

Clock and GNSS performances

LPNHE Neutrino group

Discussion SYRTE-LPNHE — March 17th 2021

Quantify time stability

Signal $y(t)$ (usually discrete measurements $y_i = y(t_i)$)

How to compute stability?

→ Frequency domain: **power spectral density (PSD)**

$$S_y(\omega) = \frac{|\tilde{y}(\omega)|^2}{T} = \frac{\left| \int_0^T y(t) \exp(i\omega t) dt \right|^2}{T}$$

→ Time domain: **Allan variance (AV)**

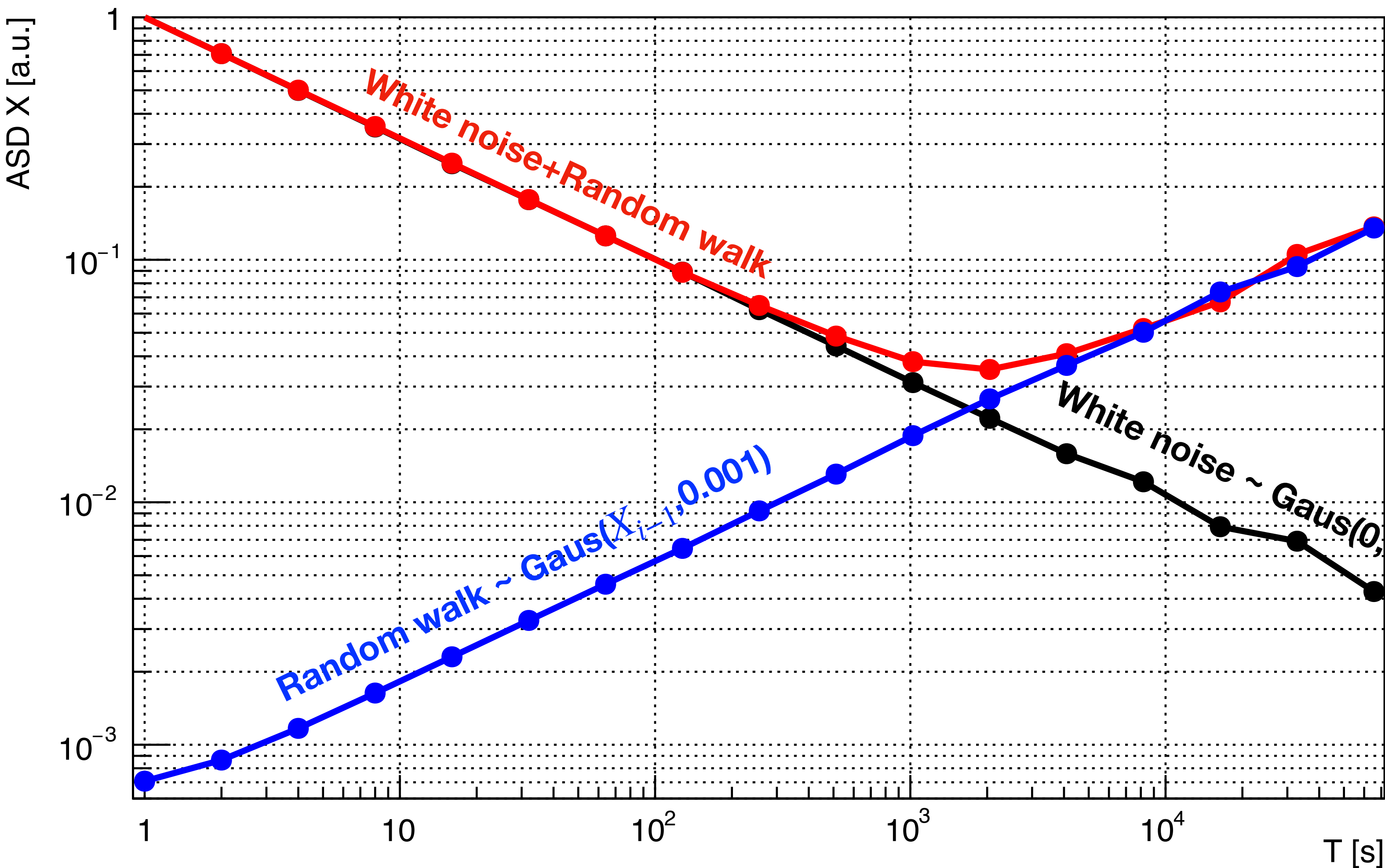
$$\sigma_{\text{Allan}}(n) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2 \left(\frac{N}{n} - 1 \right)} \sum_{l=1}^{\frac{N}{n}-1} \left(y_{l+1}^{(n)} - y_l^{(n)} \right)^2} \quad \text{with } y_l^{(n)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_{ln+i} \quad (1,5)$$

Many variations around this formula like **modified AV**:

$$\sigma_{\text{Mod}}(\tau) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2n^2(N - 2n + 1)} \sum_{j=1}^{N-2n+1} \left(\sum_{i=j}^{j+n-1} y_{i+n}^{(n)} - y_i^{(n)} \right)^2} \quad (3,5)$$

