Remote optical and fountain clock comparison using broadband TWSTFT and GPS PPP

Highlight Talk International Timescales with Optical Clocks





Motivation





Optical clocks:

orders of magnitude more accurate and stable

Demonstration of steering local timescales with optical clocks





Grebing et al., arXiv:1511.03888

Performance of links contributing to UTC?



Motivation





Optical fibers:

Not yet available for simultaneous comparisons on international/intercontinental scale

Currently used techniques: GPS and TWSTFT







TWSTFT currently with 2.5 / 1 Mchip/s modulation bandwidth





Effect of higher chiprate



Main TWSTFT target in ITOC: Instability of 10⁻¹⁶ @ 1 day





... corrections must be taken into account

Effects caused by satellite motion:





Variation of path length: leads to non-reciprocity of uplink/downlink path

Daily variation of the Sagnac effect

See poster by S. Shemar this afternoon





ITOC TWSTFT campaigns

20 Mchip/s TWSTFT:

Lease of a full Ku-band transponder (36 MHz) on SES ASTRA 3B for two campaigns





1) 24.-31. October 2014: Link test



Equipment and performance test





ITOC TWSTFT campaigns

20 Mchip/s TWSTFT:

Lease of a full Ku-band transponder (36 MHz) on SES ASTRA 3B for two campaigns



2) 4.-29. June 2015: Optical clock comparison













Yb⁺ (E3), Sr lattice



Sr lattice

+ Cs fountain











Yb+ (E3), + 2 Cs fountains

Sr lattice

INRIM



Yb lattice

+ Cs fountain







Overall uptime up to 90%



Yb lattice from INRIM not analysed yet





In addition: TWCP measurement during first weeks, carried out by NICT:



M. Fujieda et al., Metrologia **51** (2014) 1–10







Clock comparison campaign:

link performance









Clock comparison campaign:

link performance

PTB-NPL link, broadband TWSTFT, GPS PPP and (GPS-bbTW) double difference





Clock comparison: data analysis





Maser vs. Clock #1: Dominated by white frequency noise

$$y_1(t) = y_{clock1}(t) - y_{Maser1}(t)$$

Maser vs. Clock #2: Dominated by white frequency noise

$$y_2(t) = y_{clock2}(t) - y_{Maser2}(t)$$

Calculation of $\bar{y}_{clock1/clock2} \approx \bar{y}_{clock1} - \bar{y}_{clock2}$ with respective uncertainty







Maser vs. Clock #1: Dominated by white frequency noise Link data: Dominated by white phase noise & technical disturbances

$$x_{link}(t) = x_{Maser1}(t) - x_{Maser2}(t)$$

Maser vs. Clock #2: Dominated by white frequency noise

$$y_1(t) = y_{clock1}(t) - y_{Maser1}(t)$$



$$y_2(t) = y_{clock2}(t) - y_{Maser2}(t)$$

Calculation of $\bar{y}_{clock1/clock2} \approx \bar{y}_{clock1} - \bar{y}_{clock2}$ with respective uncertainty:

- Pre-average over 1-day-intervals to minimize white noise and suppress diurnals
- Use different weighting functions to eliminate white phase and frequency noise, respectively
- Choose intervals with negligible gaps
- Use local Yb/Sr measurement to fill gaps in clock data
- Take serial correlations into account for the determination of the statistical uncertainties





Clock comparison results







Clock comparison results

- Yb_{PTB}^{+} $Sr_{NPL/LNE}$ broadband TW/ Yb_{NPL}^{+} - Sr_{LNE} broadband TW
- Yb⁺_{NPL} Sr_{PTB} broadband TW
- $Yb^+_{PTB} Sr_{NPL/LNE}$ GPS PPP/ Yb^+_{NPL} - Sr_{LNE} GPS PPP
- Yb⁺_{NPL} Sr_{PTB} GPS PPP





Integer PPP









Clock compare results via IPPP



- Sr Sr GPS IPPP
- Yb⁺ Yb⁺ GPS IPPP

- Yb⁺_{PTB} Sr_{NPL/LNE} GPS IPPP/
 - Yb⁺_{NPL} Sr_{LNE} GPS IPPP
- Yb⁺_{NPL} Sr_{PTB} GPS IPPP







- Comparison of several optical clocks of NPL, LNE-SYRTE, INRIM and PTB over 26 days long period via broadband TWSTFT and GPS
- Instability of satellite links in low 10⁻¹⁶ range
- Statistical uncertainties for broadband TW and GPS PPP in low 10⁻¹⁶, for GPS IPPP < 1x10⁻¹⁶

<u>Outlook</u>

- Increasing the modulation bandwidth of TWSTFT yields a respective improvement of TW performance
- However, technique more suited for dedicated campaigns than for operational use
- GPS IPPP as a promising alternative, TWCP still to be compared with other link techniques







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