



Time and Frequency transfer  
over telecommunication Fiber networks :  
a new research infrastructure for  
geoscience and astro particle physics ?

P.-E. Pottie



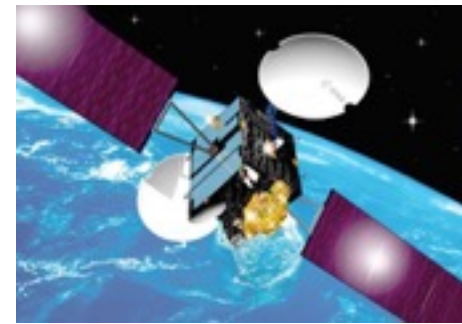
# Outline

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- Introduction to fiber links technology
  - Some user-case examples
- REFIMEVE+ : an optical metrology network
- Towards EU research infrastructure

# Means to compare/disseminate clocks

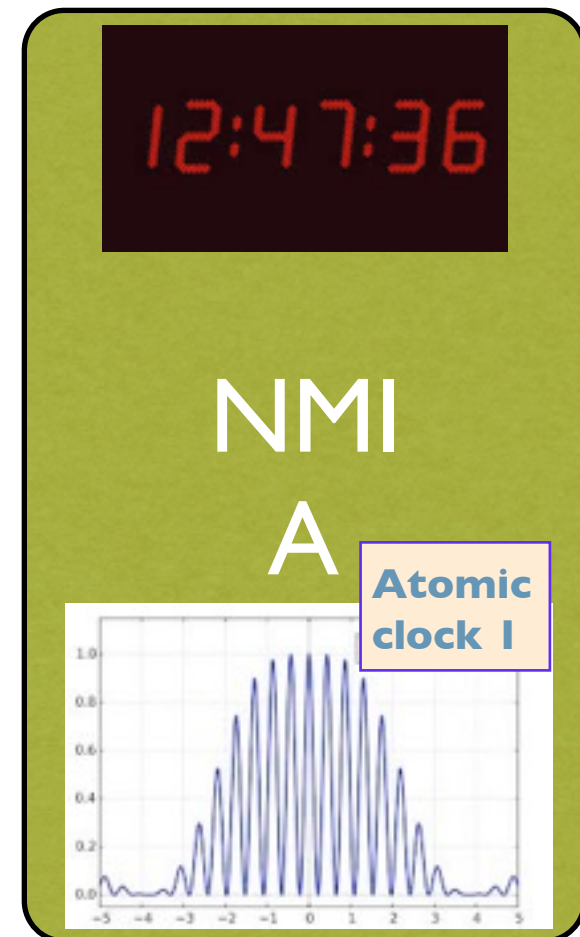
**Radio signals and  
Satellite Link**  
 $10^{-11}$ (1s)  
 $2 \times 10^{-15}$ (1d)



**Nobel prize 1909  
Guglielmo Marconi,  
for the 1st trans-atlantic  
radio transmission**

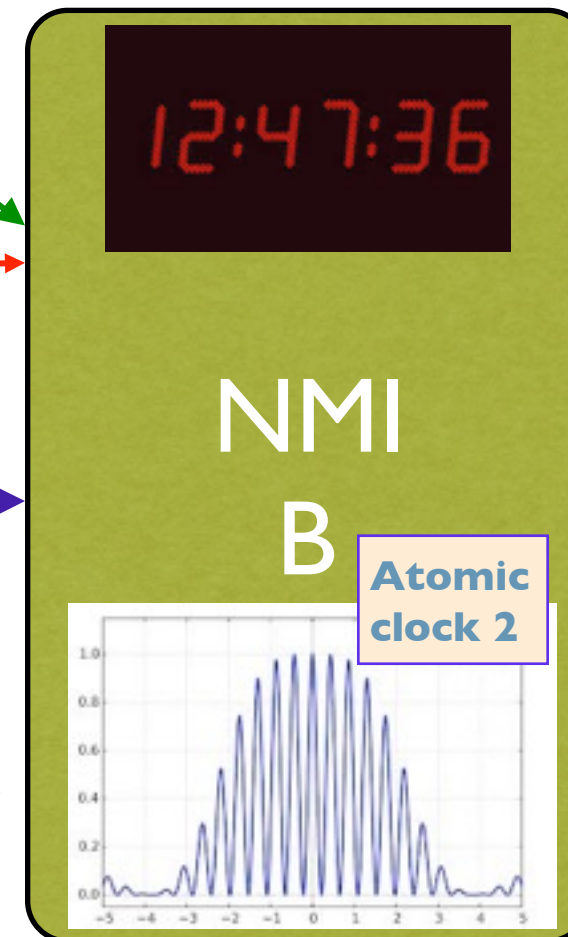
**Delay under control...**

Time transfer = mastering delays  
 Instrumental delays  
 Propagation delays  
 Other... (Sagnac effect)



**Optical Fiber Link**

**in Europe  
800 < distance < 1500 km**



**Propagation delay :**

Remote measure + Propagation model  
 Celerity of the waves  
 Spatial coordinates

Local measure + Reciprocity



**Transportable clock  
(Cs, Sr)**

**Cs :  $10^{-13}$ (1s),  $4 \times 10^{-16}$ (1d)  
 Sr :  $10^{-15}$ (1s),  $10^{-17}$ (3h)**

**Stability(1s) <  $10^{-13}$   
 Accuracy <  $10^{-16}$**

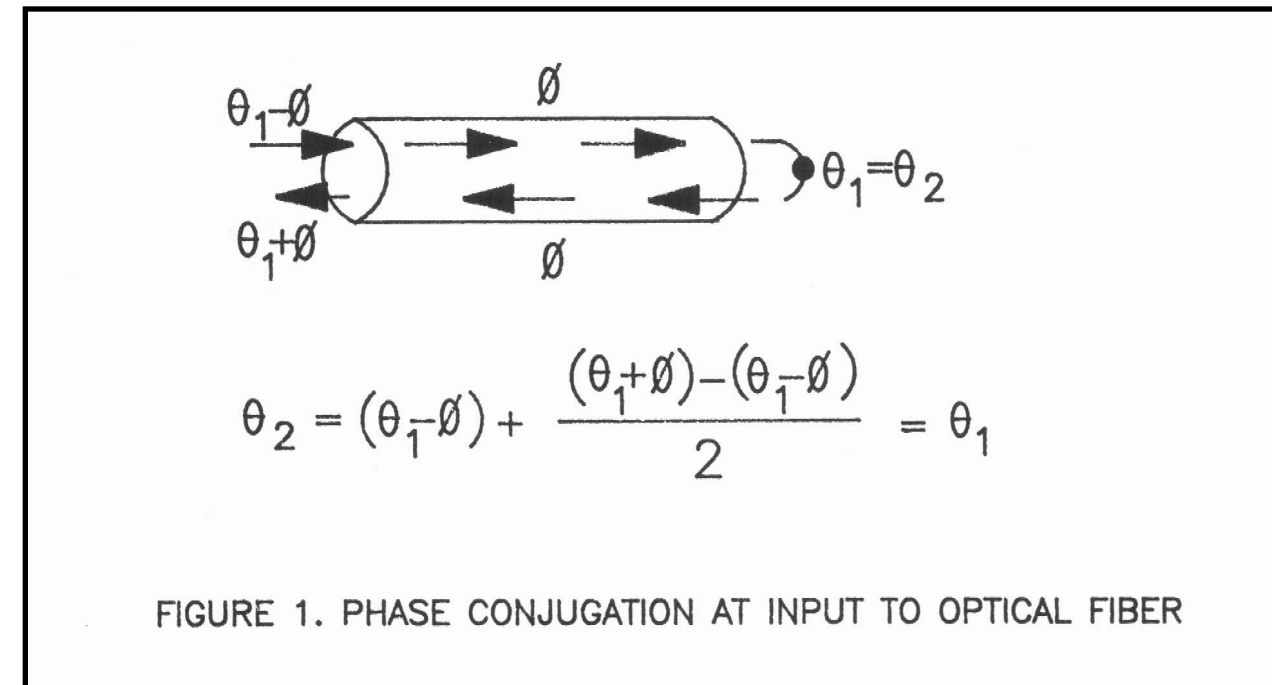
(cf. Belville and *The Greenwich time lady*)

# Principles

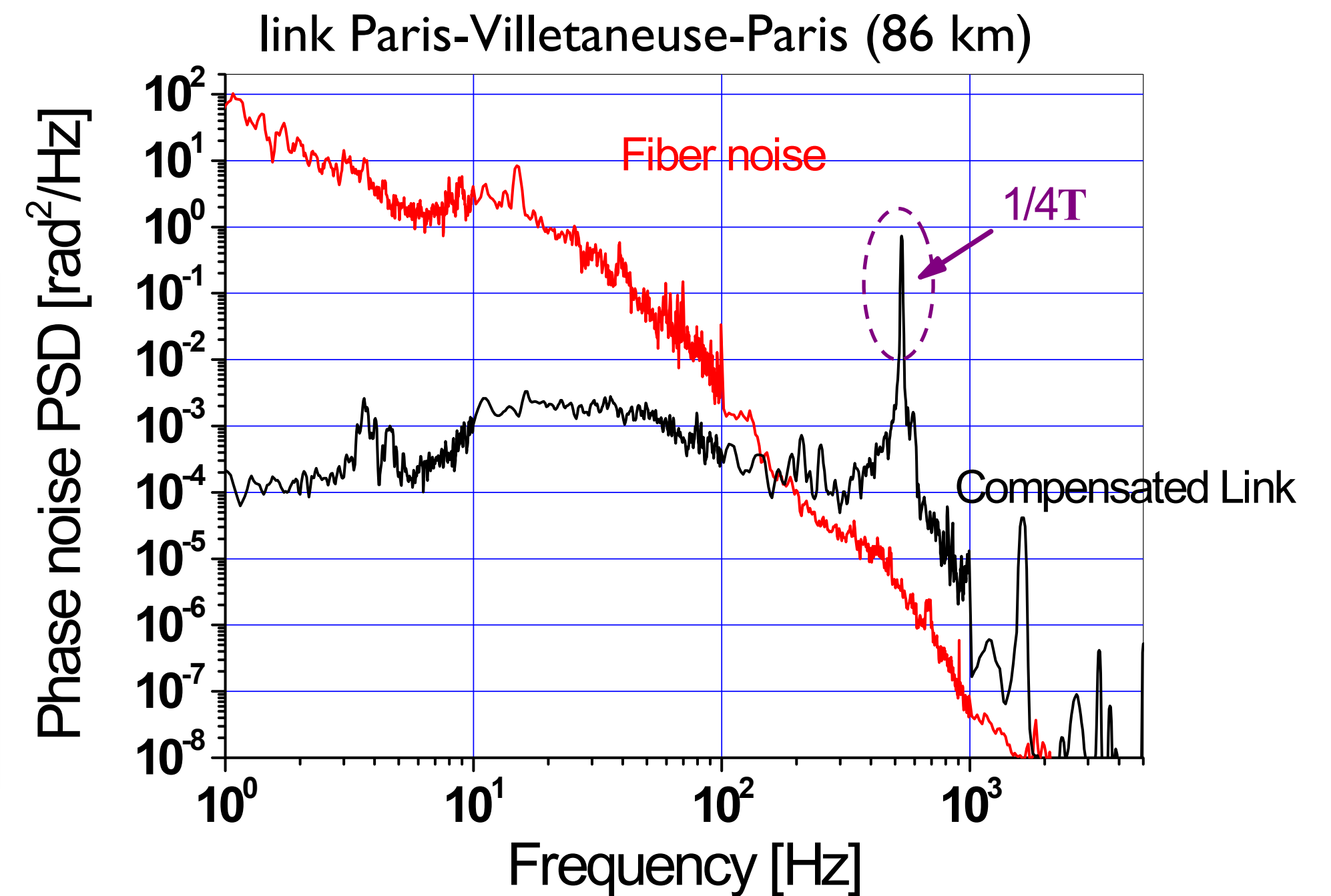
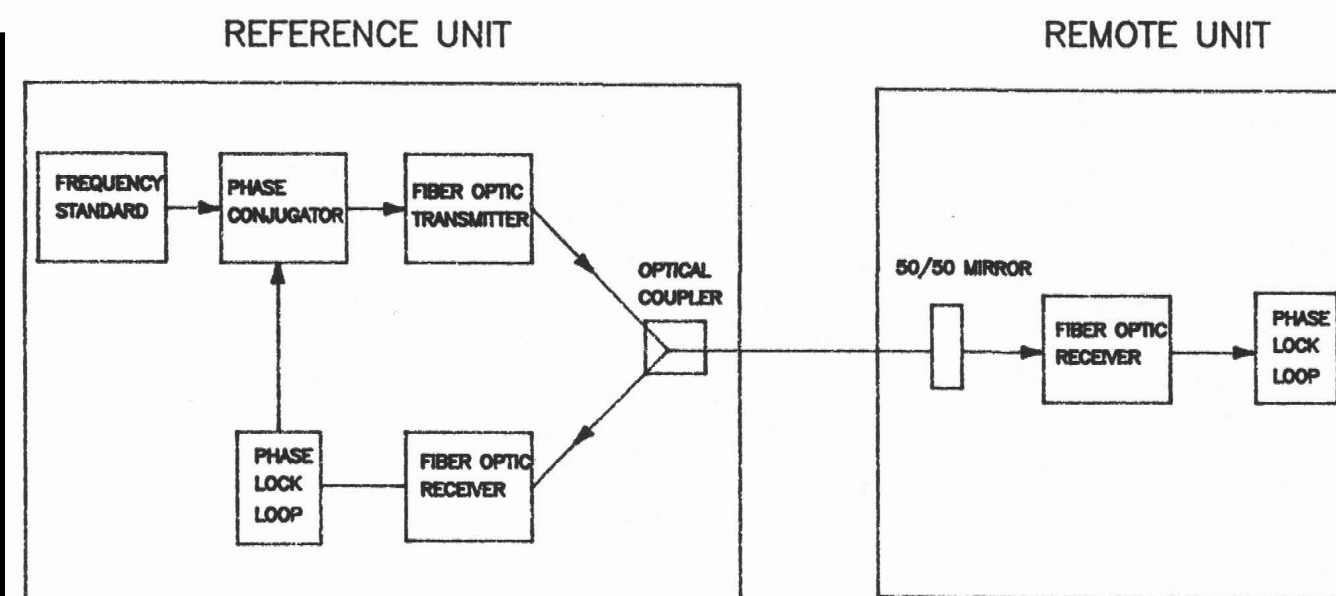
## Fiber links : seminal works (Primas et al., 1988)

### STABILIZED FIBER OPTIC FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM\*

Lori E. Primas  
George F. Lutes  
Richard L. Sydnor  
Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
Pasadena, California 91109



L. E. Primas et al., Proc. 20th PTTI, Vienna, VA, 29 Nov - 1 Dec 1988(1988)



## Classes of fiber links

- Two-way : Stabilized / Post-processed
  - Post-processed techniques used for comparison purposes
- One way: Unstabilized (affects stability and accuracy)
- Bi-directional or uni-directional (affects the correlations)
- Analog or digital (affect the scalability)

