

MODULATOR

MX-LN series

1550 nm band intensity Modulators

The MX-LN series are lithium niobate (LiNbO_3) intensity modulators designed for optical communications at data rates up to 44 Gb/s.

The X-cut design of these Mach-Zehnder modulators confer them an unmatched stability in a wide range of operational conditions, as well as a zero chirp performance. IXblue proprietary waveguide design offers a low insertion loss combined with a high contrast. The MX-LN series are ideally suited for few kb/s up to 44 Gb/s optical transmission with NRZ, RZ, DPSK, Duo Binary modulation formats and are key device for a large variety of high bandwidth applications.



FEATURES

- High bandwidth
- X-cut for high stability
- Low drive voltage
- Low insertion loss

APPLICATIONS

- Digital communications
- General purpose intensity modulation
- Test and measurement

OPTIONS

- High extinction ratio versions
- 2000 nm, 1300 nm, 1060 nm, 850 nm

RELATED EQUIPMENTS

- RF amplifiers
- MBC-DG Automatic Bias Controllers
- Modbox-CBand-NRZ
- Modbox-CBand-PAM4
- Modbox-VNA-CBand

MX-LN-01 Performance Highlights*

| Parameter | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Operating wavelength | 1530 | 1550 | 1580 | nm |
| Electro-optical bandwidth | 100 | 400 | - | MHz |

MX-LN-05 Performance Highlights*

| Parameter | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Operating wavelength | 1530 | 1550 | 1580 | nm |
| Electro-optical bandwidth | 3 | 4 | - | GHz |

MX-LN-10 Performance Highlights*

| Parameter | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Operating wavelength | 1530 | 1550 | 1625 | nm |
| Electro-optical bandwidth | 10 | 12 | - | GHz |

MX-LN-20 Performance Highlights*

| Parameter | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Operating wavelength | 1530 | 1550 | 1625 | nm |
| V π RF @50 kHz | - | 5 | - | V |

MX-LN-40 Performance Highlights*

| Parameter | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Operating wavelength | 1530 | 1550 | 1625 | nm |
| V π RF @50 kHz | - | 5 | - | V |

*Specifications given at 25 °C, 1550 nm

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MX-LN-0.1

100 MHz Intensity Modulator

Electrical Characteristics

| Parameter | Symbol | Condition | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----|----------------|-----|------|
| Electro-optical bandwidth | S_{21} | RF electrodes, from 2 GHz | 100 | 400 | - | MHz |
| Ripple S_{21} | ΔS_{21} | RF electrodes, $f < 12$ GHz | - | 0.5 | 1 | dB |
| $V\pi$ RF @50 kHz | $V\pi_{RF \text{ 50 kHz}}$ | RF electrodes, @ 1550 nm | - | 3.5 | 4 | V |
| $V\pi$ RF @200 Mb/s PRBS | $V\pi_{RF \text{ 200 Mb/s}}$ | RF electrodes, @ 1550 nm | - | 1.5 | - | V |
| $V\pi$ DC electrodes | $V\pi_{DC}$ | DC electrodes | - | 6.5 | 7 | V |
| RF input impedance | Z_{in-RF} | - | | High impedance | - | |
| DC input impedance | Z_{in-DC} | - | 1 | - | - | MΩ |

50 Ω RF input

Optical Characteristics

| Parameter | Symbol | Condition | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|----------------------|-----------|---|------|------------------------------|------|------|
| Crystal | - | - | | Lithium Niobate X-Cut Y-Prop | | |
| Operating wavelength | λ | - | 1530 | 1550 | 1580 | nm |
| Insertion loss | IL | Without connectors | - | 3.5 | 4.5 | dB |
| DC Extinction ratio | ER | Measured with narrow source linewidth < 200 MHz | 20 | 30 | - | dB |
| Optical return loss | ORL | - | -40 | -45 | - | dB |
| Chirp | α | - | -0.1 | - | 0.1 | - |

All specifications given at 25 °C, 1550 nm, unless differently specified.