Generating data and ASD

Allan Standard Deviation



Random walk: $\sqrt{\langle X^2 \rangle} = \sqrt{D\tau}$
(Einstein equation)

White noise: $\sqrt{\langle X^2 \rangle} \approx \frac{\sigma_0}{\sqrt{\tau}}$
(Central limit theorem)

Jitter: fluctuations on both amplitude, frequency and phase

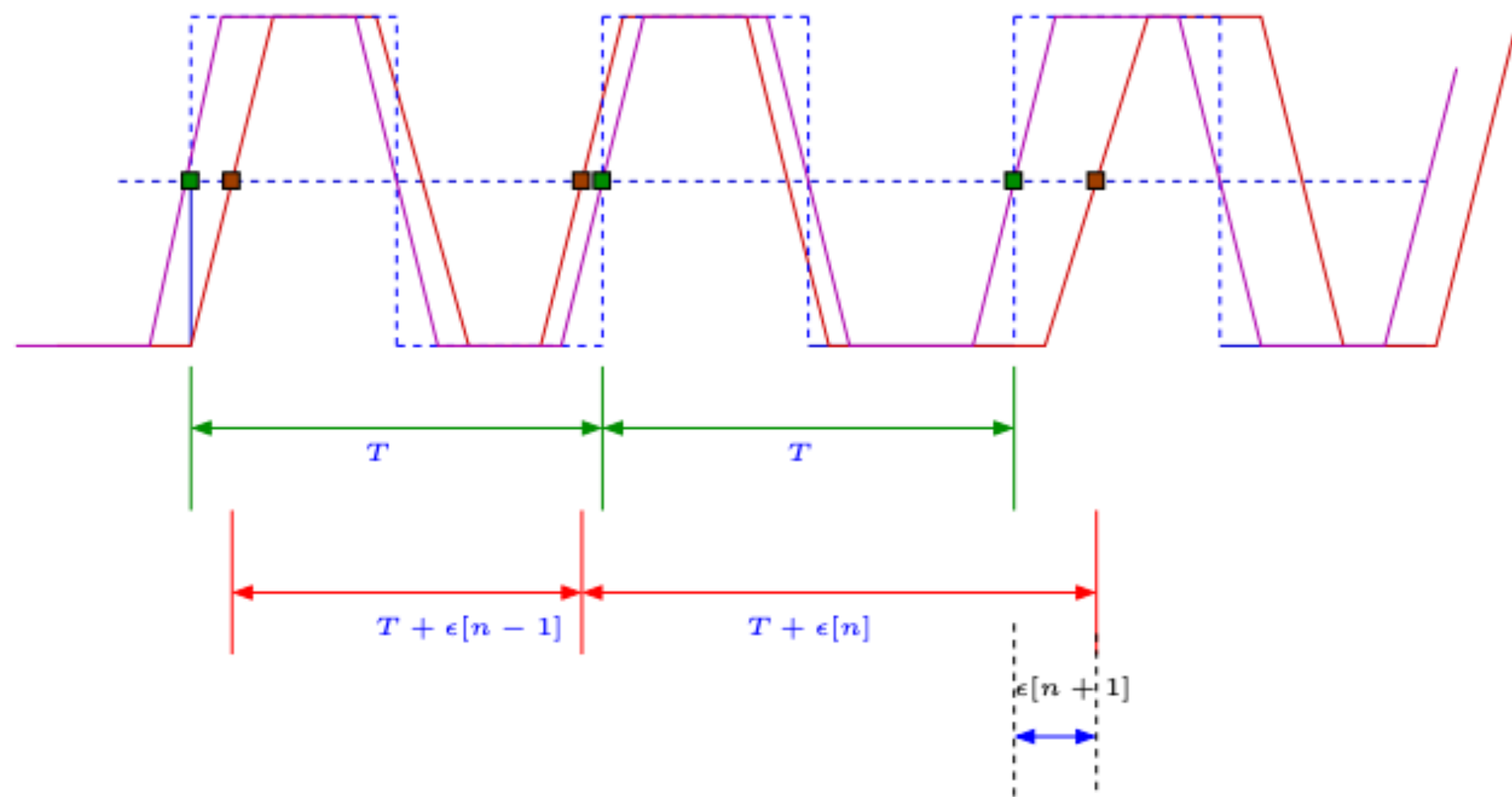
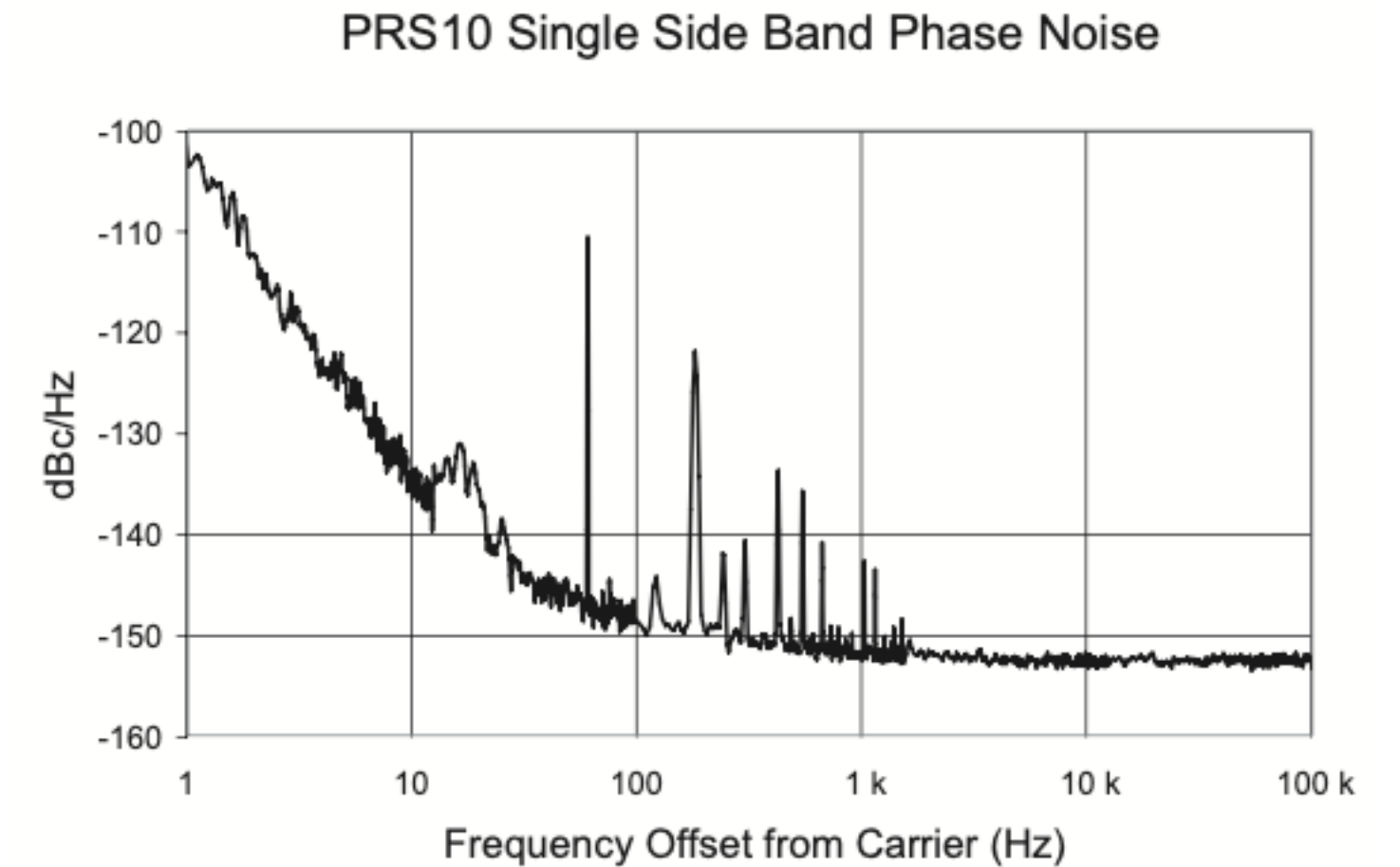