# Principles

## Fiber links : seminal works (Primas et al., 1988)

### STABILIZED FIBER OPTIC FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM\*

Lori E. Primas  
George F. Lutes  
Richard L. Sydnor  
Jet Propulsion Laboratory

- **Active noise compensation after one round-trip**
- **Strong hypothesis : noise forth and back are the same**
- **2 ends at the same place (for link stability measurements)**
- **RF, hF or optical signals**

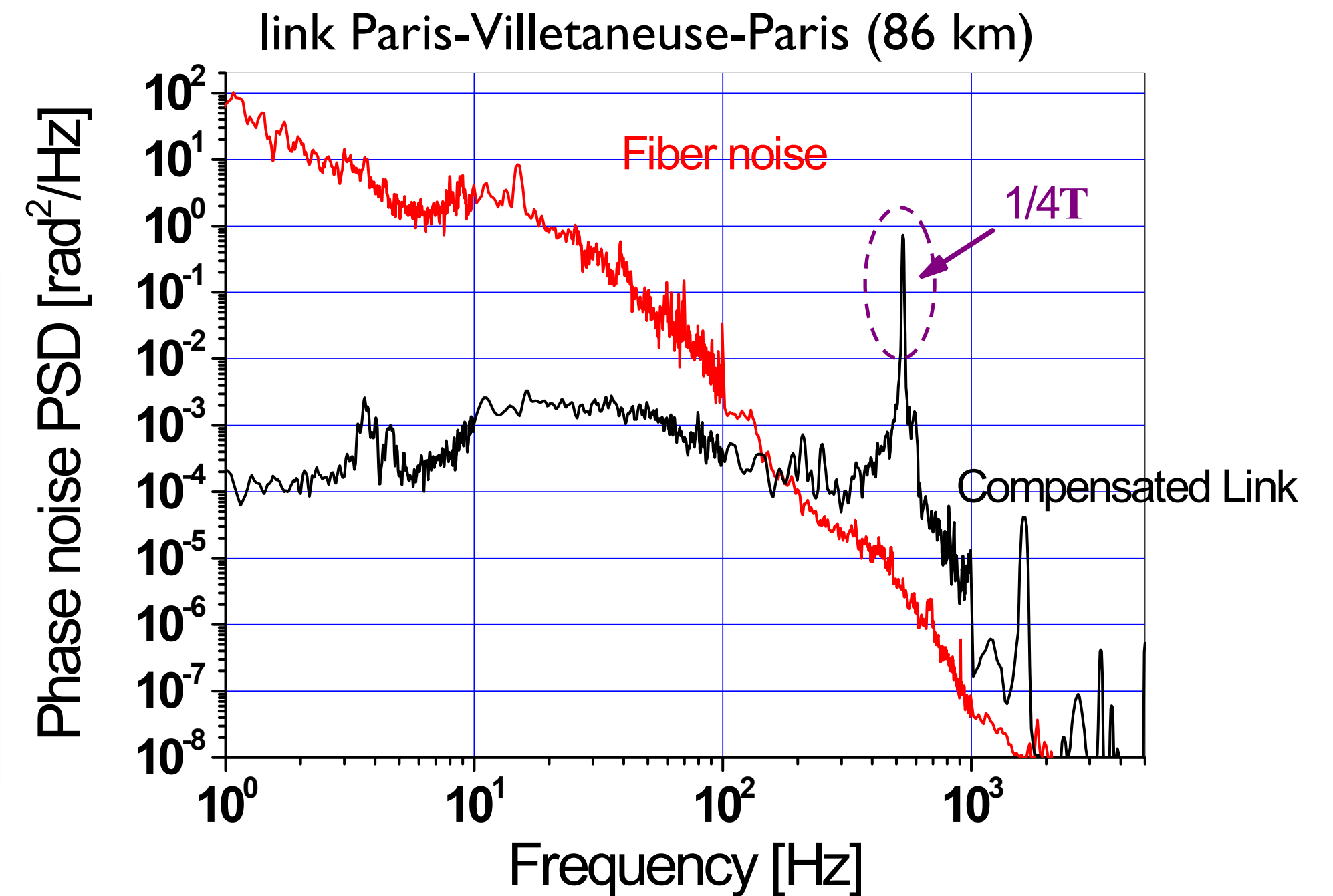
FIGURE 1. PHASE CONJUGATION AT INPUT TO OPTICAL FIBER

FIGURE 3. FIBER OPTIC FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

L. E. Primas et al., Proc. 20th PTTI, Vienna, VA, 29 Nov - 1 Dec 1988(1988)

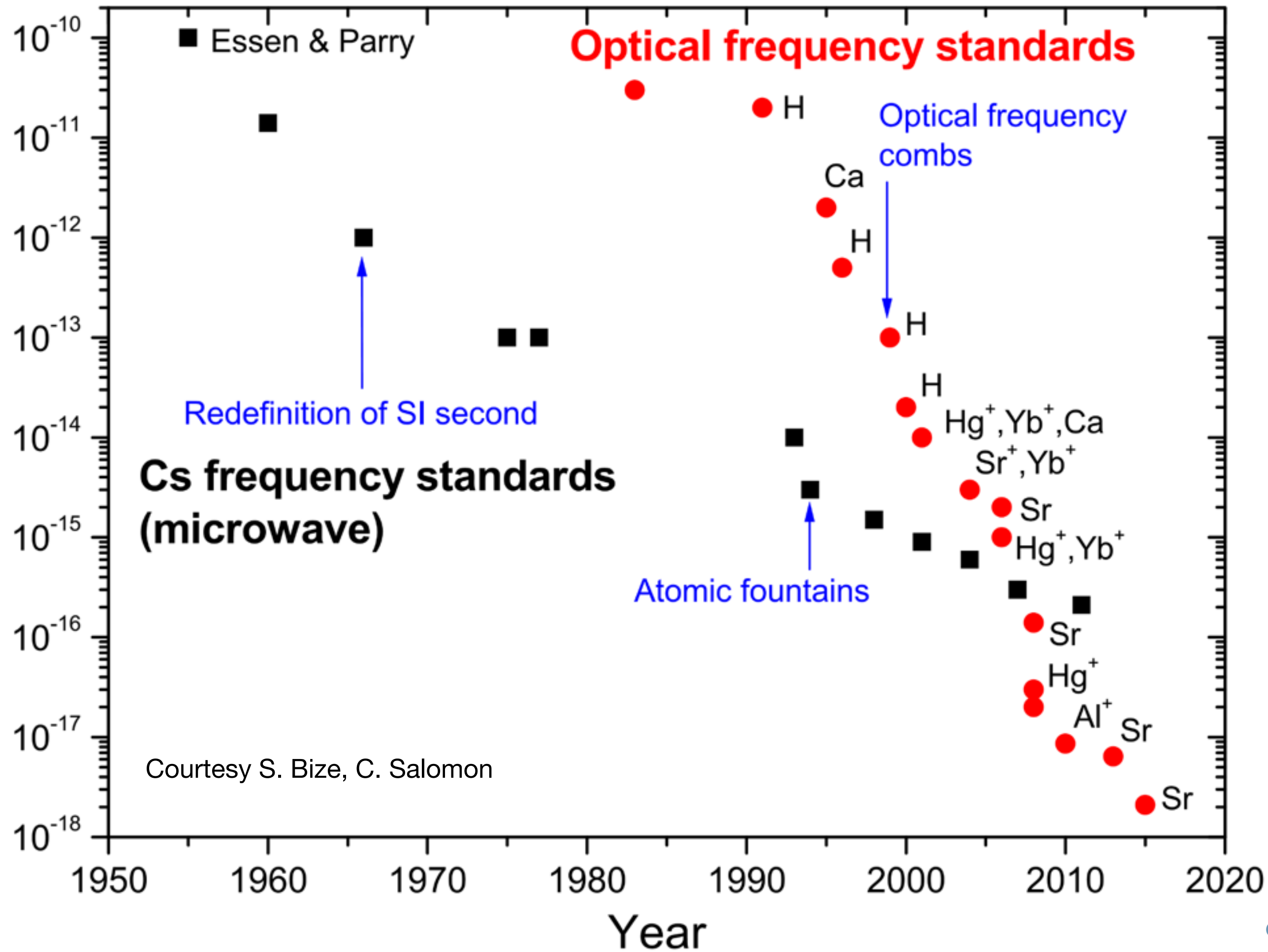
## Classes of fiber links

- Two-way : Stabilized / Post-processed
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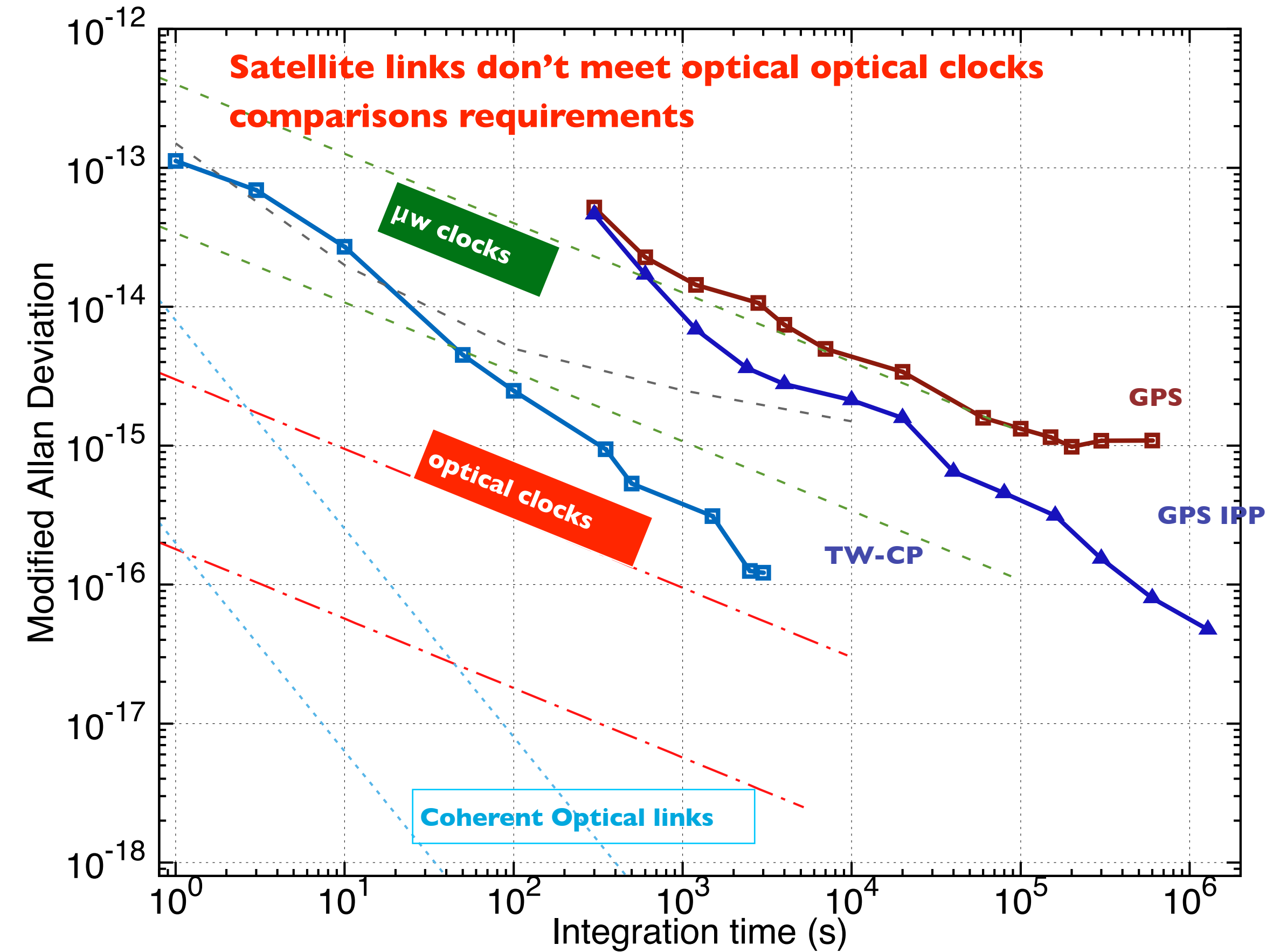


# Performances

60 years of improvements...



30 years of improvements

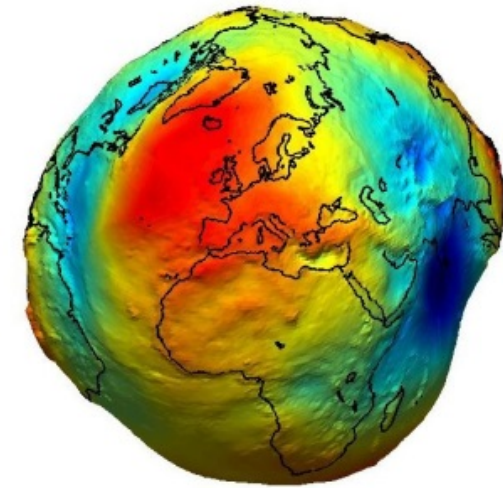


O. Lopez et al., «F&T transfer for metrology and beyond (...)», Comptes Rendus Physique, 16 (5), pp. 459-586 (2015) (2015)