Absolute Maximum Ratings

Stresses in excess of the absolute maximum ratings can cause permanent damage to the device. These are absolute stress ratings only. Functional operation of the device is not implied at these or any other conditions in excess of those given in the operational sections of the data sheet. Exposure to absolute maximum ratings for extended periods can adversely affect device reliability.

| Parameter | Symbol | Min | Max | Unit |
|-----------------------|------------|-----|-----|------|
| RF input power | EP_{in} | - | 28 | dBm |
| Bias Voltage | V_{bias} | -20 | +20 | V |
| Optical input power | OP_{in} | - | 20 | dBm |
| Operating temperature | OT | 0 | +70 | °C |
| Storage temperature | ST | -40 | +85 | °C |

MX-LN-05

5 GHz Intensity Modulator

Electrical Characteristics

| Parameter | Symbol | Condition | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| Electro-optical bandwidth | S_{21} | RF electrodes | 3 | 4 | - | GHz |
| Ripple S_{21} | ΔS_{21} | RF electrodes | - | 0.5 | 1 | dB |
| Electrical return loss, 0-5 GHz | S_{11} | RF electrodes | - | -13 | -10 | dB |
| V π RF @50 kHz | $V\pi_{RF \text{ 50 kHz}}$ | RF electrodes, @ 1550 nm | - | 3.5 | 4 | V |
| V π DC electrodes | $V\pi_{DC}$ | DC electrodes | - | 6.5 | 7 | V |
| RF input impedance | Z_{in-RF} | - | - | 50 | - | Ω |
| DC input impedance | Z_{in-DC} | - | 1 | - | - | $M\Omega$ |
| 50 Ω RF input | | | | | | |

Optical Characteristics

| Parameter | Symbol | Condition | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|----------------------|-----------|---|------|------------------------------|------|------|
| Crystal | - | - | | Lithium Niobate X-Cut Y-Prop | | |
| Operating wavelength | λ | - | 1530 | 1550 | 1580 | nm |
| Insertion loss | IL | Without connectors | - | 3.5 | 4.5 | dB |
| DC Extinction ratio | ER | Measured with narrow source linewidth < 200 MHz | 20 | 25 | - | dB |
| Optical return loss | ORL | - | -40 | -45 | - | dB |
| Chirp | α | - | -0.1 | - | 0.1 | - |

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| Parameter | Symbol | Min | Max | Unit |
|-----------------------|------------|-----|-----|------|
| RF input power | EP_{in} | - | 28 | dBm |
| Bias Voltage | V_{bias} | -20 | +20 | V |
| Optical input power | OP_{in} | - | 20 | dBm |
| Operating temperature | OT | 0 | +70 | °C |
| Storage temperature | ST | -40 | +85 | °C |

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MX-LN-10

10 GHz Intensity Modulator

Electrical Characteristics

| Parameter | Symbol | Condition | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| Electro-optical bandwidth | S_{21} | RF electrodes, from 2 GHz | 10 | 12 | - | GHz |
| Ripple S_{21} | ΔS_{21} | RF electrodes, $f < 12$ GHz | - | 0.5 | 1 | dB |
| Electrical return loss | S_{11} | RF electrodes | - | -12 | -10 | dB |
| $V\pi$ RF @50 kHz | $V\pi_{RF\ 50\ kHz}$ | RF electrodes, @ 1550 nm | - | 5.5 | 6.5 | V |
| $V\pi$ RF @10 Gb/s PRBS | $V\pi_{RF\ 10\ Gb/s}$ | RF electrodes, @ 1550 nm | - | 6.5 | 7 | V |
| $V\pi$ DC electrodes | $V\pi_{DC}$ | DC electrodes | - | 6.5 | 7 | V |
| RF input impedance | Z_{in-RF} | - | - | 50 | - | Ω |
| DC input impedance | Z_{in-DC} | - | - | 1 | - | $M\Omega$ |
| 50 Ω RF input | | | | | | |

