



Photonics: can't live with them, can't live without them

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Abstract – As a non-photonics expert, in this talk I'll take a practical standpoint to hopefully help the photonic community make technologies that can be used by network and system architects like me. I'll discuss areas such as the interface between common digital logic and high speed optics, how network components might take advantage of photonics, and areas of common downfall.

Bio – Nic McDonald is a computer architecture research scientist at Hewlett Packard Enterprise. Nic received a Ph.D. from Stanford University in 2016. His background spans many areas of computing including digital logic design, interconnection network architecture, software engineering, simulation and modeling, and embedded systems. Nic's current area of focus is the design of network technologies to support upcoming exascale supercomputers.