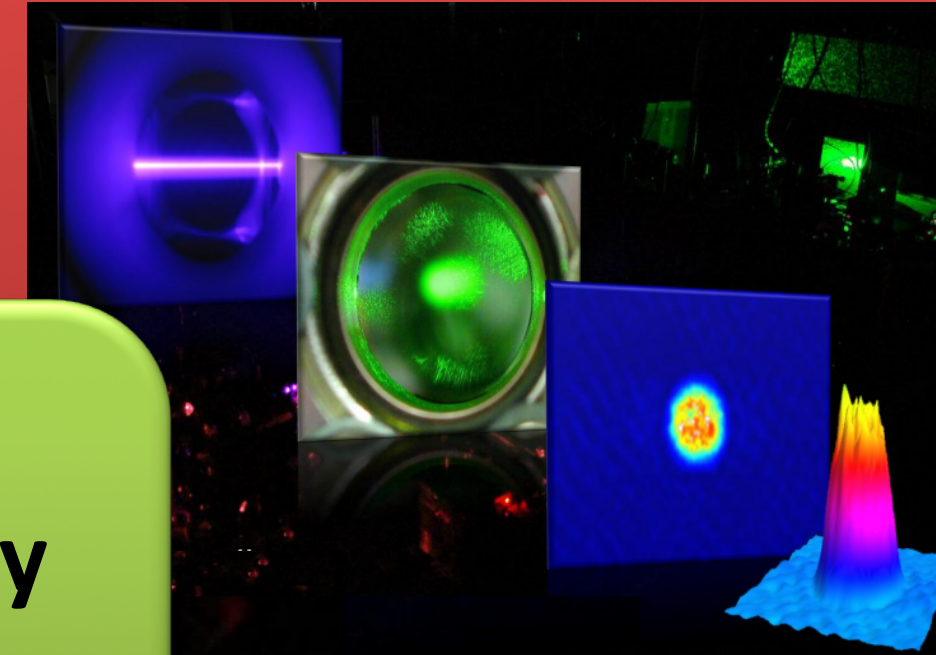
# Applications area

Optical  
methods

Relativistic Geodesy



Atomic and Molecular Physics



Primary Metrology  
Clock comparison,  
UTC

Radio-astronomy  
VLBI



Space  
Geodesy

GNSS, Industry



RF+time  
methods

Courtesy of Davide Calonico

# Scientific cases

PAPER • OPEN ACCESS

## First international comparison of fountain primary frequency standards via a long distance optical fiber link

To cite this article: J Guéna *et al* 2017 *Metrologia* **54** 348

### White Rabbit ‘ecosystem’

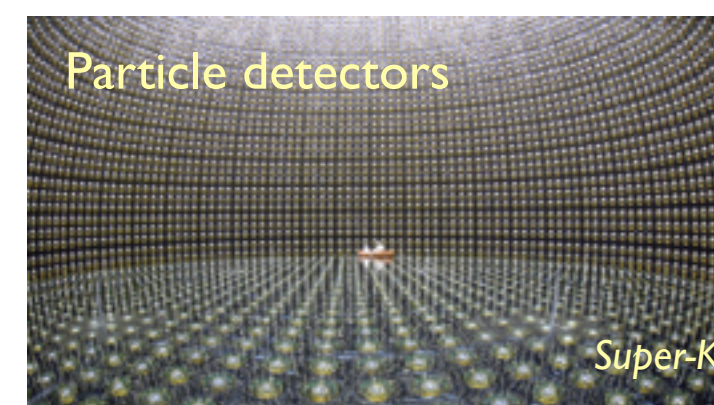
SKA



CTA



KM3Net



ARTICLE

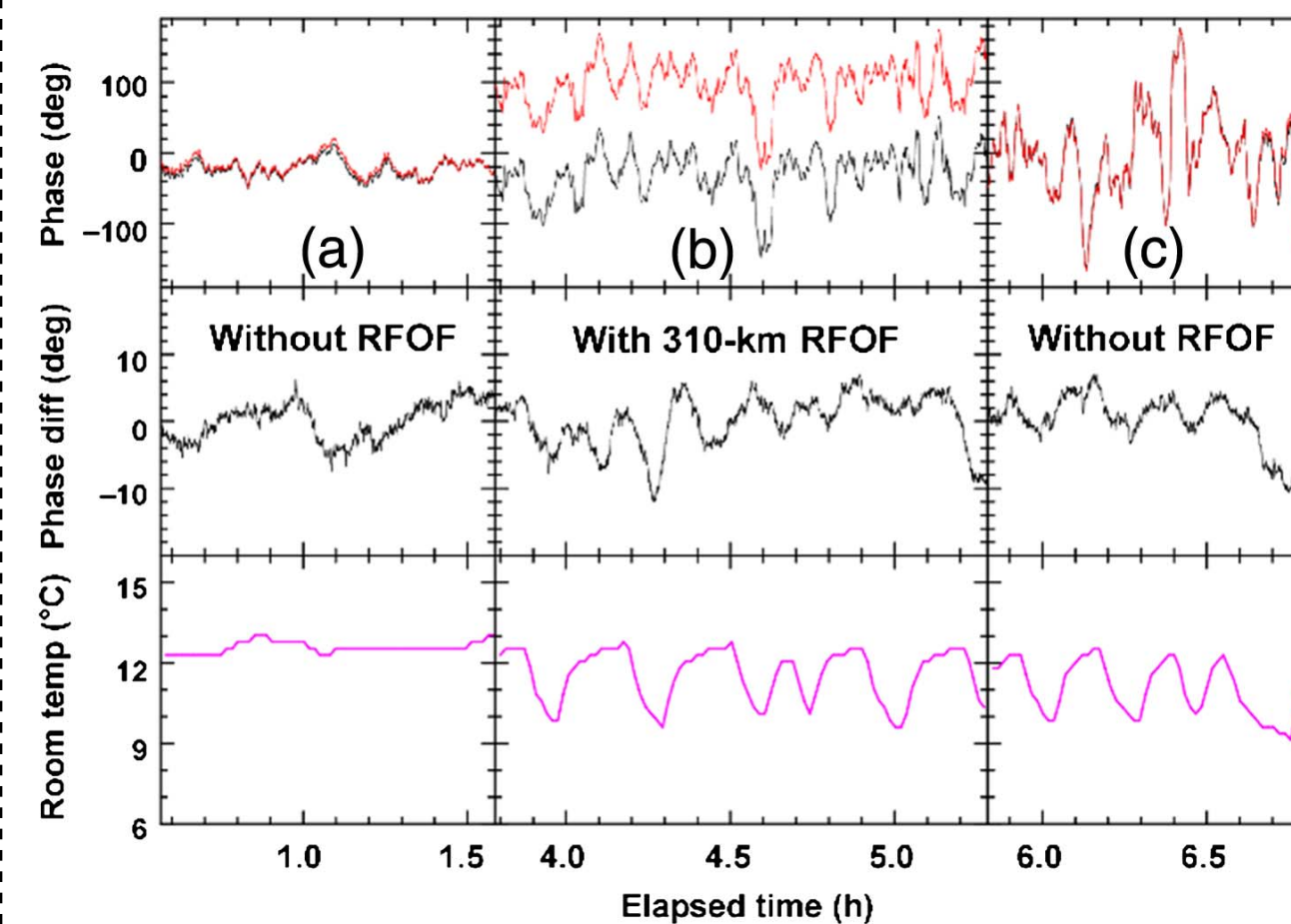
Received 1 Mar 2016 | Accepted 1 Jul 2016 | Published 9 Aug 2016

DOI: 10.1038/ncomms12443 OPEN

## A clock network for geodesy and fundamental science

C. Lisdat<sup>1</sup>, G. Grosche<sup>1</sup>, N. Quintin<sup>2</sup>, C. Shi<sup>3</sup>, S.M.F. Raupach<sup>1</sup>, C. Grebing<sup>1</sup>, D. Nicolodi<sup>3</sup>, F. Stefani<sup>2,3</sup>, A. Al-Masoudi<sup>1</sup>, S. Dörscher<sup>1</sup>, S. Häfner<sup>1</sup>, J.-L. Robyr<sup>3</sup>, N. Chiodo<sup>2</sup>, S. Bilicki<sup>3</sup>, E. Bookjans<sup>3</sup>, A. Koczwar<sup>1</sup>, S. Koke<sup>1</sup>, A. Kuhl<sup>1</sup>, F. Wiotte<sup>2</sup>, F. Meynadier<sup>3</sup>, E. Camisard<sup>4</sup>, M. Abgrall<sup>3</sup>, M. Lours<sup>3</sup>, T. Legero<sup>1</sup>, H. Schnatz<sup>1</sup>, U. Sterr<sup>1</sup>, H. Denker<sup>5</sup>, C. Chardonnet<sup>2</sup>, Y. Le Coq<sup>3</sup>, G. Santarelli<sup>6</sup>, A. Amy-Klein<sup>2</sup>, R. Le Targat<sup>3</sup>, J. Lodewyck<sup>3</sup>, O. Lopez<sup>2</sup> & P.-E. Pottie<sup>3</sup>

### VLBI



Y He et al., *Optica*, **5**, 138–146 (2018).

see also :

C. Clivati et al., *IEEE Trans. on UFFC* **62**, 1907–1912 (2015).

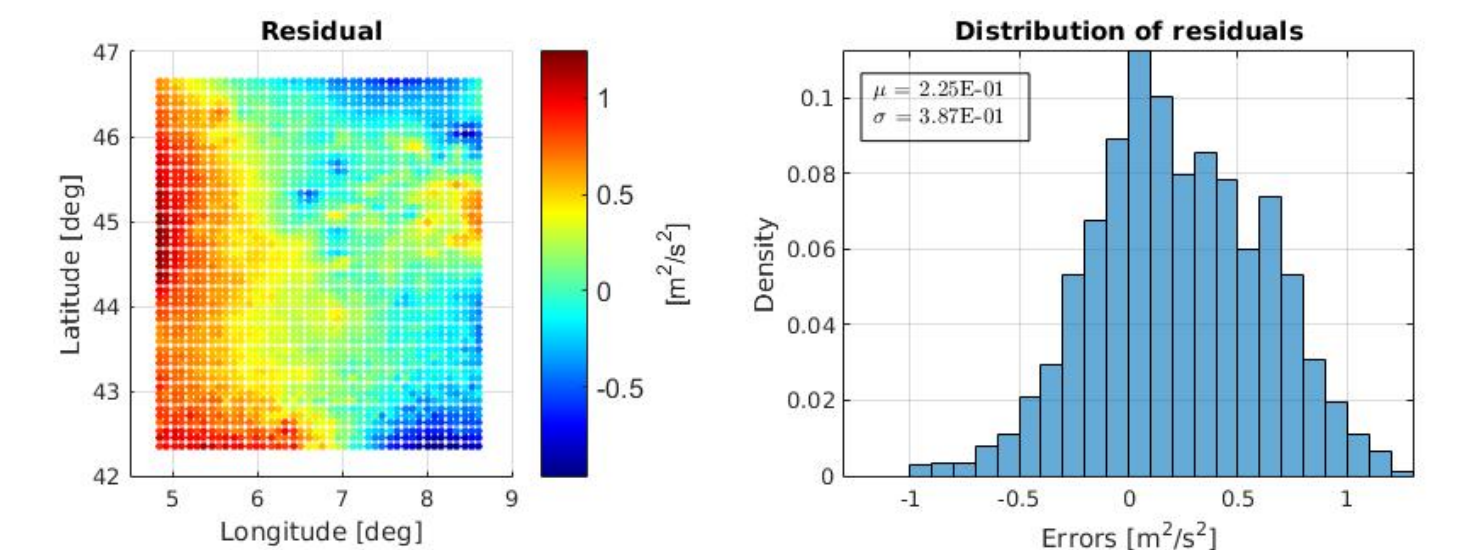
## Determination of a high spatial resolution geopotential model using atomic clock comparisons

G. Lion<sup>1,2</sup>, I. Panet<sup>2</sup>, P. Wolf<sup>1</sup>, C. Guerlin<sup>1,3</sup>, S. Bize<sup>1</sup> and P. Delva<sup>1</sup>

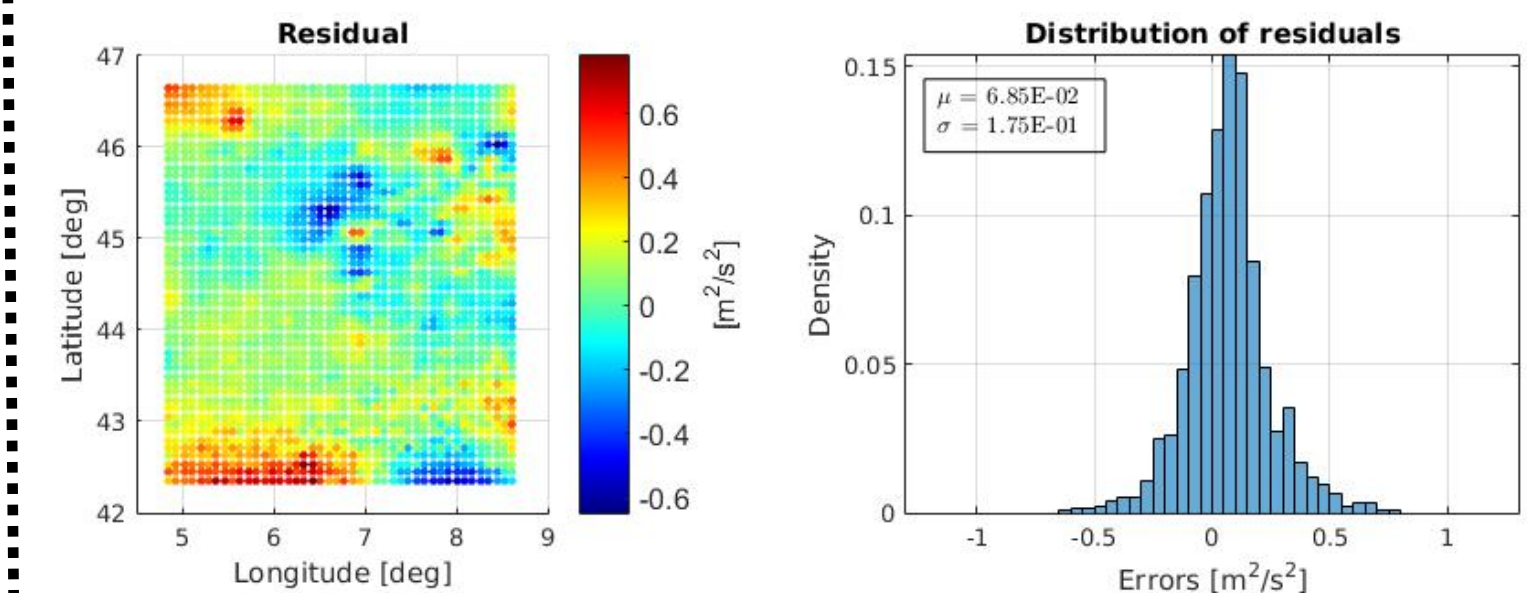
<sup>1</sup>LNE-SYRTE, Observatoire de Paris, PSL Research University, CNRS, Sorbonne Universités, UPMC Univ. Paris 06, 61 avenue de l’Observatoire, F-75014 Paris, France

<sup>2</sup>LASTIG LAREG, IGN, ENSG, Univ Paris Diderot, Sorbonne Paris Cité, 35 rue Hélène Brion, 75013 Paris, France

<sup>3</sup>Laboratoire Kastler Brossel, ENS-PSL Research University, CNRS, UPMC-Sorbonne Universités, Collège de France, 24 rue Lhomond, 75005 Paris, France



(a) Without clock data.



(b) With clock data.