Optical Characteristics

| Parameter | Symbol | Condition | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|---|------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Crystal | - | - | Lithium Niobate X-Cut Y-Prop | | | |
| Operating wavelength | λ | - | 1530 | 1550 | 1625 | nm |
| Insertion loss | IL | Without connectors | - | 3.5 | - | dB |
| Insertion loss (with low IL option) | LIL | Without connectors | - | 2.7 | 3 | dB |
| DC Extinction ratio | ER | Measured with narrow source linewidth < 200 MHz | 20 | 22 | - | dB |
| Optical return loss | ORL | - | -40 | -45 | - | dB |
| Chirp | α | - | -0.1 | 0 | 0.1 | - |

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| Parameter | Symbol | Min | Max | Unit |
|-----------------------|------------|-----|-----|------|
| RF input power | EP_{in} | - | 28 | dBm |
| Bias Voltage | V_{bias} | -20 | +20 | V |
| Optical input power | OP_{in} | - | 20 | dBm |
| Operating temperature | OT | 0 | +70 | °C |
| Storage temperature | ST | -40 | +85 | °C |

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MX-LN-20

20 GHz Intensity Modulator

Electrical Characteristics

| Parameter | Symbol | Condition | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| Electro-optical bandwidth | S_{21} | RF electrodes, from 2 GHz | 20 | 25 | - | GHz |
| Ripple S_{21} | ΔS_{21} | RF electrodes, $f < 20$ GHz | - | 0.5 | 1 | dB |
| Electrical return loss | S_{11} | RF electrodes | - | -12 | -10 | dB |
| $V\pi$ RF @50 kHz | $V\pi_{RF\ 50\ kHz}$ | RF electrodes, @ 1550 nm | - | 5 | 5.5 | V |
| $V\pi$ RF @20 Gb/s PRBS | $V\pi_{RF\ 20\ Gb/s}$ | RF electrodes, @ 1550 nm | - | 5.5 | 6 | V |
| $V\pi$ DC electrodes | $V\pi_{DC}$ | DC electrodes | - | 6.5 | 7 | V |
| RF input impedance | Z_{in-RF} | - | - | 50 | - | Ω |
| DC input impedance | Z_{in-DC} | - | - | 1 | - | $M\Omega$ |
| 50 Ω RF input | | | | | | |

Optical Characteristics

| Parameter | Symbol | Condition | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|----------------------|-----------|---|------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Crystal | - | - | Lithium Niobate X-Cut Y-Prop | | | |
| Operating wavelength | λ | - | 1530 | 1550 | 1625 | nm |
| Insertion loss | IL | Without connectors | - | 3.5 | 4.5 | dB |
| DC Extinction ratio | ER | Measured with narrow source linewidth < 200 MHz | 20 | 22 | - | dB |
| Optical return loss | ORL | - | -40 | -45 | - | dB |
| Chirp | α | - | -0.1 | 0 | 0.1 | - |

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| Parameter | Symbol | Min | Max | Unit |
|-----------------------|------------|-----|-----|------|
| RF input power | EP_{in} | - | 28 | dBm |
| Bias Voltage | V_{bias} | -20 | +20 | V |
| Optical input power | OP_{in} | - | 20 | dBm |
| Operating temperature | OT | 0 | +70 | °C |
| Storage temperature | ST | -40 | +85 | °C |

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MX-LN-40

40 GHz Intensity Modulator

Electrical Characteristics

| Parameter | Symbol | Condition | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| Electro-optical bandwidth | S_{21} | RF electrodes, from 2 GHz | 28 | 30 | - | GHz |
| Ripple S_{21} | ΔS_{21} | RF electrodes, $f < 30$ GHz | - | 0.5 | 1 | dB |
| Electrical return loss | S_{11} | RF electrodes | - | -12 | -10 | dB |
| $V\pi$ RF @50 kHz | $V\pi_{RF\ 50\ kHz}$ | RF electrodes, @ 1550 nm | - | 5 | 6 | V |
| $V\pi$ DC electrodes | $V\pi_{DC}$ | DC electrodes, @ 1550 nm | - | 6.5 | 7 | V |
| RF input impedance | Z_{in-RF} | - | - | 50 | - | Ω |
| DC input impedance | Z_{in-DC} | - | 1 | - | - | $M\Omega$ |

