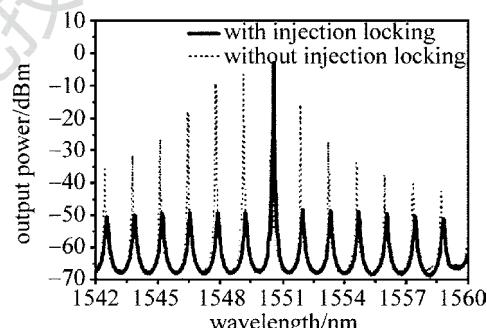


Fig. 3 Spectrogram comparison with and without mode-locking by injection of F-P LD

2 实验与结果

图2中,用可调谐激光器来代替单纵模外部注入光源,方便调整其光波长以进行光注入锁模。由于1310nm设备与器件一般实验室多不具备,为了实验的方便,实验中所采用F-P LD的波长为1550nm,其临界电流为9.3mA,所用驱动电流为9mA与15mA,分别代表光功率均衡器与ONU端法布里-珀罗激光器的操作条件。以下是F-P LD在驱动电流为9mA与15mA时,分别执行单纵模光注入锁模实验的结果。图4与图5分别是驱动电流9mA时单纵模光波长递减与递增的锁模光谱图,此时F-P LD被锁模前的初始模态波长是1549.55nm。图6与图7分别是驱动电流15mA时单纵模光波长递减与递增的锁模光谱图,此时F-P LD被锁模前的

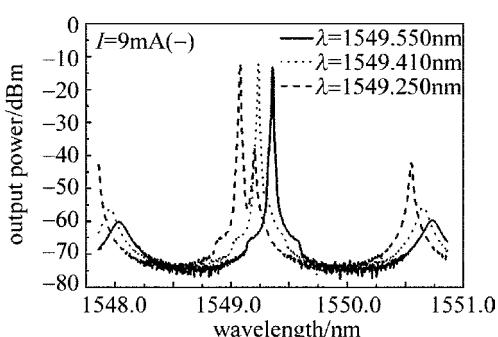


Fig. 4 Spectrograms of the mode-locking with decreasing wavelengths of injected single longitudinal mode when the drive current of F-P LD is 9mA

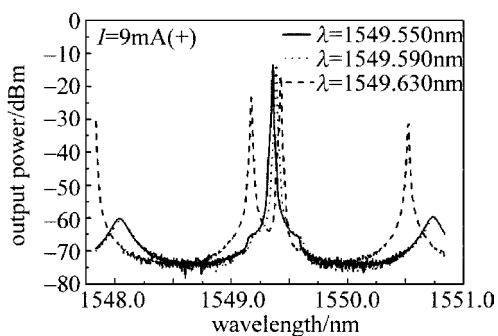


Fig. 5 Spectrograms of the mode-locking with increasing wavelengths of injected single longitudinal mode when the drive current of F-P LD is 9mA

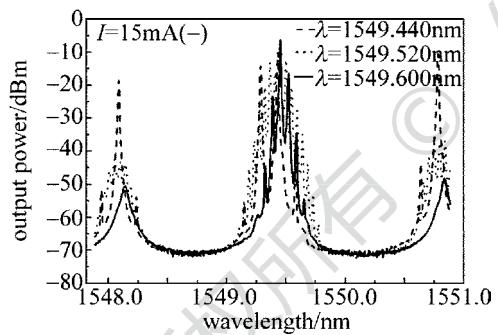


Fig. 6 Spectrograms of the mode-locking with decreasing wavelengths of injected single longitudinal mode when the drive current of F-P LD is 15mA

