

Will copper replace optical modules



Overview

At the GTC 2026 conference, Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang explicitly corrected the market misconception of "optics replacing copper," stating that copper cables remain indispensable inside AI server racks due to their physical advantages like zero power consumption and low latency, while. At the GTC 2026 conference, Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang explicitly corrected the market misconception of "optics replacing copper," stating that copper cables remain indispensable inside AI server racks due to their physical advantages like zero power consumption and low latency, while. The transition from copper to 800G optical interconnect — and increasingly 1.6T — architectures is how next-generation AI infrastructure scales. As AI infrastructure scales at an unprecedented rate. But there is still plenty of copper wiring lurking within data centers, presenting a ripe opportunity for optical vendors like Corning. Unlike existing copper and optical links, which rely (a) Copper link reach. In the coming years, scaling up AI accelerator clusters in data centers will face compounding.



Article Content

Aug 17, 2025

Nvidia's Jensen Huang at GTC 2026: Copper Cables and Optical ...

At the GTC 2026 conference, Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang explicitly corrected the market misconception of "optics replacing copper," stating that copper cables remain indispensable inside AI server racks ...

May 08, 2026

Optica Executive Forum: Copper vs. Optical

Titled "The Evolution from Copper to Optical – Where is the Line?" and moderated by Mark Filer, the session spotlighted how rising AI compute demands are driving a reevaluation of ...

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Beyond Copper and Optical, a New Interconnect Eyes Next Gen Data ...

Both copper and optical interconnects face limitations as choices for next gen data centers. Learn how a third option promises to enable scaling up AI clusters in data centers for years ...

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What is co-packaged optics, and why does it matter? At its core, co-packaged optics is a technology that replaces traditional copper ...

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Optical Interconnects in Packages: Replacing Copper Wires

With the advent of optical interconnects, there is a promising alternative that could reshape the landscape of electronic design. By using light to transmit data, optical interconnects offer ...

Jun 27, 2026

Corning wants to cut copper out of the data center

There's still plenty of copper wiring lurking in data center server racks. Corning wants to replace those cables with optical fibers.

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Start-ups Replace Copper with Optical Links for GPUs

Startups are unveiling demonstrations of how GPUs can shed their copper interconnects, replacing them with optical links. Optical links are no stranger to data centers.

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Optics to replace copper : deep dive into How Light is Fixing the AI ...

In this unit, we will map the industrial value chain responsible for replacing copper with light, identifying the semiconductor giants, material specialists, and master foundries enabling the next generation of ...

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AI Data Center Photonics: Why Light Is Replacing Copper

As speeds push beyond 800G, traditional copper interconnects face higher resistance, greater signal loss, and rising thermal constraints. That is why AI data center photonics is becoming ...

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Co-packaged optics: The future of data centers

What is co-packaged optics, and why does it matter? At its core, co-packaged optics is a technology that replaces traditional copper connections inside servers with high-speed fiber optical connections. But ...

Mar 11, 2026

Mosaic: Breaking the Optics versus Copper Trade-off with a Wide ...

To solve these challenges, we need a fundamental rethinking of the link technology. In this paper, we introduce MOSAIC, a novel optical link technology that breaks the optics versus copper trade-off, ...

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