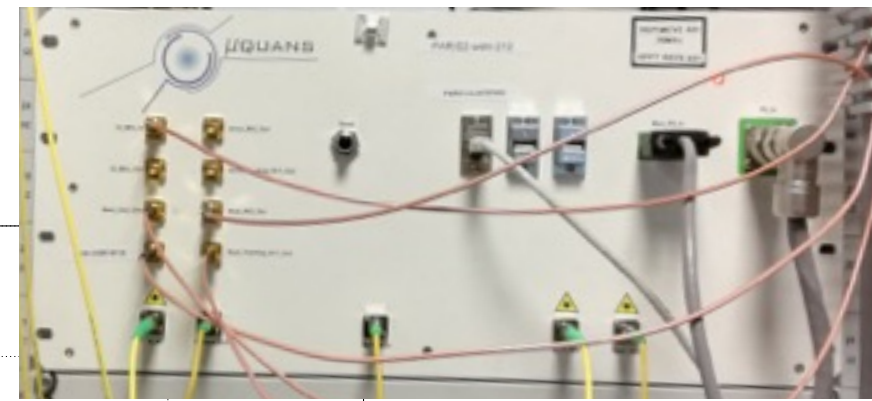
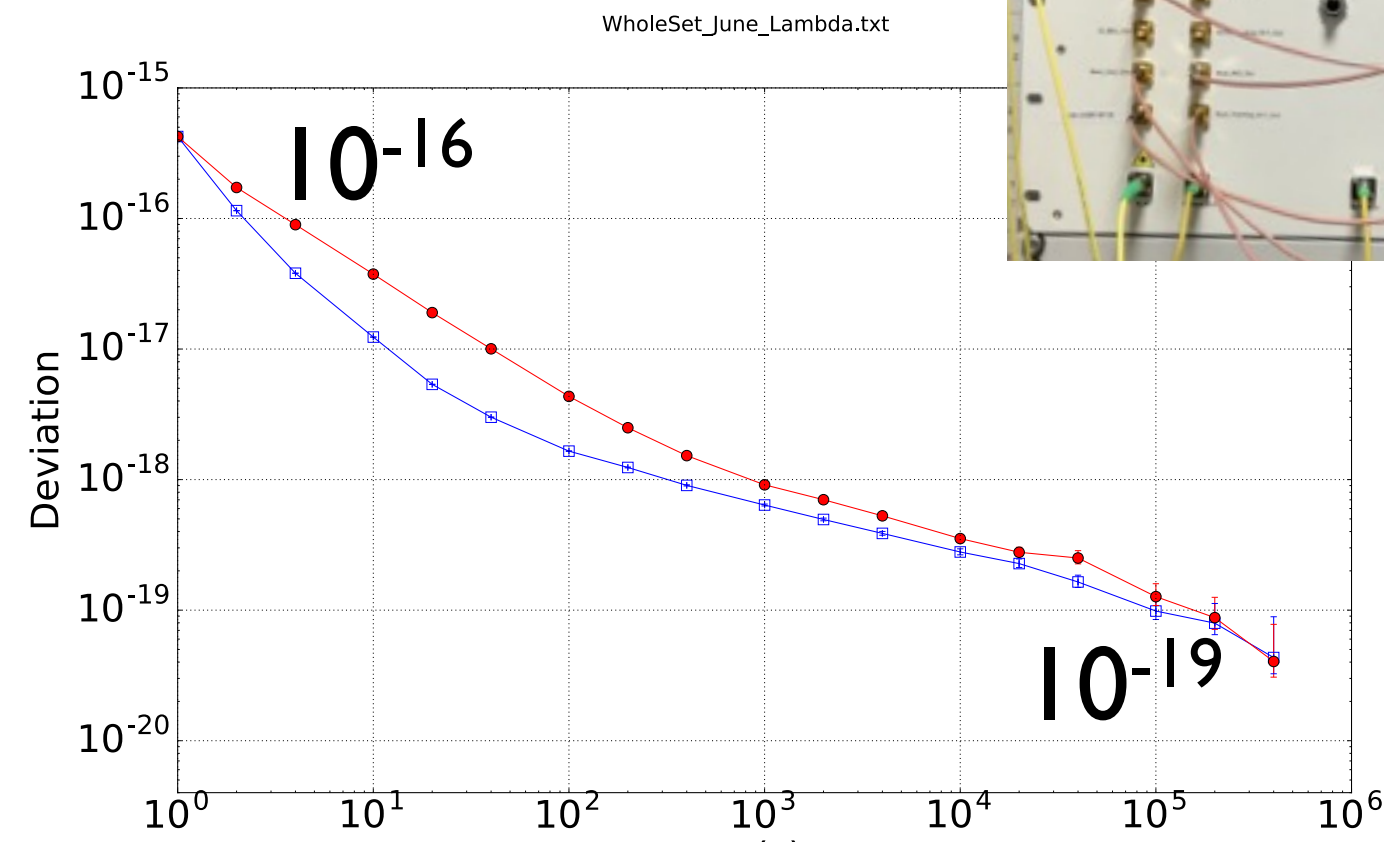
see also :

T. E. Mehlstäubler et al., *Atomic clocks for geodesy*. *Rep. Progress in Physics* **81**, 064401 (2018).

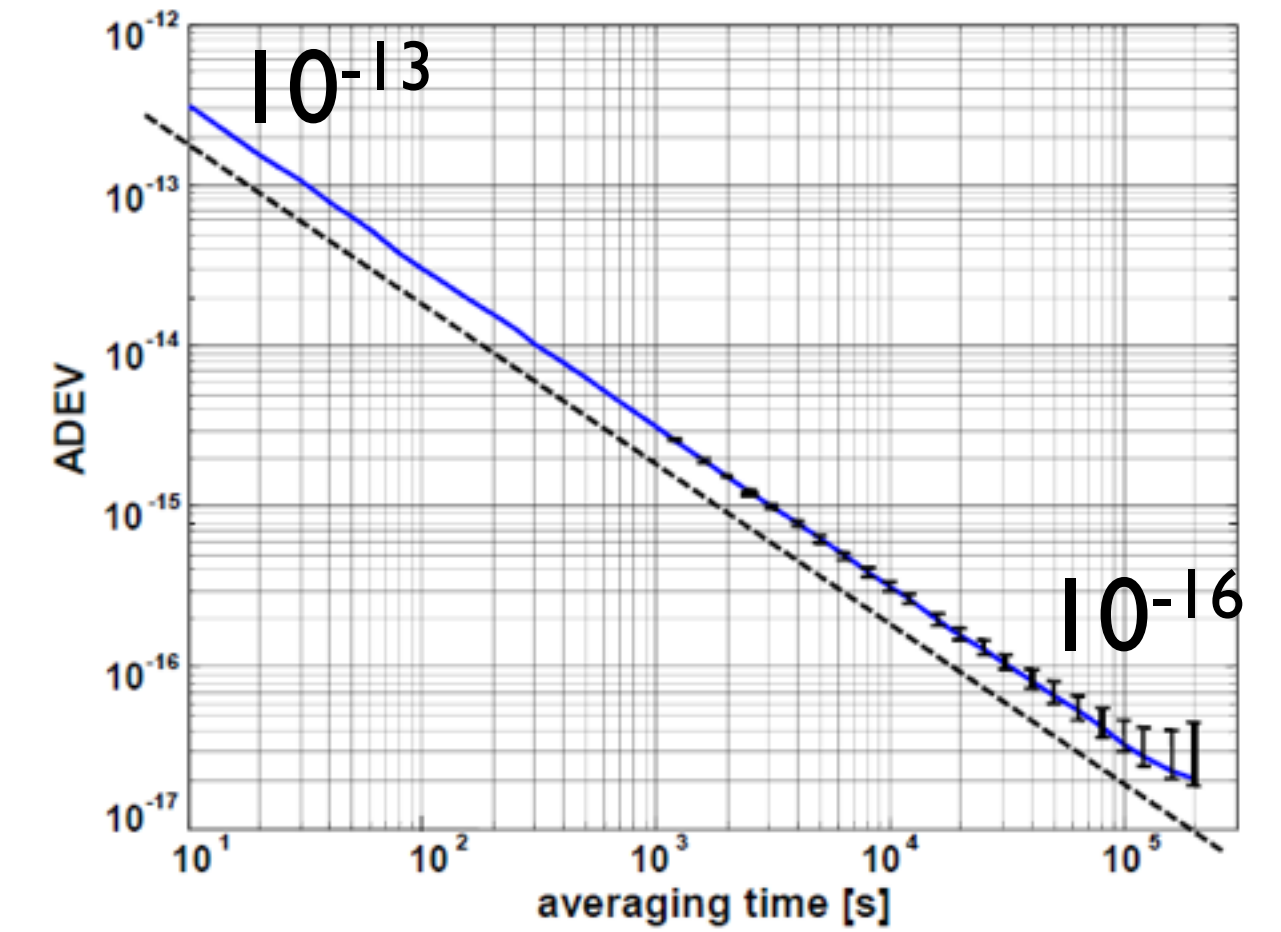
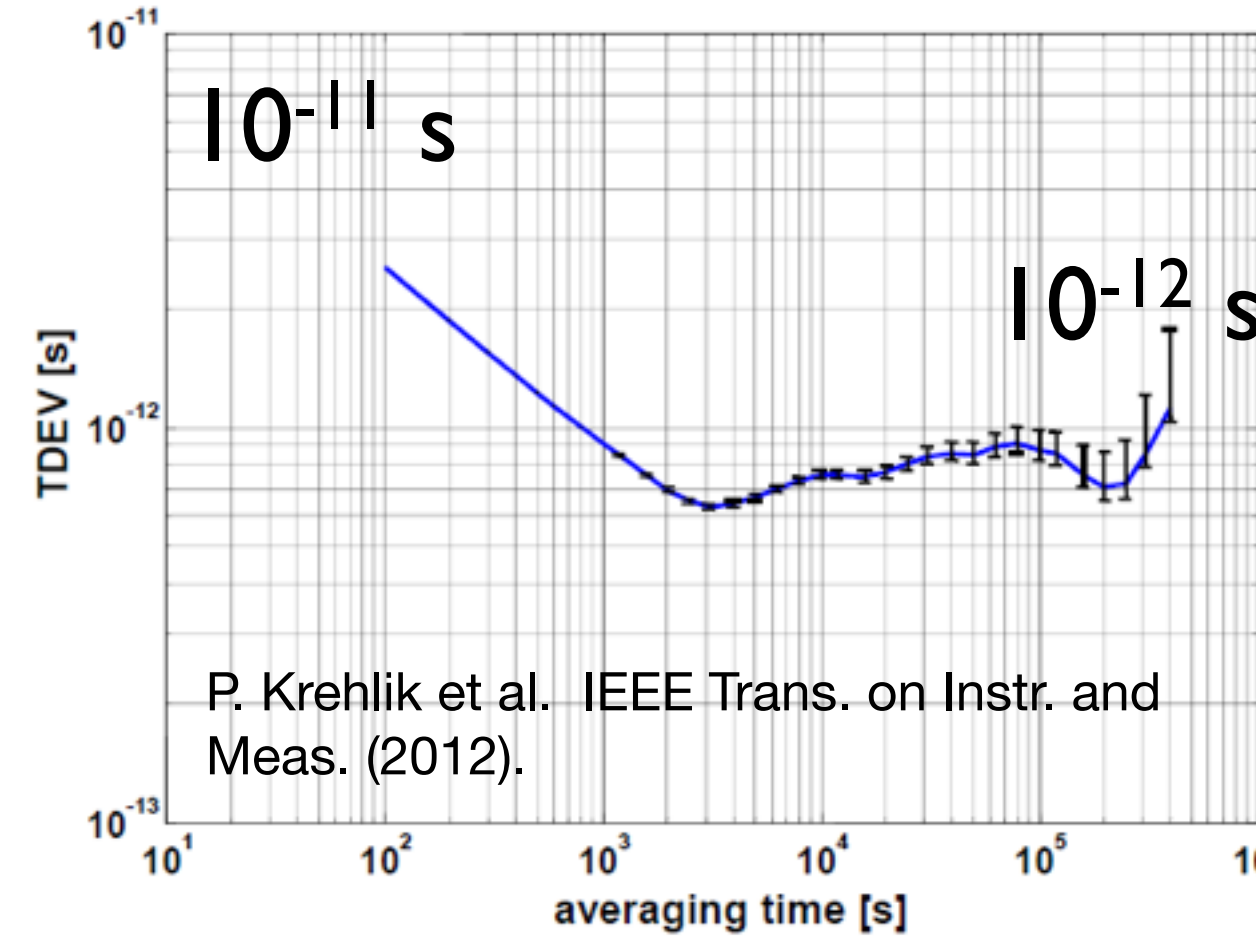