50 Ω RF input

Optical Characteristics

| Parameter | Symbol | Condition | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|----------------------|-----------|---|------|------------------------------|------|------|
| Crystal | - | - | | Lithium Niobate X-Cut Y-Prop | | |
| Operating wavelength | λ | - | 1530 | 1550 | 1625 | nm |
| Insertion loss | IL | Without connectors | - | 3.5 | 4.5 | dB |
| DC Extinction ratio | ER | Measured with narrow source linewidth < 200 MHz | 20 | 22 | - | dB |
| Optical return loss | ORL | - | -40 | -45 | - | dB |
| Chirp | α | - | -0.1 | 0 | 0.1 | - |

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| Parameter | Symbol | Min | Max | Unit |
|-----------------------|------------|-----|-----|------|
| RF input power | EP_{in} | - | 28 | dBm |
| Bias Voltage | V_{bias} | -20 | +20 | V |
| Optical input power | OP_{in} | - | 20 | dBm |
| Operating temperature | OT | 0 | +70 | °C |
| Storage temperature | ST | -40 | +85 | °C |

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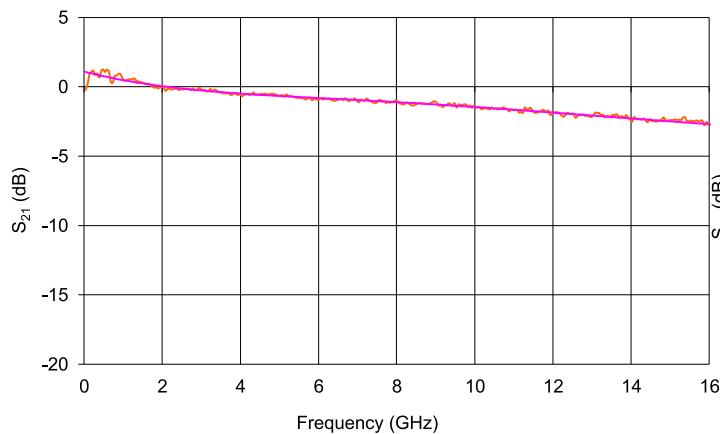
MX-LN-0.1 & 05



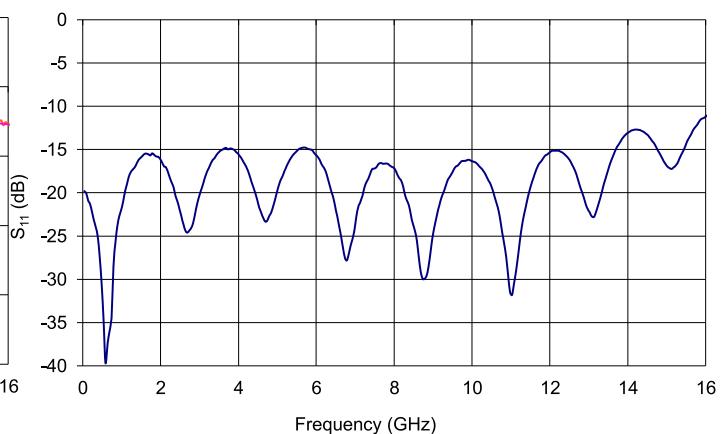
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MX-LN-10, 20 & 40