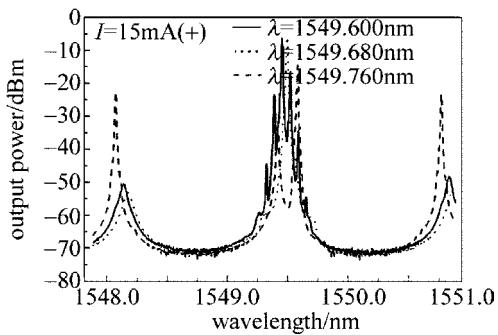


Fig. 7 Spectrograms of the mode-locking with increasing wavelengths of injected single longitudinal mode when the drive current of F-P LD is 15mA

初始模态波长是 1549.60nm。

根据以上各图,可得出以下结论。

(1) 外部注入光波长与 F-P LD 的初始模态波长越接近,边模抑制比越大,可达锁模的外部注入光强度也可越小。

(2) 外部注入光由波长递减与波长递增锁模范围不同,外部注入光由波长递减要比波长递增有更大的锁模范围。如驱动电流 9mA 时,波长递减时锁模范围为 0.3nm,波长递增时锁模范围为 0.08nm。

(3) 驱动电流超过 F-P LD 临界电流时,外部注入光波长与 F-P LD 的初始模态相同时,会有类似五指山峰的频谱输出,而不是类似单纵模的频谱输出。

(4) 驱动电流越大,F-P LD 各模态的光强大,不容易被外注入光锁定,F-P LD 可被锁模的范围越小。驱动电流 15mA 时,F-P LD 可被锁模的范围为 0.16nm;驱动电流 9mA 时,F-P LD 可被锁模的范围为 0.38nm。

器件的温度上升,会使激光器材料的折射率和带隙发生变化,导致光谐振腔尺寸增大,带隙变窄,使激光器输出光的峰值波长随温度升高向长波长方向漂移。以 DFB LD 为外部注入光源来锁定各用户端 F-P LD 的上行光波长,可以避免因用户温度环境不同而使上行光波长有所差异。图 8 是 F-P LD 被外部单纵模注入光锁模前后于不同温度下的输出光波长变化,其中三角形记号为 F-P LD 未被外部注入光锁模的特定模态波长变化,温度由 23.15°C 升高至 27.15°C,模态波长位移量为 0.25nm。以相同的条件来测试,F-P LD 被外部单纵模锁模后的输出波长(实心圆记号处)变化接近于 0。

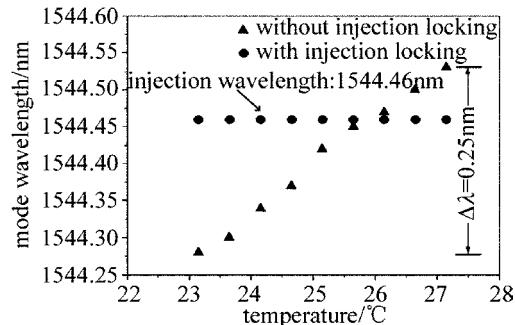


Fig. 8 The variation of F-P LD output wavelength before and after mode-locking at different temperatures

3 结 论

外部单纵模光注入锁定 F-P LD 模态,可使 F-P LD 输出类似单纵模光谱。要使 F-P LD 输出较好的锁模光谱图,驱动电流不能高于 F-P LD 临界电流,

驱动电流越大, F-P LD 可被锁模的范围越小, 实际应用时驱动电流可采用略小于临界电流。要获得较大的锁模范围, 外部注入单纵模光应由波长递减对 F-P LD 进行锁模, 并且外部注入光波长与 F-P LD 的初始模态波长越接近越容易锁模。当温度变化时, 被外部单纵模光锁模后 F-P LD 输出的光波长基本不变, 可以避免因用户温度环境不同而导致上行光波长不同。当驱动电流略小于临界电流时, F-P LD 可被锁模的波长范围为 0.38nm, 大于 ONU 上行光波长因环境温度变化 5℃ 而产生的波长位移量 0.25nm, 即当环境温度变化在 5℃ 之内, ONU 之 F-P LD 可被外部单纵模光注入锁定。

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