# Technical solutions (non exhaustive)

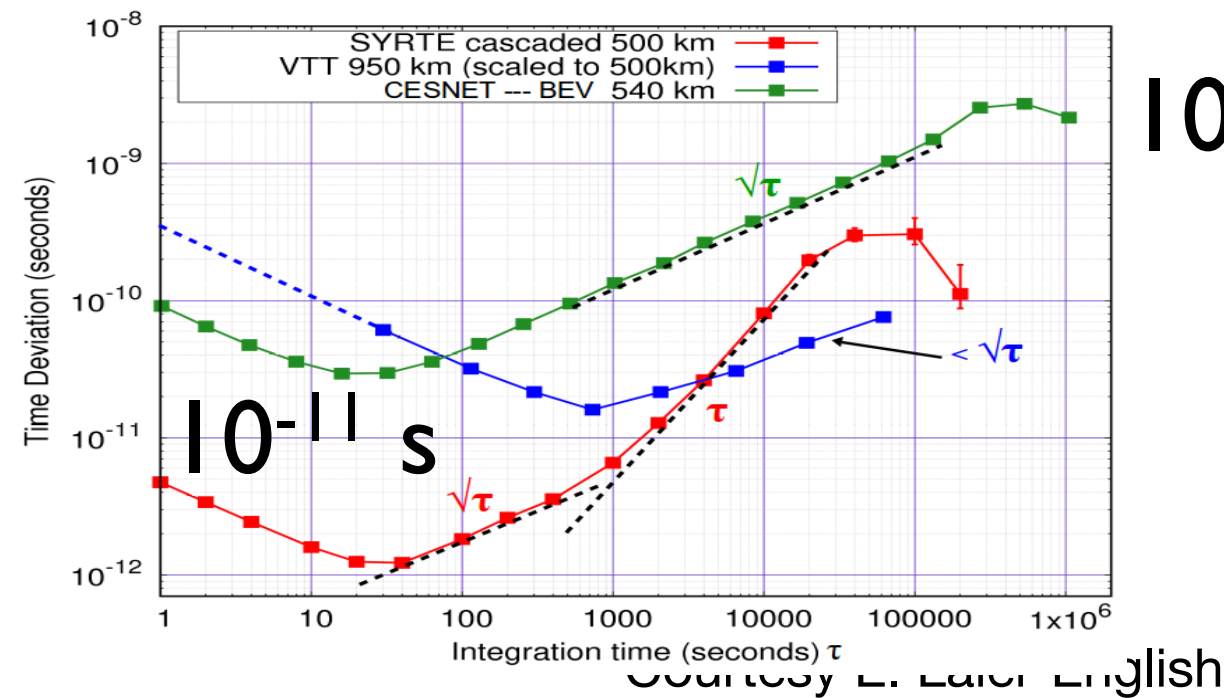
## optical carrier // Data



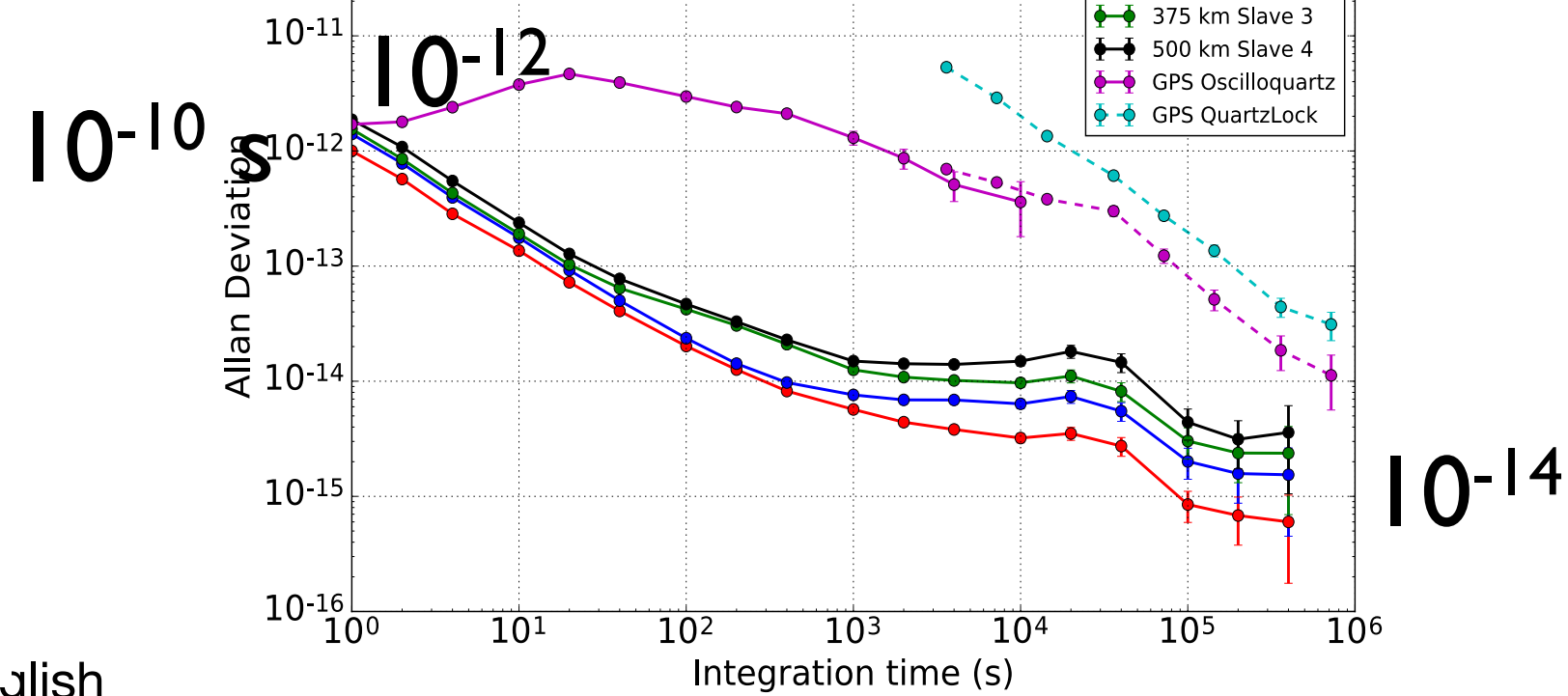
## RF+time



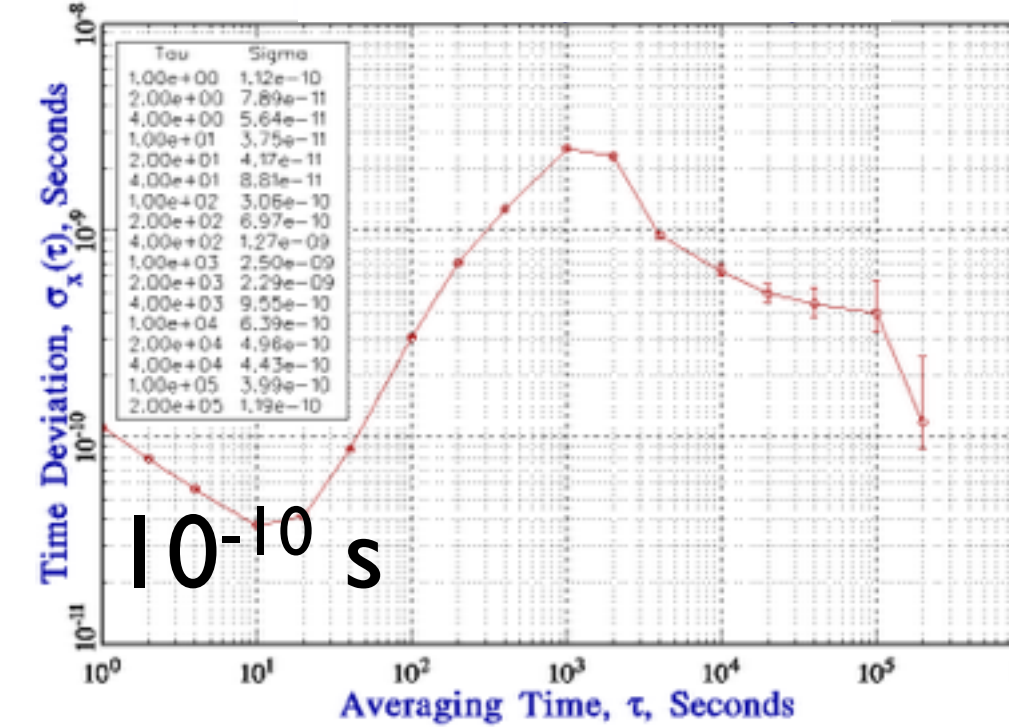
## RF+time+data



## 1 Gb/s



## time+data



## 10^-9 s 1-10Gb/s

Courtesy E. Laier-English

<https://www.sfoptique.org/>



Les Houches School of Physics,  
Chamonix Mont-Blanc valley, France

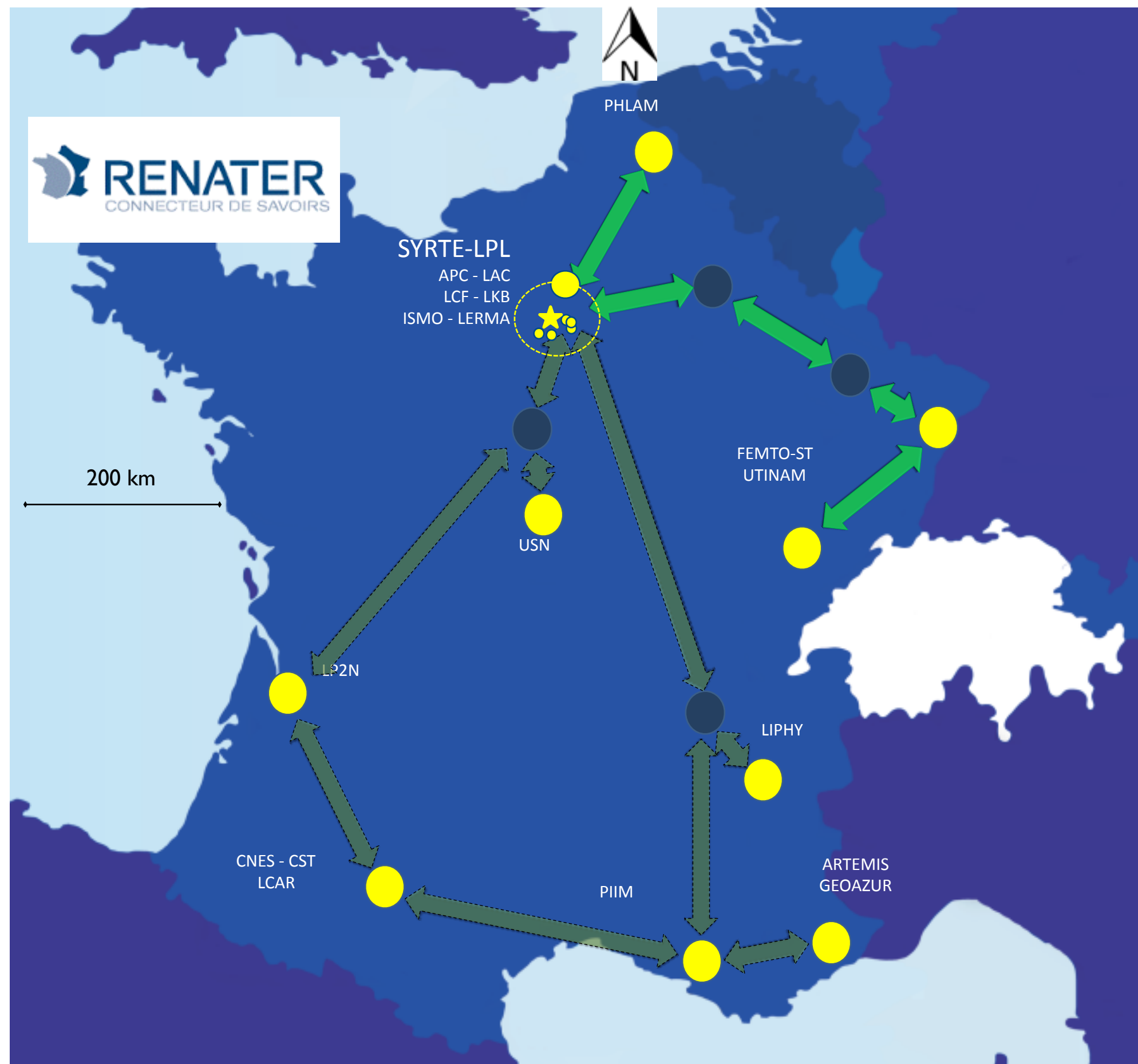
April 22-26 2019

# High Precision Physics using an Optical Fibre Link and Optical Frequency Combs

# REFIMEVE+

A Large Research Infrastructure

~20 partners



**4000 km of fibers**

Kernel

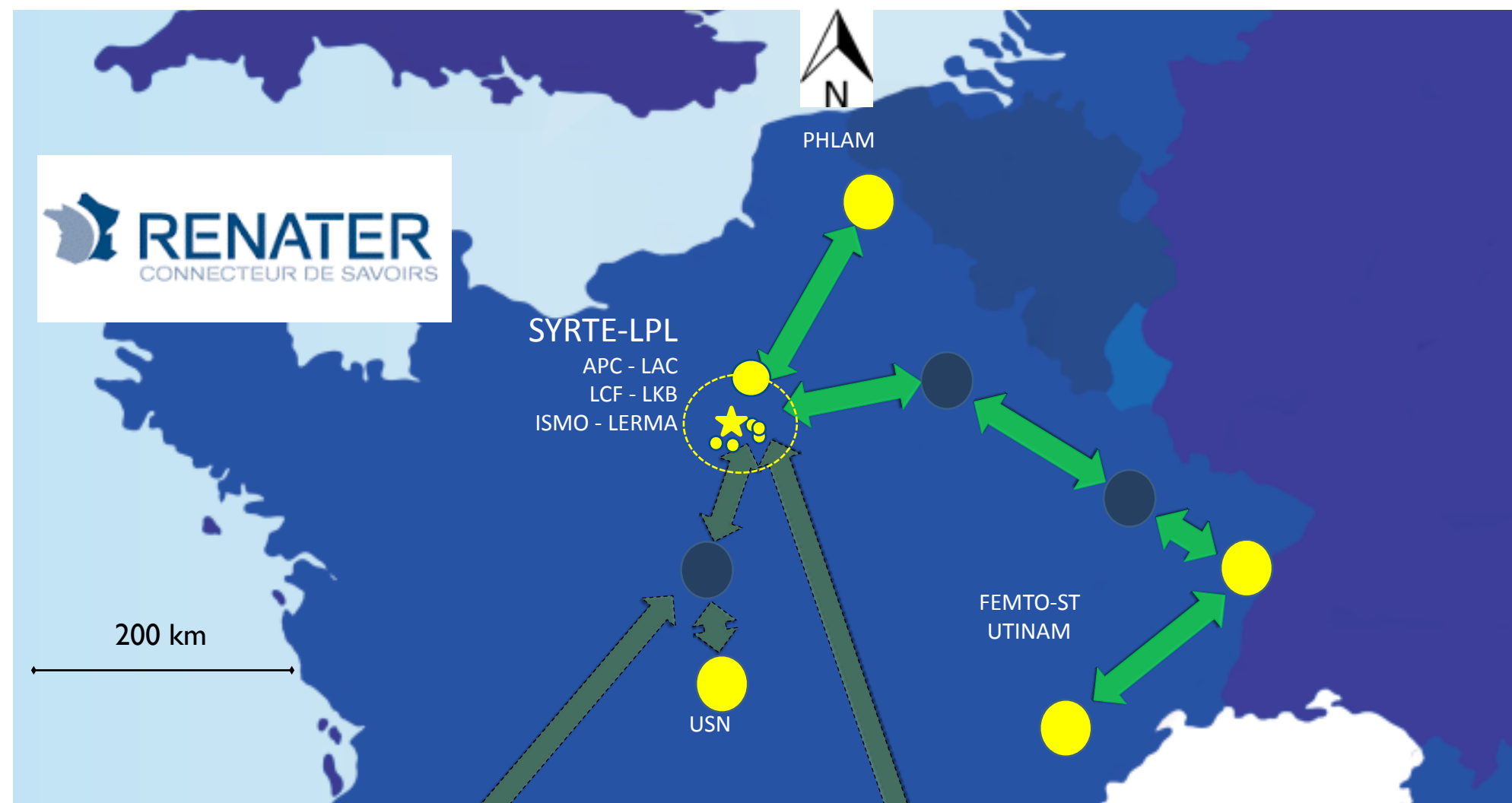


Users



# REFIMEVE+

A Large Research Infrastructure



## Collaboration with RENATER

Signal in **parallel of data traffic**

### • Sustainability

- Dedicated Fiber  $\approx 200\text{€} / \text{km}$
- Fiber sharing :  $\approx \text{cost} / 10$
- Supervision embedded in a