Figure 8. Sampling Clock Jitter: The time duration (period) between successive triggers vary as a result of the phase noise. Ideal clocks preserve constant period T , whereas, practical clocks vary the value randomly, leading to jitter



Phase noise:

$$\sigma_{\phi}^2(\tau) = \langle \bar{\phi}^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{\tau^2} \left\langle \left[\int_{t_k - \tau}^{t_k} \phi(t) dt \right]^2 \right\rangle$$

(RMS phase) jitter (@1 s):

$$J = \frac{\sigma_{\phi}}{2\pi f_0} = \frac{1}{2\pi f_0} \sqrt{\int_0^{\infty} S(f) \left(\frac{\sin \pi \tau f}{\pi \tau f} \right)^2 df}$$

Not quite the same as AV → is there a known relation?

Clock recommendations

Email from Michel with useful clock recommendations and price tags

1- Microsemi 5071A → 70-80 k€

2- OSA 3235B → 50 k€

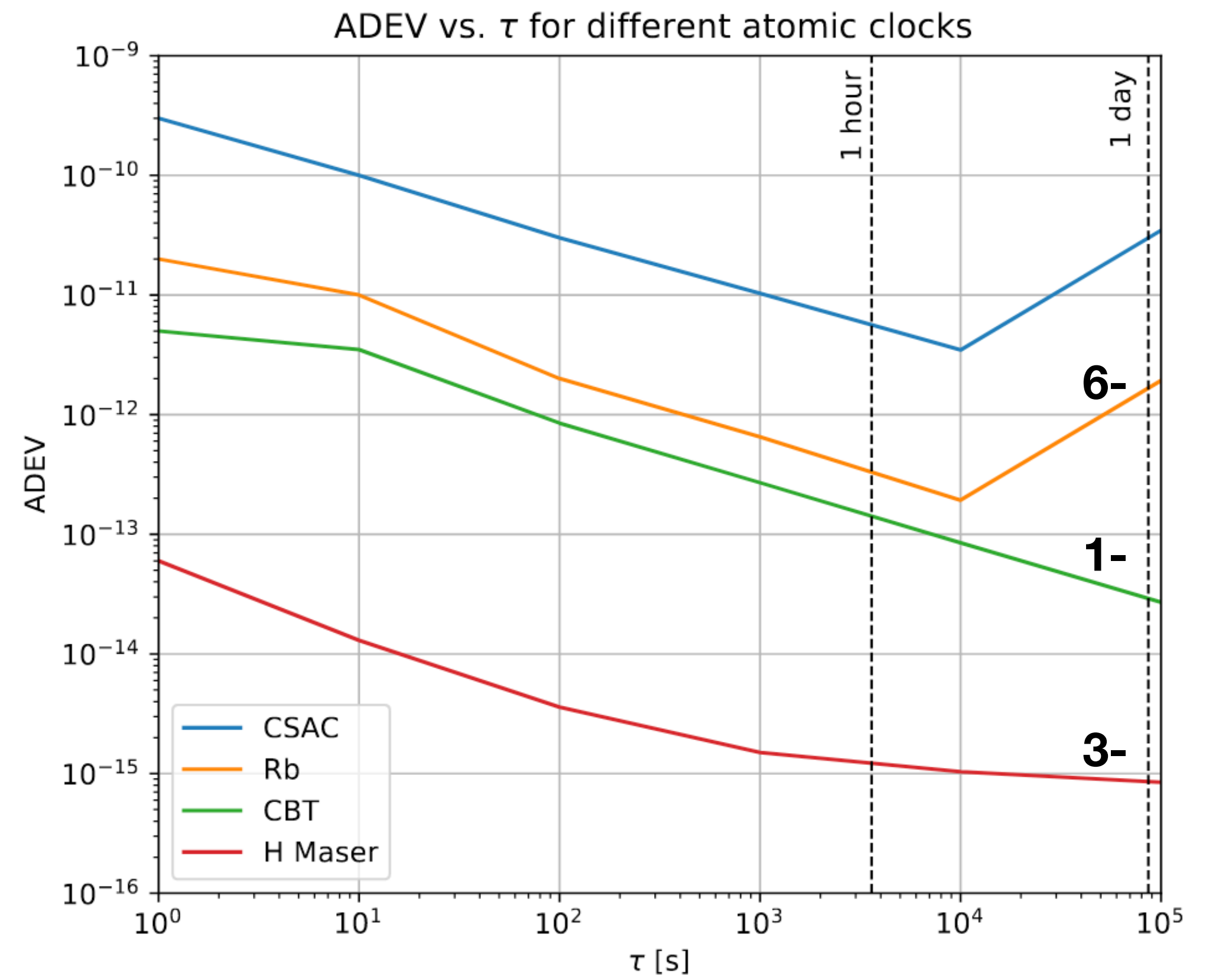
3- PHM1008 → 55 k€

4- Cold Rb clock → >100 k€

Off-the-shelf systems:

5- SRS FS725 → 3 k€

6- SRS PRS10 → 1.5 k€

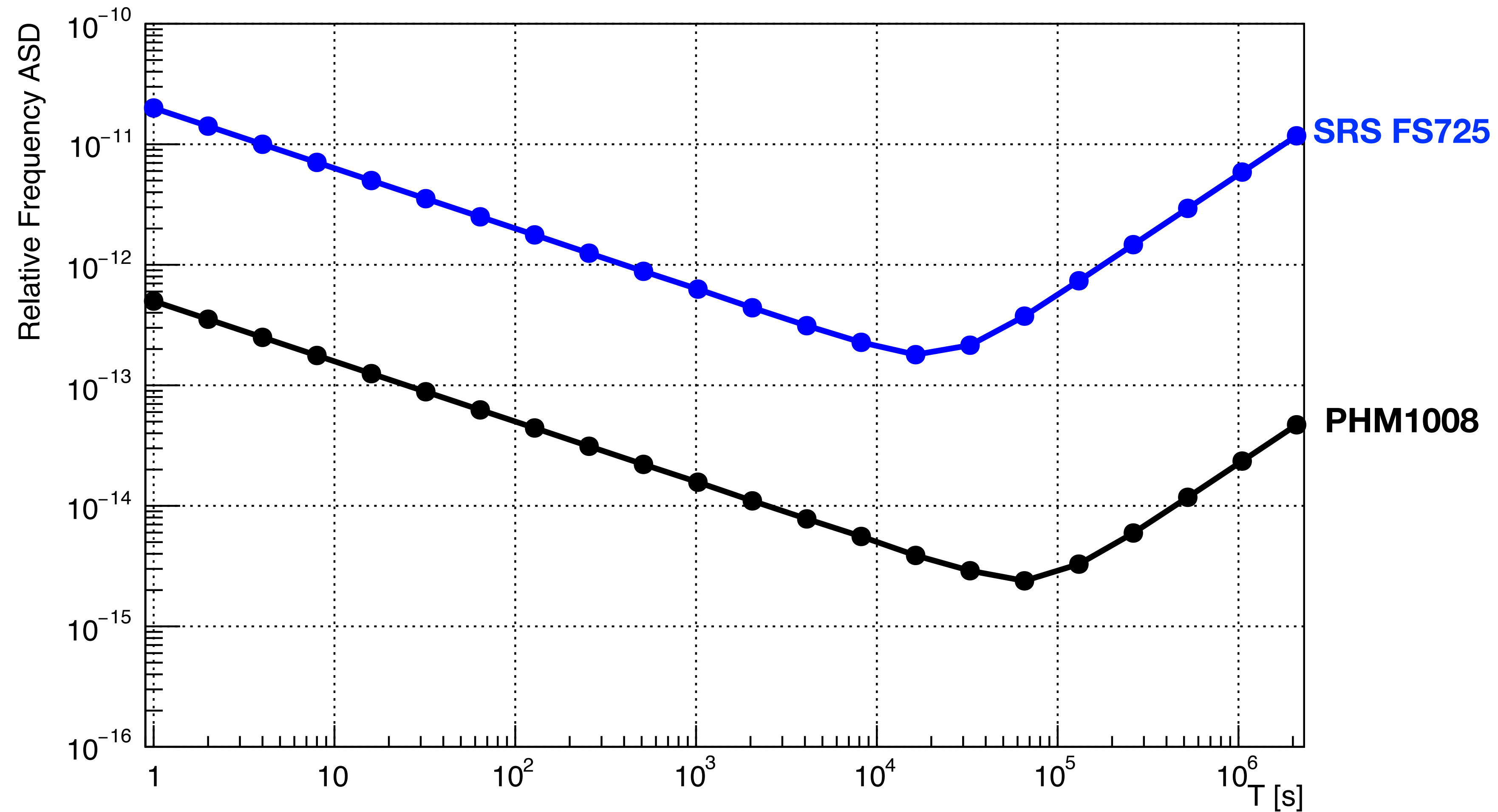


(6)

Fig. 2. Comparison of ADEV for different frequency standard technologies. The curves shown from top to bottom are the Microchip CSAC, SRS PRS10 Rb frequency standard, Microchip 5071A Cesium Beam Tube, and Vremya Active Hydrogen Maser.

Reproducing data sheets

Allan Standard Deviation



Jitter@1sec (“wander”):

- Standard oscilloscope (Tektronic MSO Series 5?)
- Phase noise analyzer (Integrated PSD/jitter)

Long-term ASD:

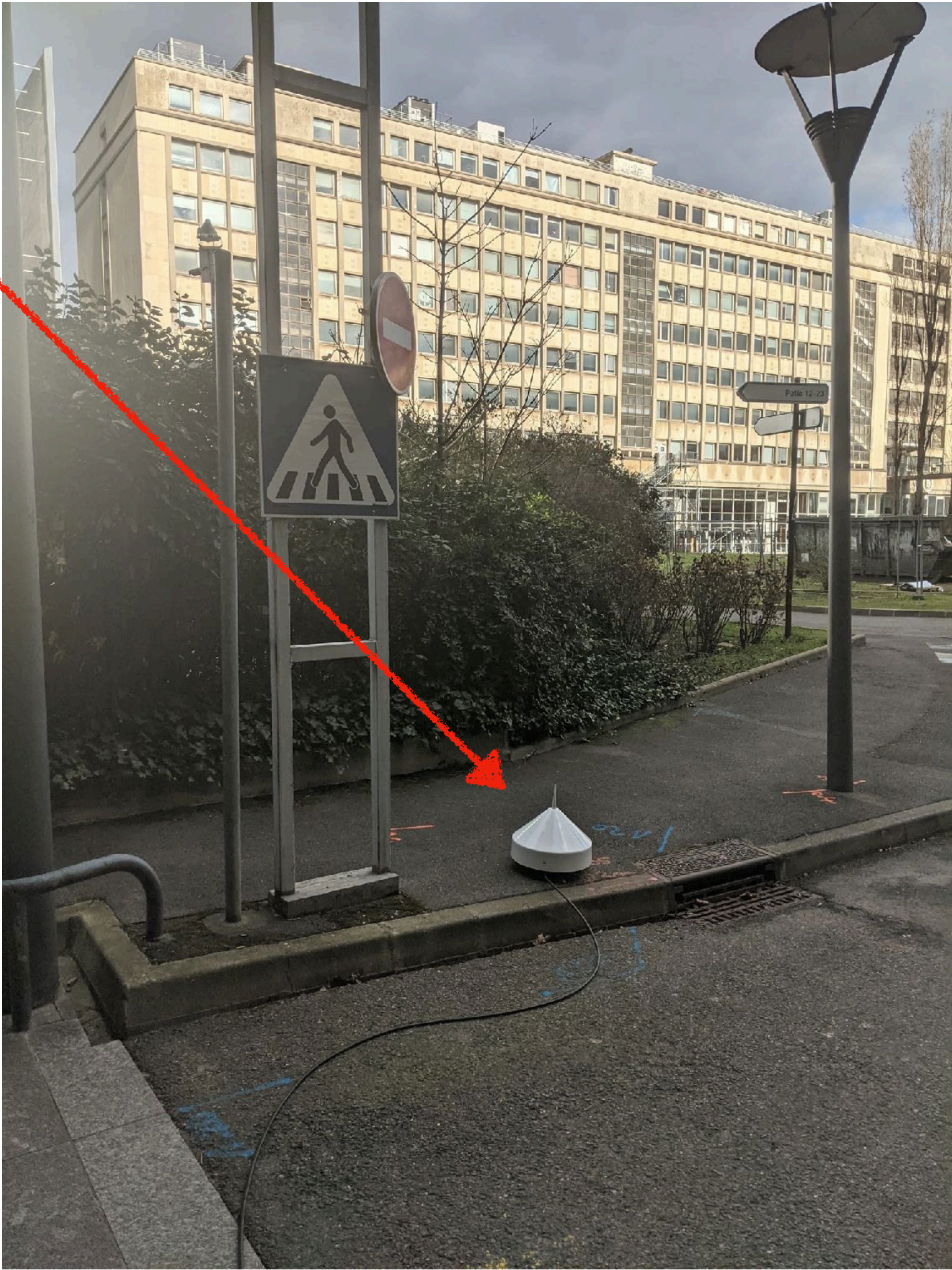
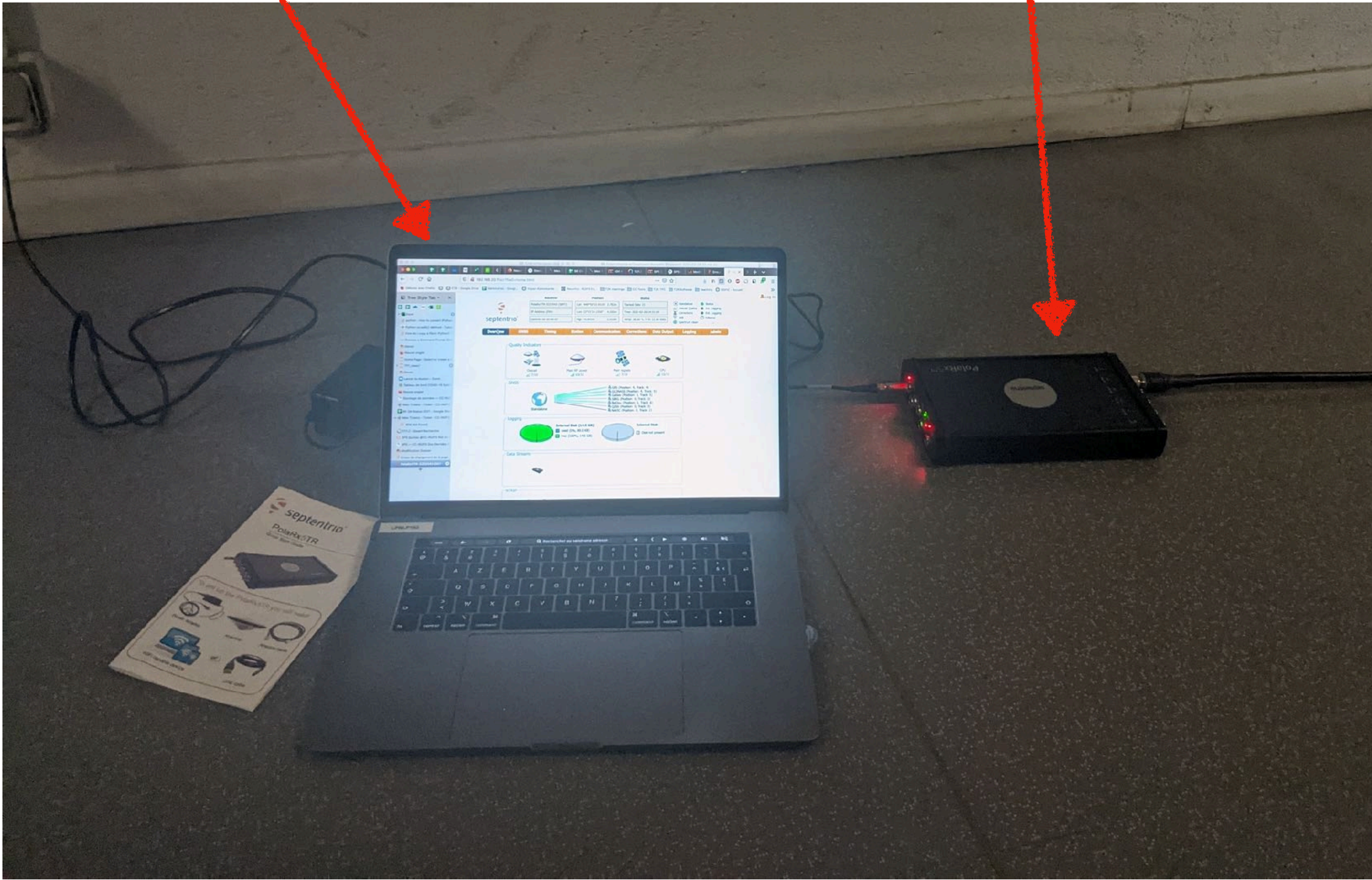
- Is this useful or should we just trust specs?
- How are the parameters (frequencies?) computed?
- Are these oscilloscopes/analyzers stable enough > 1 day?
- Use a more stable clock as comparison?
- Impact of temperature and humidity drifts on clock?
- Maintenance?