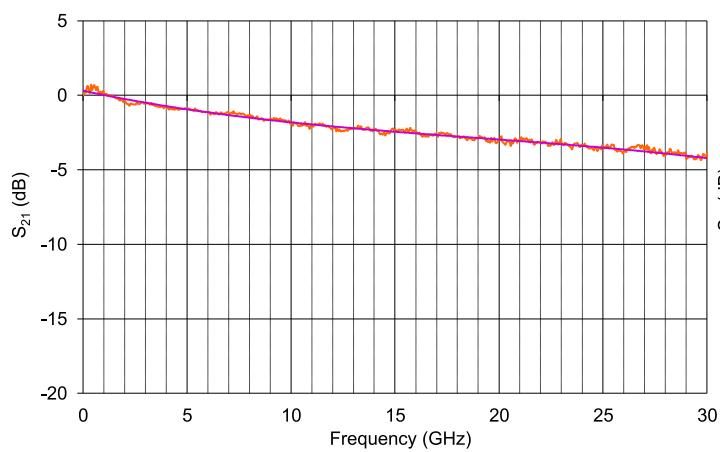
MX-LN-10 Typical S_{21} Curve



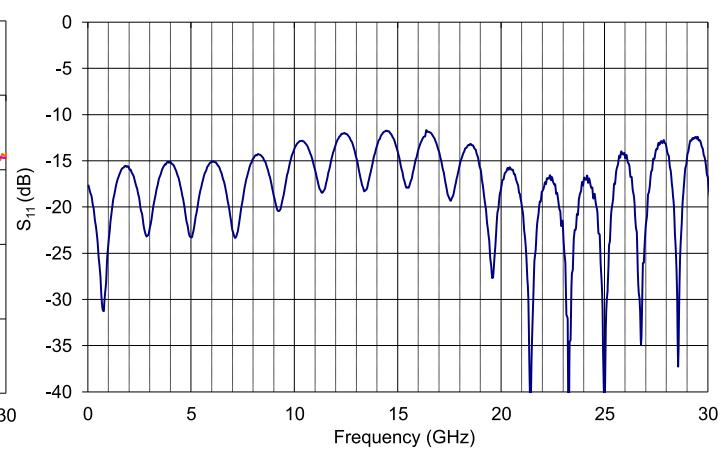
MX-LN-10 Typical S_{11} Curve



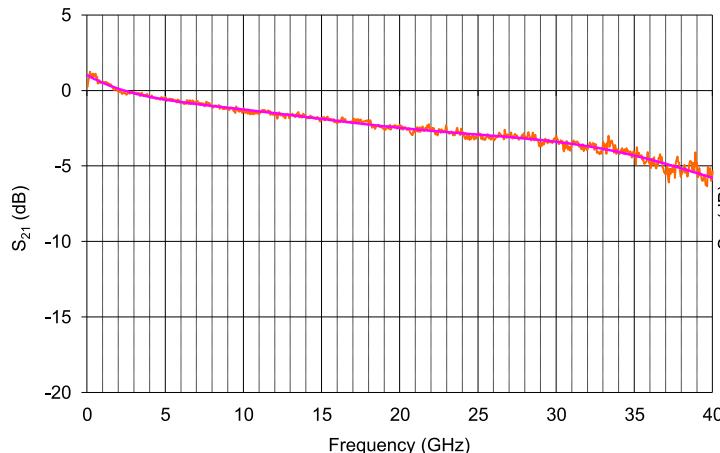
MX-LN-20 Typical S_{21} Curve



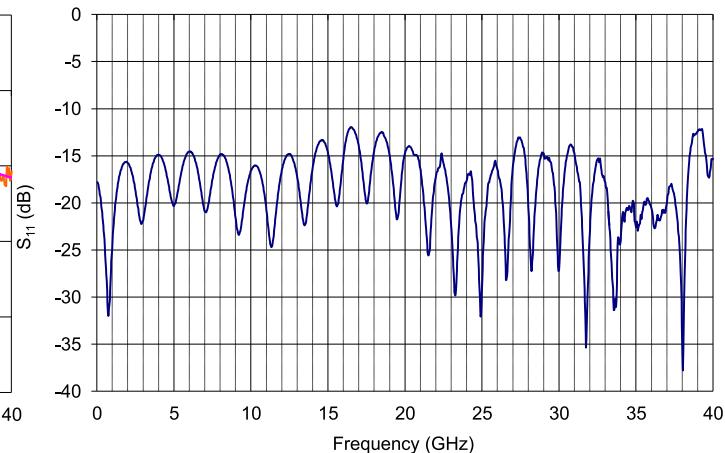
MX-LN-20 Typical S_{11} Curve



MX-LN-40 Typical S_{21} Curve



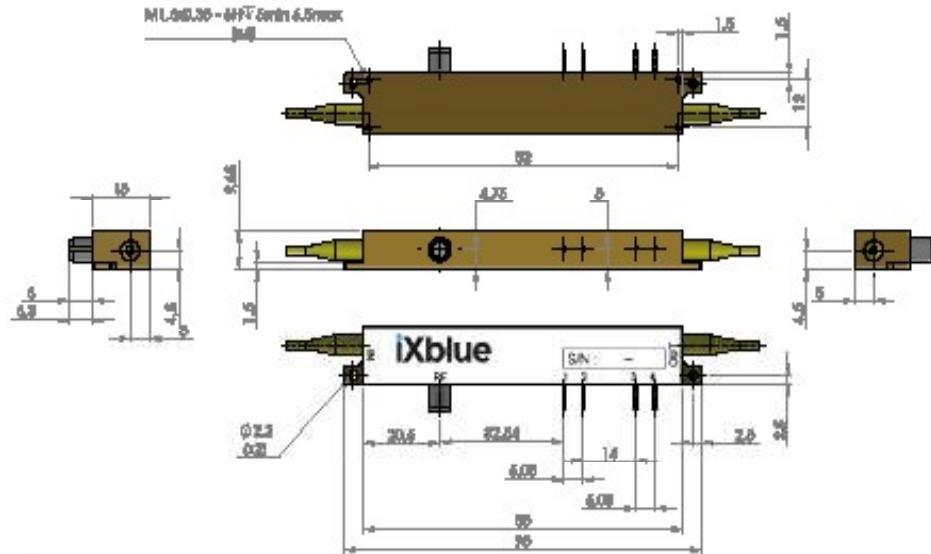
MX-LN-40 Typical S_{11} Curve



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Mechanical Diagram and Pinout

All measures



| Port | Function | Note |
|------|---------------------------|--|
| IN | Optical input port | Polarization maintaining fiber Corning PM 15-U25D Length: 1.5 meter, buffer diameter: 900 µm |
| OUT | Optical output port | Polarization maintaining fiber Corning PM 15-U25D Length: 1.5 meter, buffer diameter: 900 µm |
| RF | RF input port | MX-LN-0.1, 05, 10: Female K (SMA compatible) MX-LN-20: Female K or 2.4 mm (optional) MX-LN-40: 2.4 mm, female, compatible to mate with V / 1.85 mm connectors (K option) |
| 1 | Ground | Pin feed through diameter 1.0 mm |
| 2 | DC | Pin feed through diameter 1.0 mm |
| 3, 4 | Photodiode cathode, anode | Pin feed through diameter 1.0 mm |

Ordering information

Bandwidth: **0.1** (400 MHz), **05** (4 GHz), **10** (10 GHz),
20 (20 GHz), **40** (40 GHz)

Internal photodiode: OO not integrated PD PD integrated

Input fiber: P Polarization maintaining

Output fiber: P Polarization maintaining, S Standard single mode

Input connector: **OO** (bare fiber), **FA** (FC/APC)

Output connector: **OO** (bare fiber), **FA** (FC/APC)

LIL: Low Insertion Loss option

About us

iXblue Photonics produces specialty optical fibers and Bragg gratings based fiber optics components and provides optical modulation solutions based on the company lithium niobate (LiNbO_3) modulators and RF electronic modules.

iXblue Photonics serves a wide range of industries: sensing and instruments, defense, telecommunications, space and fiber lasers as well as research laboratories all over the world.

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