**Network Operation Center**

**4000 km of fibers**

~20 partners

Kernel



SYRTE



RENATER  
CONNECTEUR DE SAVOIRS

LP2N

Systèmes de Référence Temps-Espace

Industrials



Syrlinks

KEOPSYS  
THE LIGHT TOUCH

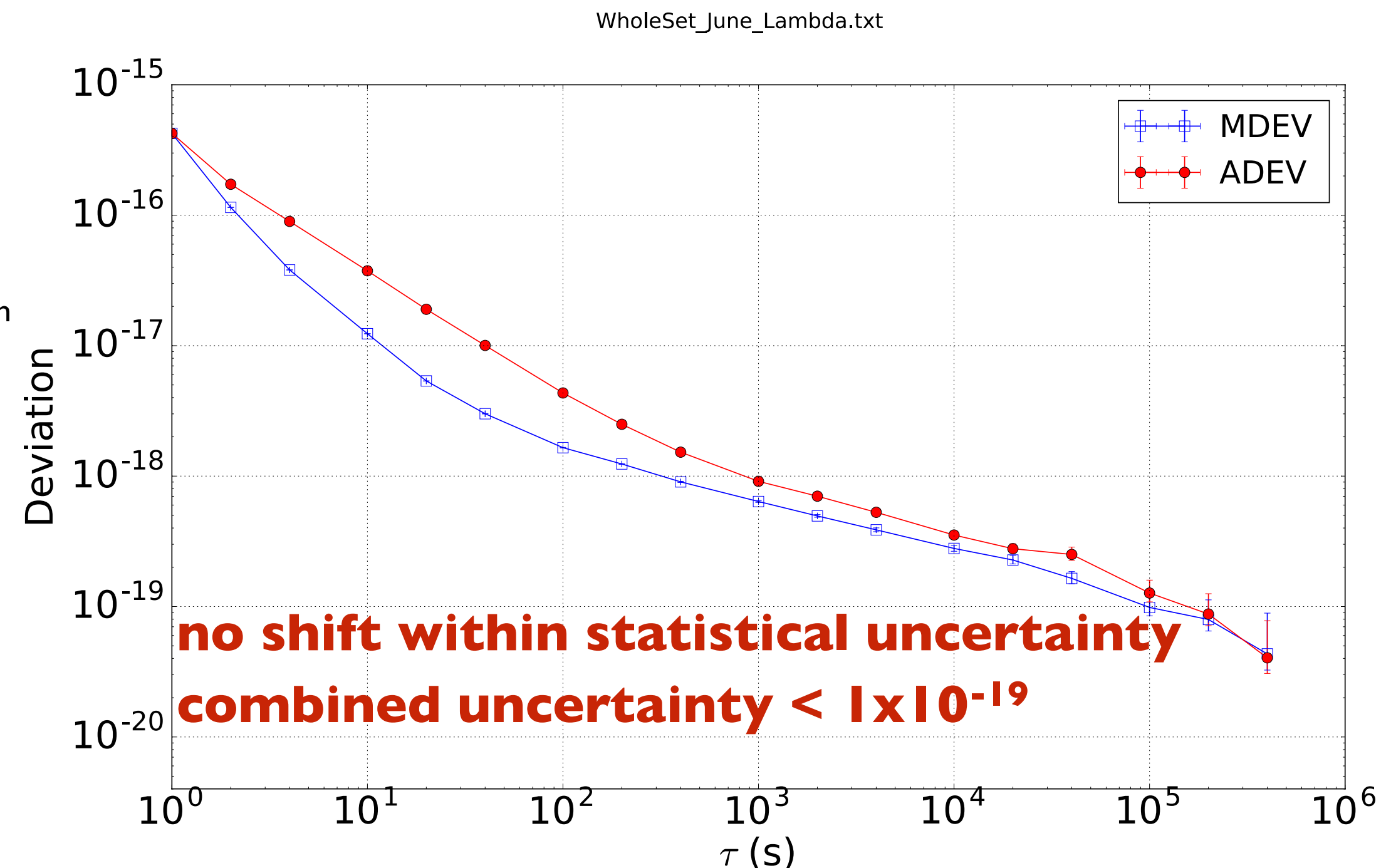
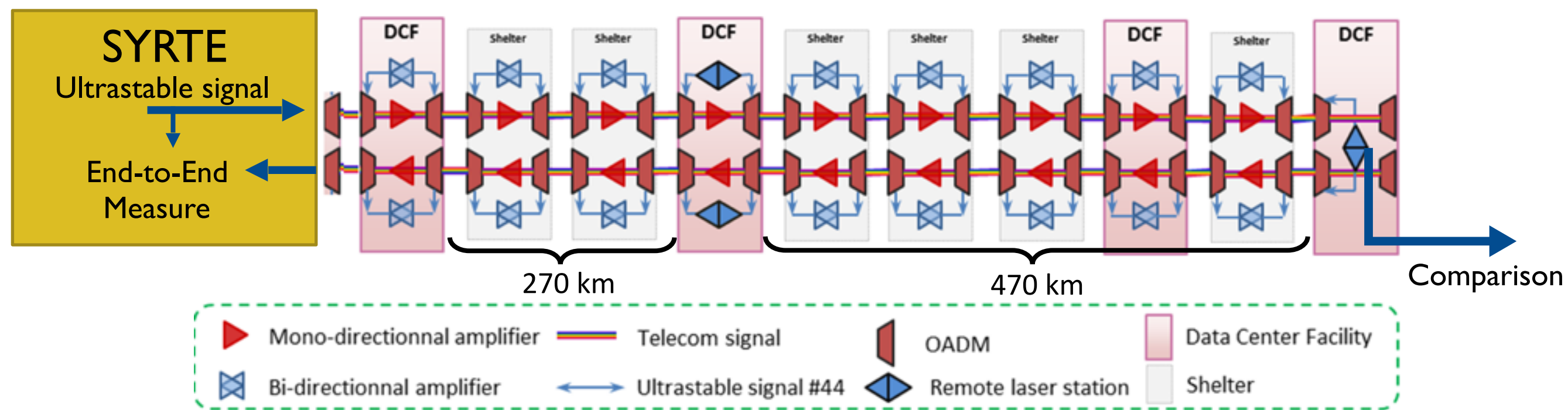
Users



Centre d'Études du Rayonnement et de la Matière en Astrophysique et Atmosphères

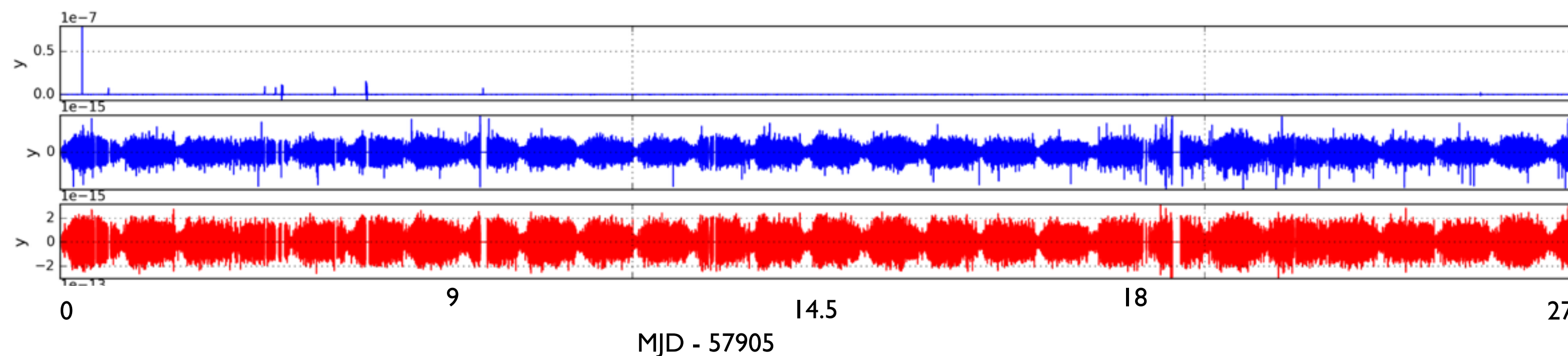


# REFIMEVE+ : Performances over 1 month



## Link summary

- 2x205 dB attenuation
- Parallel data traffic
- 16 EDFA
- 32 OADM
- 5 Repeater laser stations
- ~ 1400 km



— RAW

— filtered

— rm

$f_0 = 200 \text{ THz}$

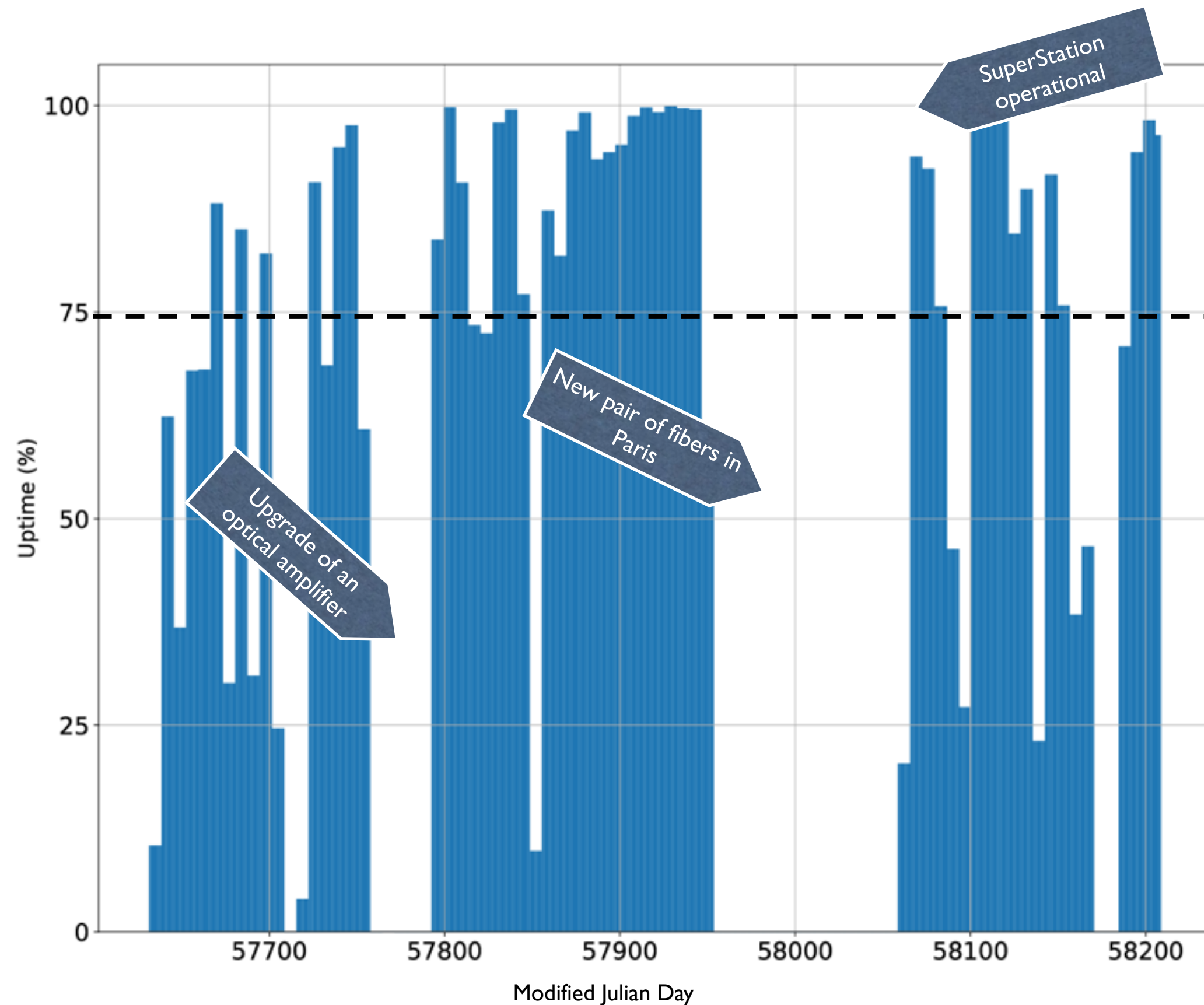
scale :  $\pm 1 \text{ Hz}/f_0$

# REFIMEVE+ : uptime

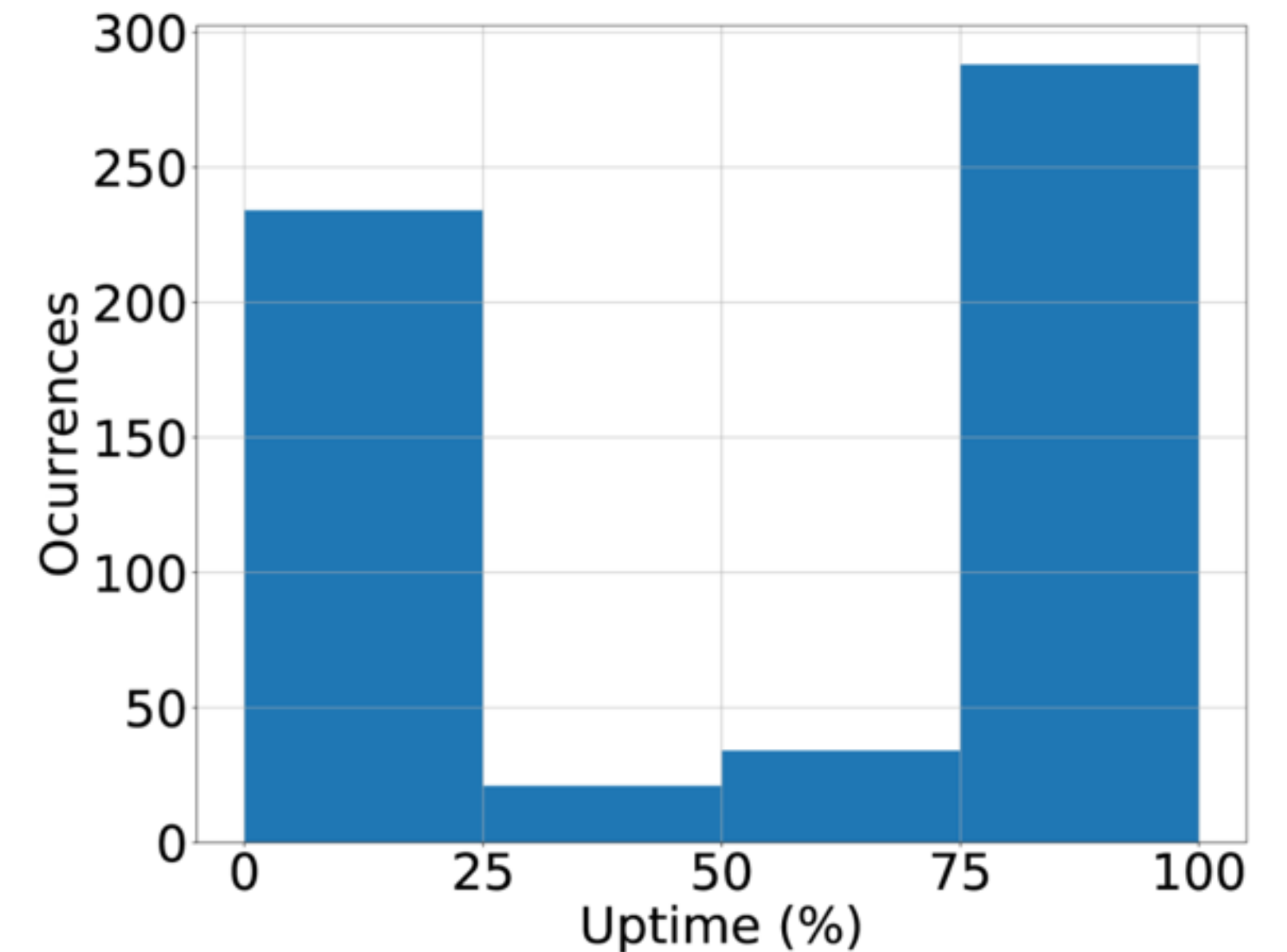
## Operation of a link / 19 months

19 months = 576 days = 49'766'400s

- Total Uptime = 54.5%
- Selection criterium  
Frequency < 10 Hz =  $5 \times 10^{-14}$
- All the system involved  
(Ultra-stable Laser + Comb + Link)