First test of GNSS antenna

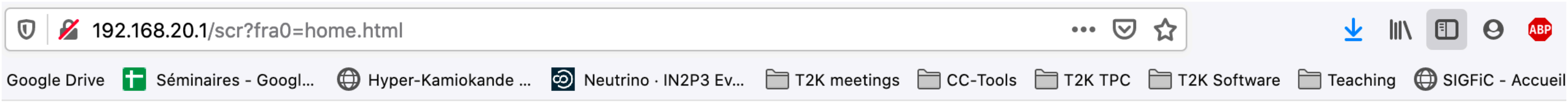
Computer
connected by Wifi


Septentrio module

Antenna



Friday February 26th





Receiver	Position	Status
Polarx5TR-3222543 (SEPT)	Lat: N48°50'53.9518" 2.780m	Tracked Sats: 21
IP Address (Eth):	Lon: E2°21'24.1595" 4.101m	Time: 2021-02-26 14:51:21
Uptime: 0d 00:08:19	Hgt: 79.036m 5.638m	Temp: 38.00 °C — V: 11.98 volts

+

 Standalone

Overall Quality

Corrections

Wifi

Spectrum clean

●

 Status

●

 Int. Logging

●

 Ext. Logging

⌚

 Internal

Overview

GNSS

Timing

Station

Communication


Corrections

Data Output


Logging

Admin

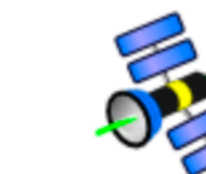
Quality Indicators




Overall
7/10



Main RF power
10/10




Main signals
7/10



CPU
10/10

GNSS



Standalone

- GPS (Position: 4, Track: 4)
- GLONASS (Position: 4, Track: 5)
- Galileo (Position: 3, Track: 5)
- SBAS (Position: 0, Track: 0)
- BeiDou (Position: 5, Track: 6)
- QZSS (Position: 0, Track: 0)
- NAVIC (Position: 0, Track: 1)

Logging

Internal Disk (14.5 GB)

used (0%, 80.0 KB)

free (100%, 14.5 GB)