link Paris-Strasbourg-Paris



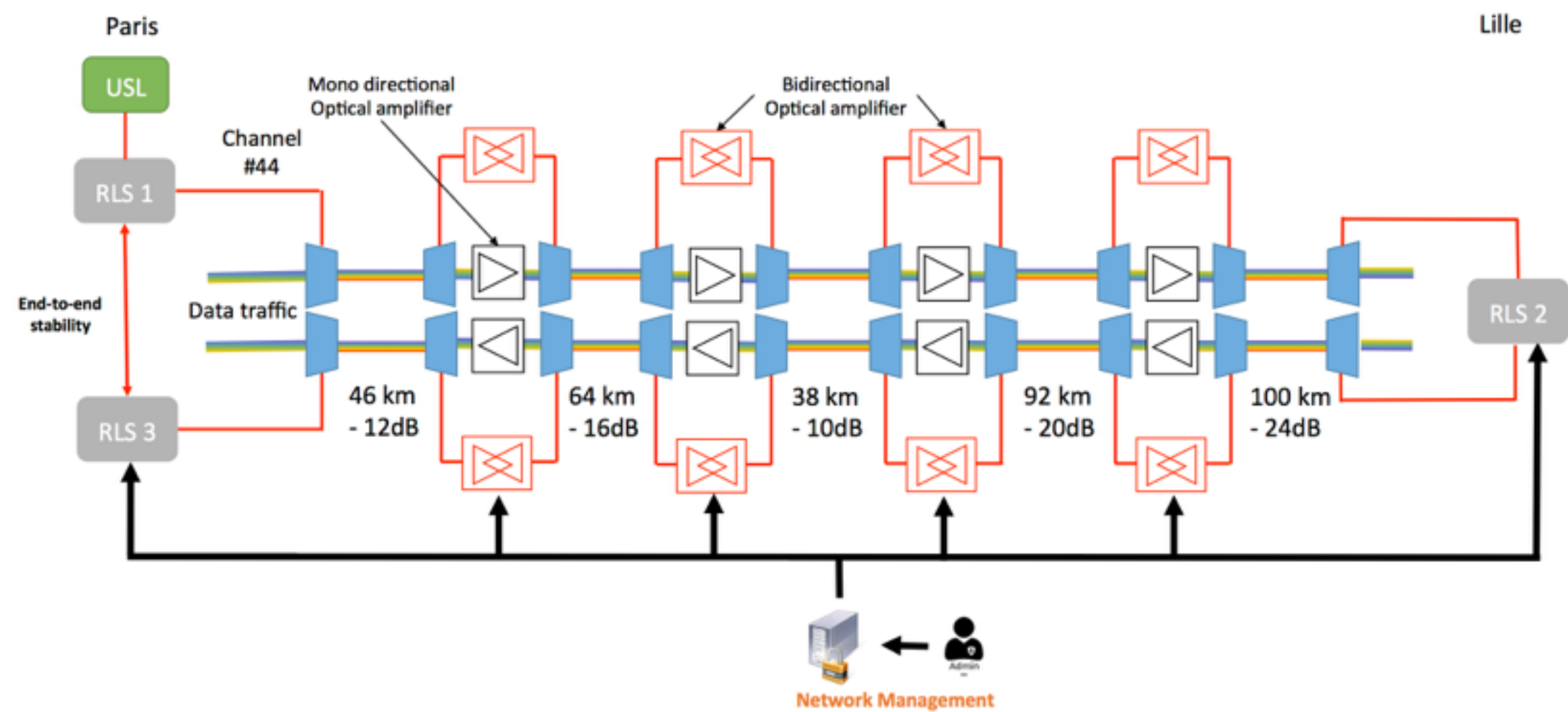
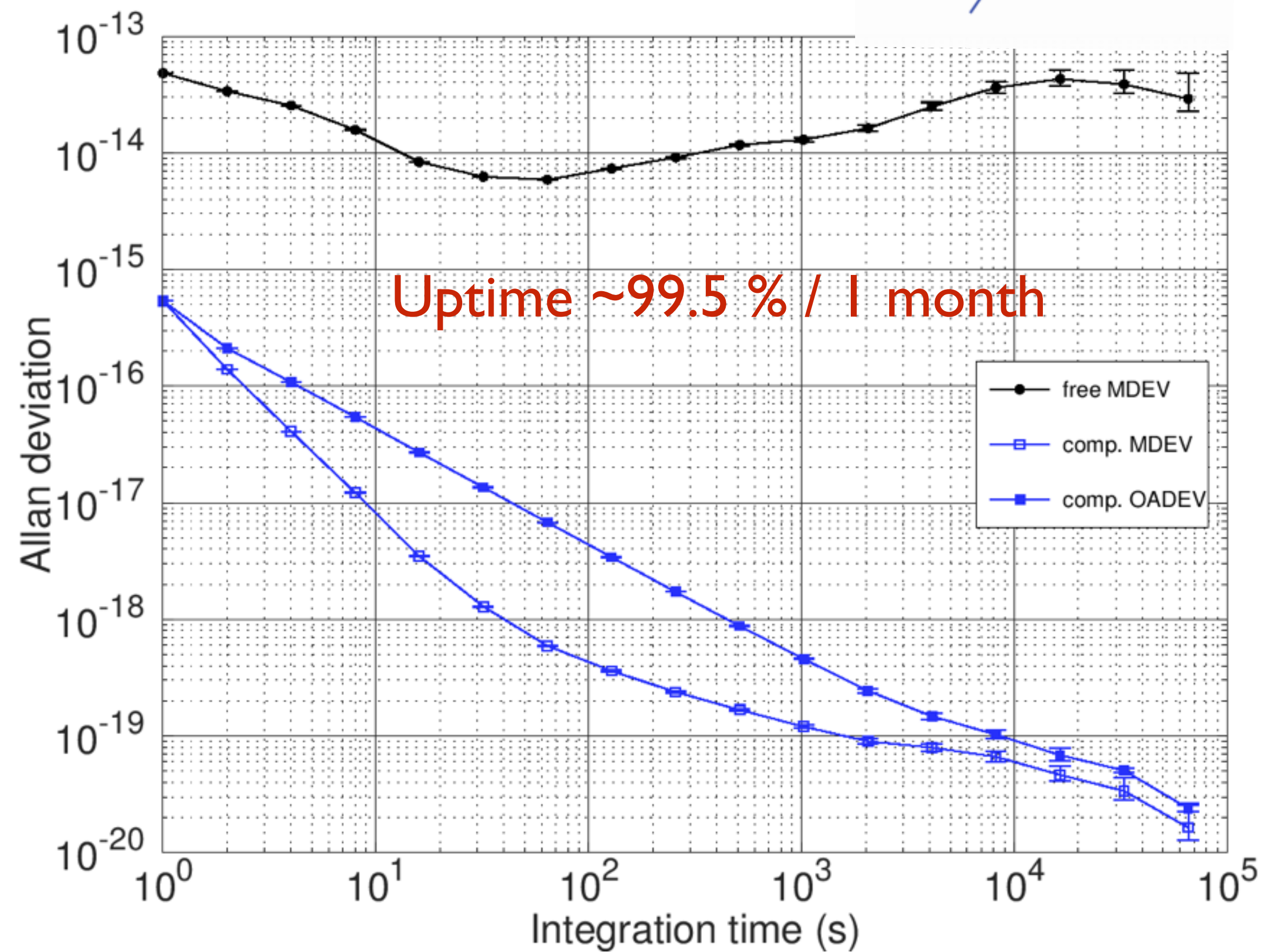
E. Cantin et al., EFTF'18.

# REFIMEVE+ : industrial partnership

## Industrial grade fiber links

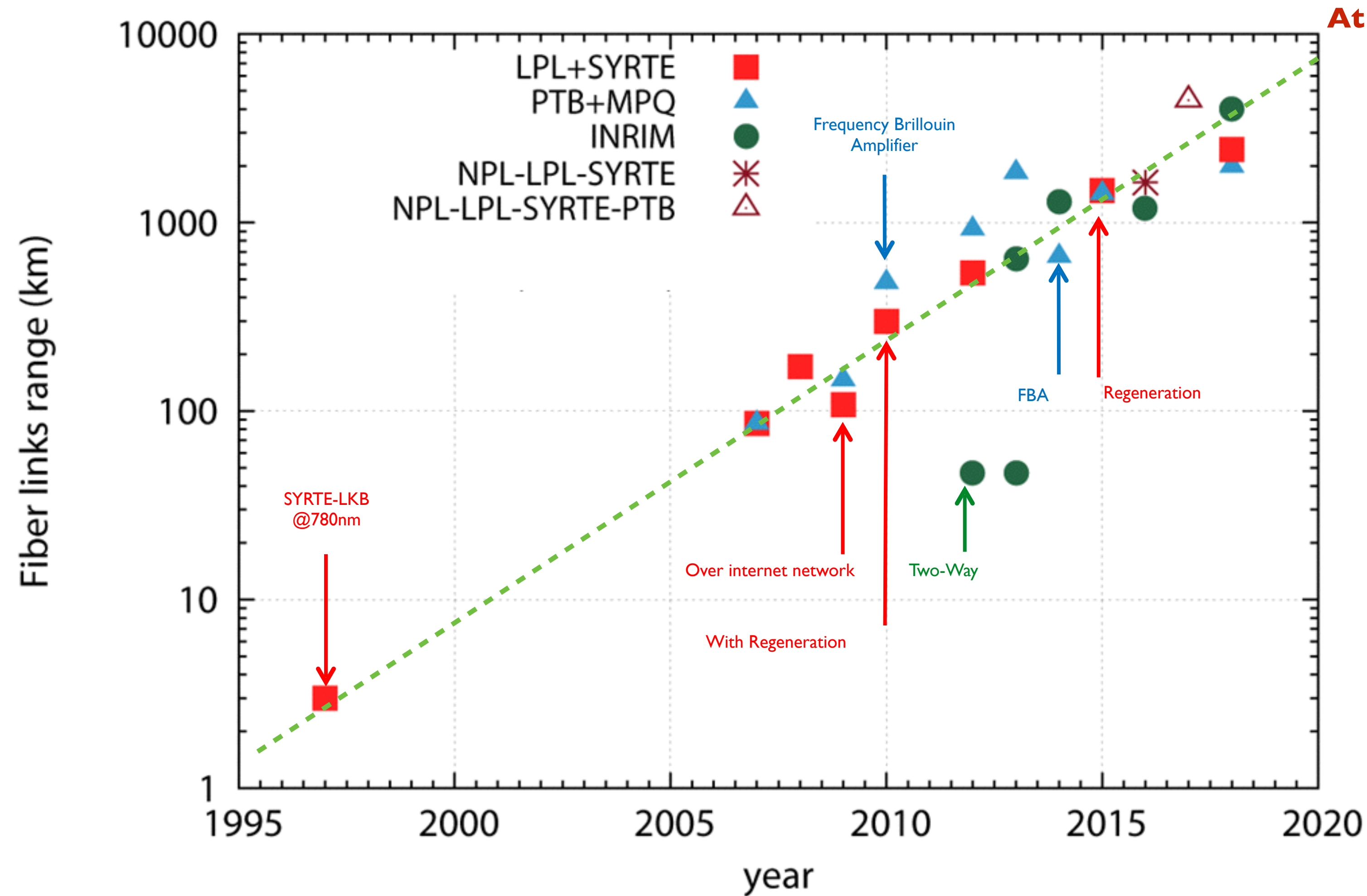
### Link summary

- 2x80 dB attenuation
- Parallel data traffic
- 10 EDFA
- 20 OADM
- 3 Repeater laser stations
- ~ 680 km



F. Camargo et al., **57** (25), 2018, [doi.org/10.1364/AO.57.007203](https://doi.org/10.1364/AO.57.007203)

# CLONETS : towards Research Infrastructures



**At horizon 2020 :  
8000 km**

**Towards a large research infrastructure ?**



**RENATER, CESNET,  
PSNC, GARR  
JISC/JANET, DFN,  
SURFNET,  
NORDUNET...**

**NRENs can play a major role !**



# CLONETS : a paper study

## 16 partners from 3 areas

- Work with Network for Education and Research Industry to make the technology available
- Ways to access the network
- Compatibility with TelCo

## Surveys and reviews

- 2 surveys, 1 market study : research infrastructures, industry, society...
- Technology reviews
  - T/F service parallel to data traffic
  - Guide for best practice
  - Emerging technologies

## Current work

- Overall vision
- Strategic roadmaps
- Technology roadmaps

Project CLONETS involved 16 partners from 7 European countries. Partners represent 4 main areas:

- National Measurement Institutes: OBS PARIS (FR), NPL (UK), PTB (DE), INRIM (IT)
- National Research and Education Network: RENATER (FR), CESNET (CZ), PSNC (PL), GARR\* (IT),
- Academic Laboratories: AGH (PL), UP13 (FR), UCL (UK), ISI (CZ), CNRS\* (FR)
- Industrial: MUQUANS (FR), MENLO (DE), PIKTIME (PL), SEVEN SOL (SP), OPTOKON (CZ), TOP-IX\* (IT)

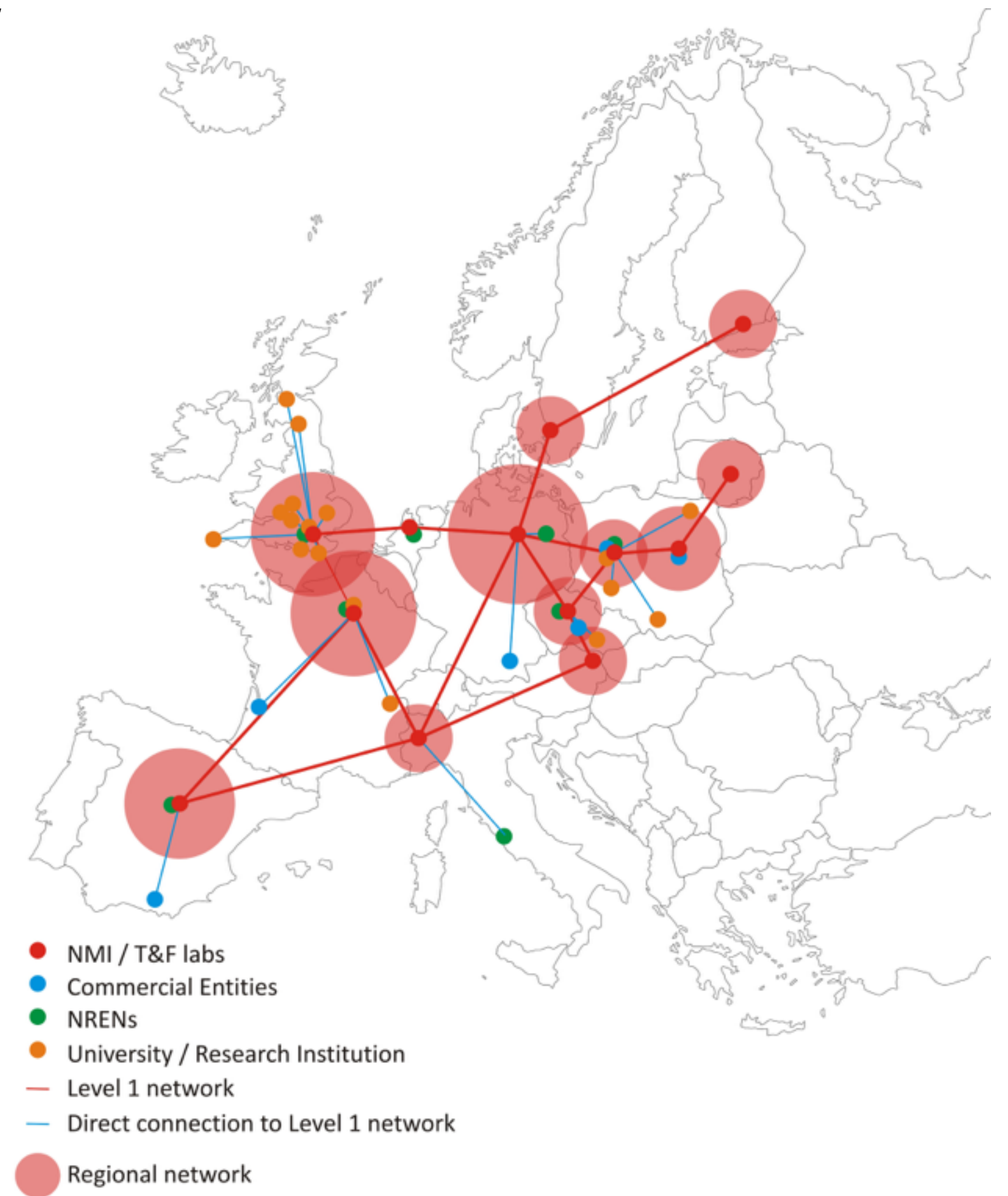
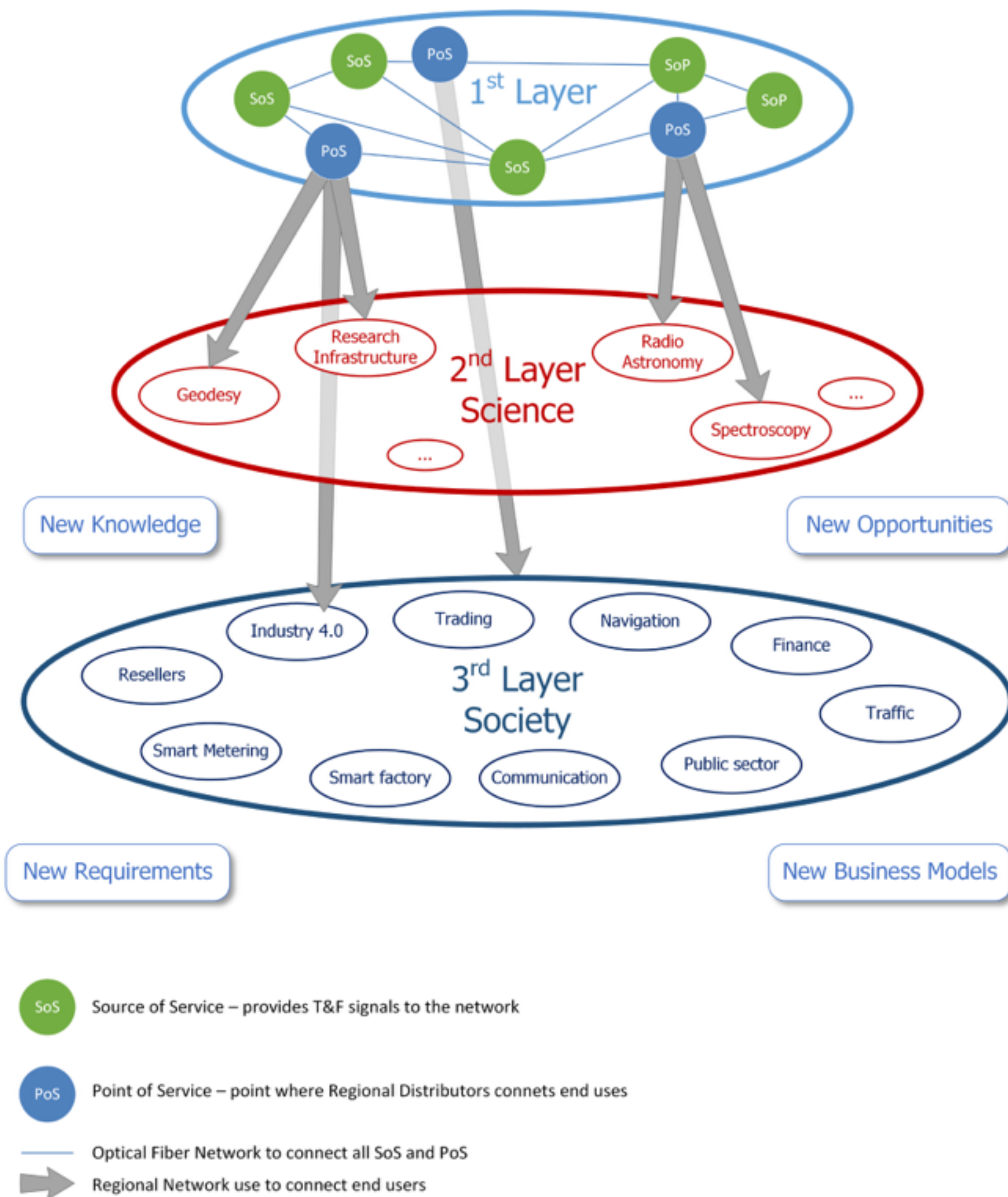
\*Third-party member

- 1 FRANCE**
  - OBSERVATOIRE DE PARIS
  - GIP RENATER
  - UNIVERSITE PARIS 13 - LPL
  - MUQUANS
  - CENTRE NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE
- 2 ITALY**
  - INSTITUTO NAZIONALE DI RICERCA METROLOGICA
  - CONSORTIUM GARR
  - CONSORZIO TOP-IX
- 3 GERMANY**
  - PHYSIKALISCH-TECHNISCHE BUNDESANSTALT
  - MENLO SYSTEMS GmbH
- 4 UNITED KINGDOM**
  - NPL MANAGEMENT LIMITED
  - UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON
- 5 CZECH REPUBLIC**
  - CESNET, z.s.p.o.
  - ÚSTAV PŘÍSTROJOVÉ TECHNIKY AV ČR, v.v.i.
  - OPTOKON
- 6 POLAND**
  - POZNANSKIE CENTRUM SUPERKOMPUTEROWO-SIECIOWE
  - PIKTIME SYSTEMS sp. z o. o.
  - AKADEMIA GORNICZO-HUTNICZA IM. STANISLAWA STASZICA W KRAKOWIE
- 7 SPAIN**
  - SEVEN SOLUTIONS S.L.



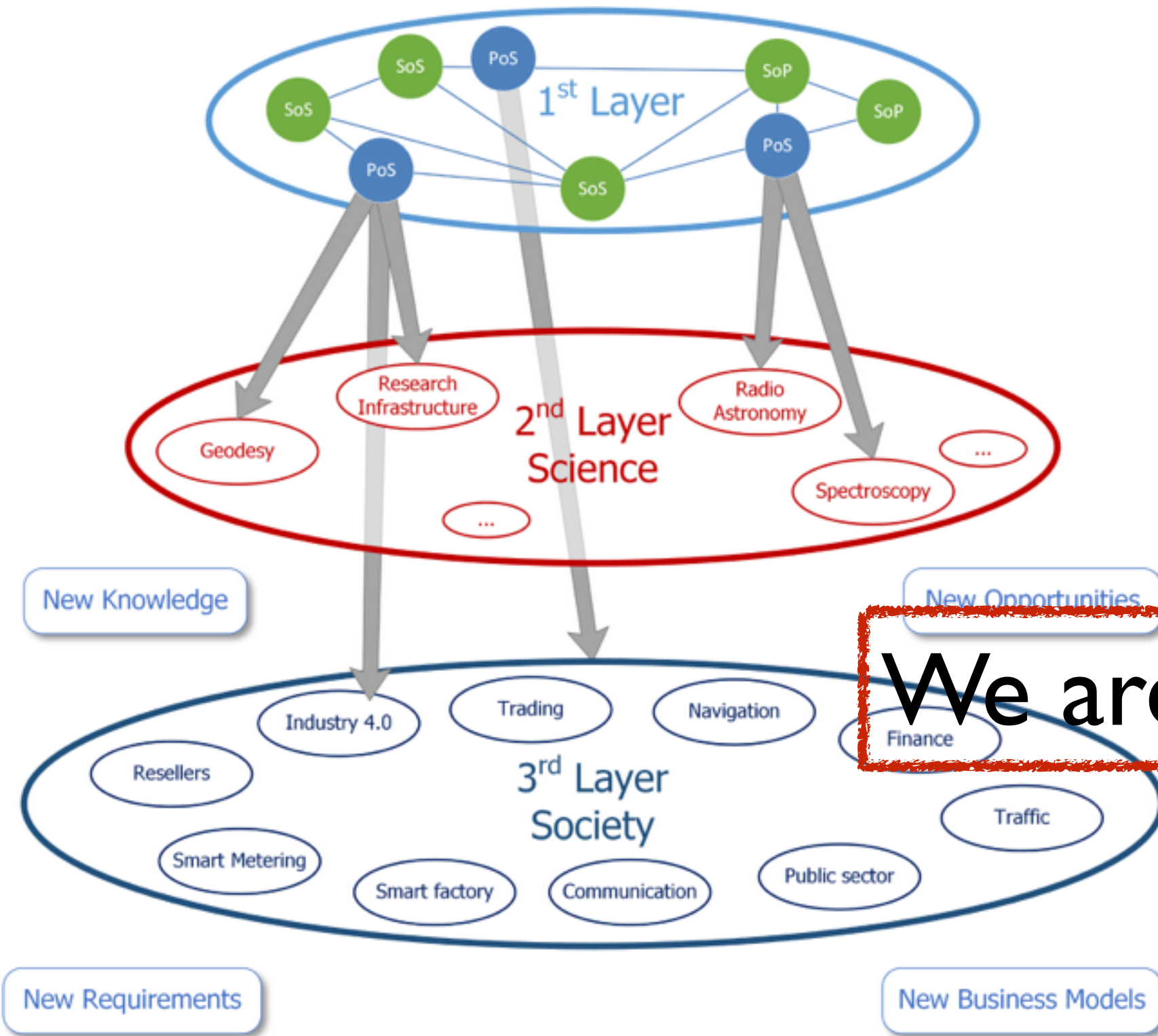
# An EU-backbone to be designed

<https://www.clonets.eu/>

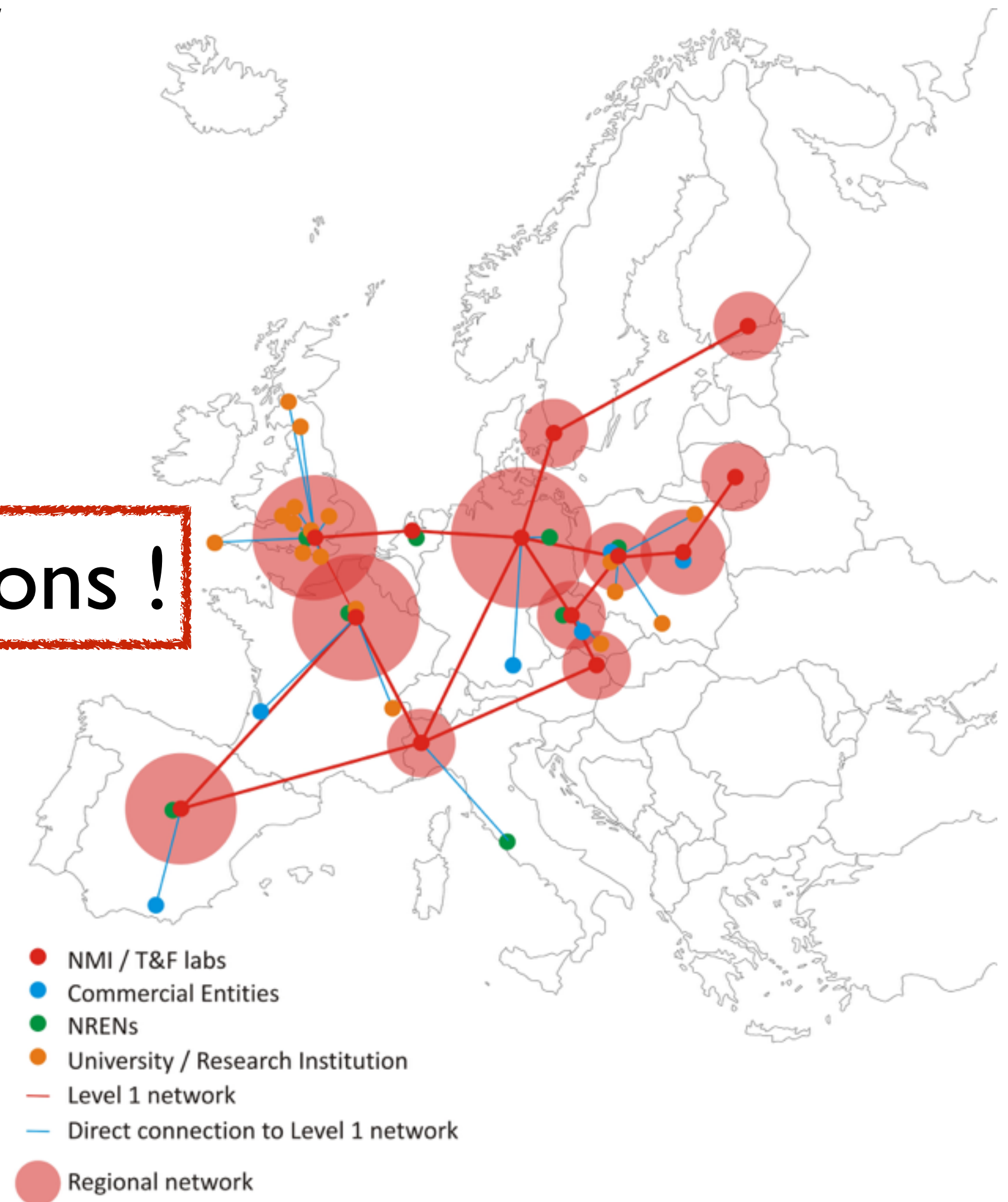


# An EU-backbone to be designed

<https://www.clonets.eu/>



**We are open for discussions !**



- SoS Source of Service – provides T&F signals to the network
- PoS Point of Service – point where Regional Distributors connects end uses
- Optical Fiber Network to connect all SoS and PoS
- ➔ Regional Network use to connect end users

- NMI / T&F labs
- Commercial Entities
- NRENs
- University / Research Institution
- Level 1 network
- Direct connection to Level 1 network
- Regional network

# Outlook

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- Fiber links : a new technology for T/F transfer
- Beyond GNSS solutions :  $1e-15@1s$  to  $1e-19@1day$
- Complement GNSS solutions
- REFIMEVE+ : fully optical metrological network <https://www.refimeve.fr>
  - Optical reference signal disseminated in France
  - Partnership with RENATER (NREN) and industrial consortium
  - Deployment is still under way
- Towards EU research infrastructure building a clock service

<https://www.clonets.eu/>

# Thank you for your attention

## A non-exhaustive review:

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### Hyper-frequency:

- O. Lopez, et al. Applied Physics B **98**, 723–727 (2010).
- F. Yin, F. et al. Optics Express **22**, 878 (2014).
- X. Chen, X. et al. Optics Letters **40**, 371 (2015).
- S. Schediwy, Optics Letters **42**, 1648 (2017).

### Radio-frequency:

- C. Daussy et al. Physical Review Letters **94**, (2005).
- J.-F. Cliche et al. IEEE Control Systems Magazine **26**, 19–26 (2006).
- M. Fujieda et al., IEEE T-IM **58**, 1223–1228 (2009).
- R. Wilcox, Optics Letters **34**, 3050 (2009).
- Y. He, et al. Optics Express **21**, 18754 (2013).
- P. Krehlik, IEEE T-UFFC 63, 993–1004 (2016).**
- D. Gozzard, IEEE Photonics Technology Letters 30, 258–261 (2018).**

### White-Rabbit:

Everything is on the wikipage...

### **G. Daniluk,(CERN).**

- Nucl. Instr. & Meth. in Phys. Res. **725**, 187–190 (2013).
- E.F. Dierikx, et al. IEEE T-UFFC **63**, 945–952 (2016).
- N. Kaur, <https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/tel-01909292>

### Optical frequency:

- F. Guillou-Camargo et al. Appl. Opt., AO **57**, 7203–7210 (2018).
- J. Guéna et al. Metrologia **54**, 348 (2017).
- C. Lisdat et al. Nature Communications **7**, 12443 (2016).
- N. Chiodo et al, OE **23**, 33927–33937 (2015).
- S. Raupach et al., Physical Review A **92**, (2015).
- O. Lopez et al., Comptes Rendus Physique **16**, 531–539 (2015).