External Disk

Disk not present

Data Streams



GNSS



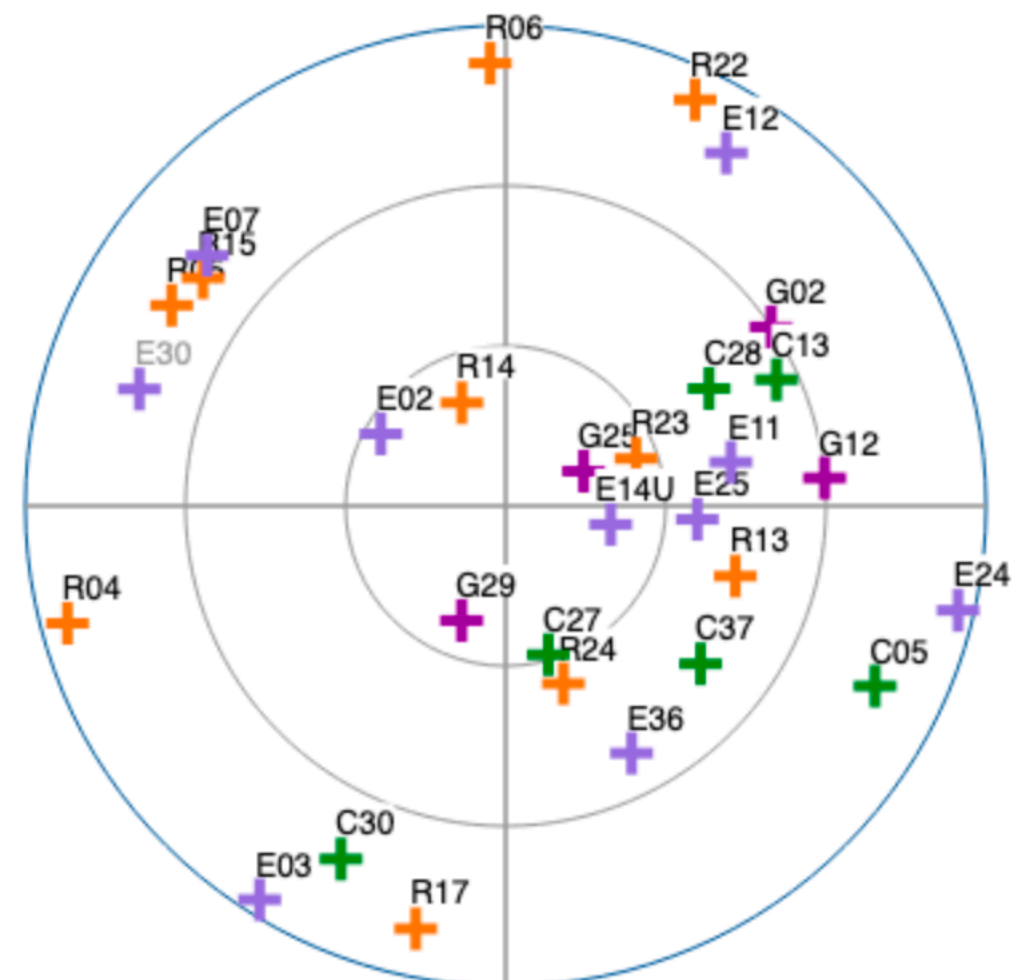
Standalone

- GPS (Position: 4, Track: 4)
- GLONASS (Position: 5, Track: 6)
- Galileo (Position: 3, Track: 5)
- SBAS (Position: 0, Track: 1)
- BeiDou (Position: 4, Track: 6)
- QZSS (Position: 0, Track: 0)
- NAVIC (Position: 0, Track: 1)

Status

Settings

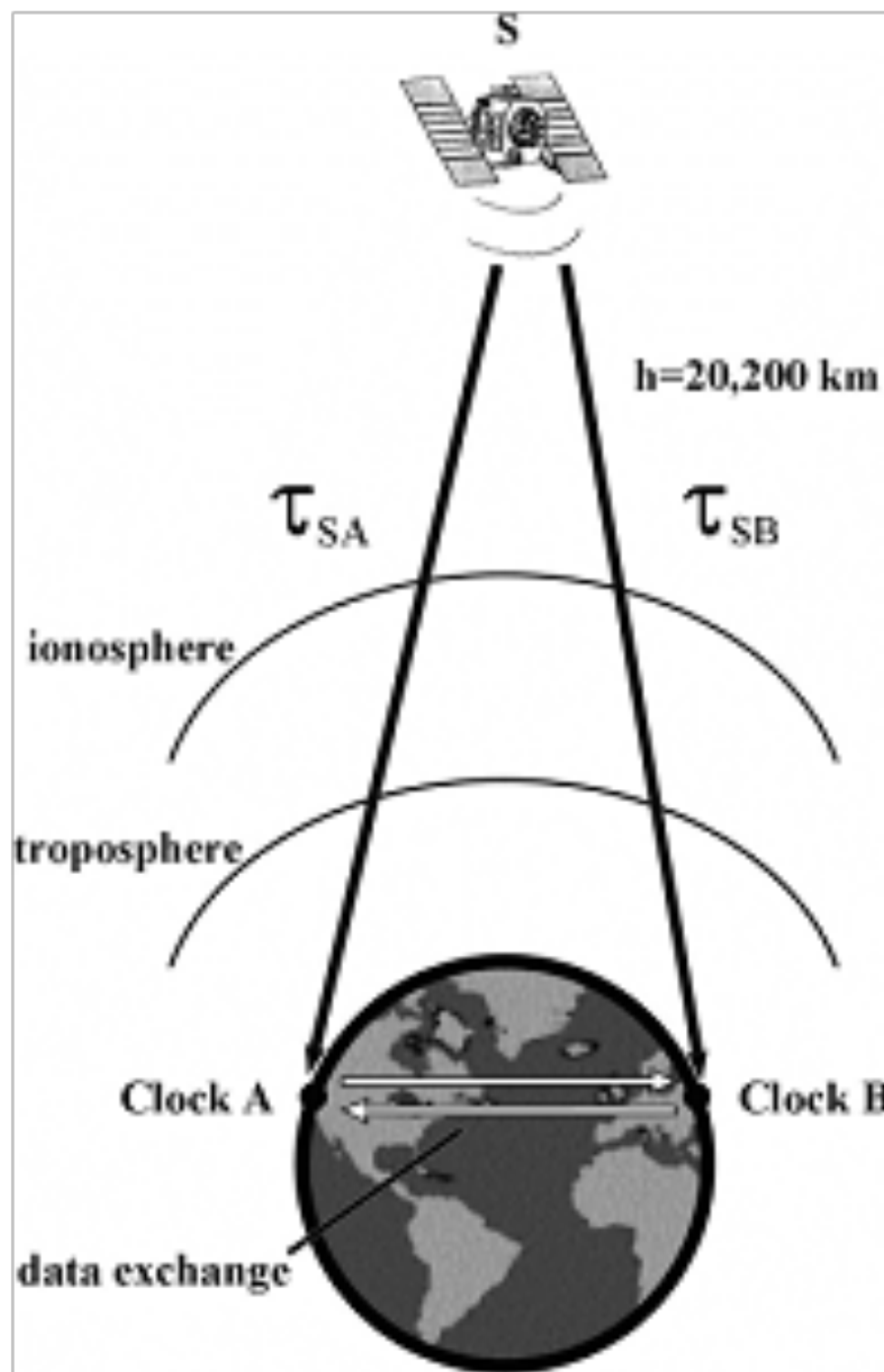
Sky Plot



☒ GPS
☒ GLONASS
☒ Galileo
☒ SBAS
☒ BeiDou
☒ QZSS
☒ NAVIC

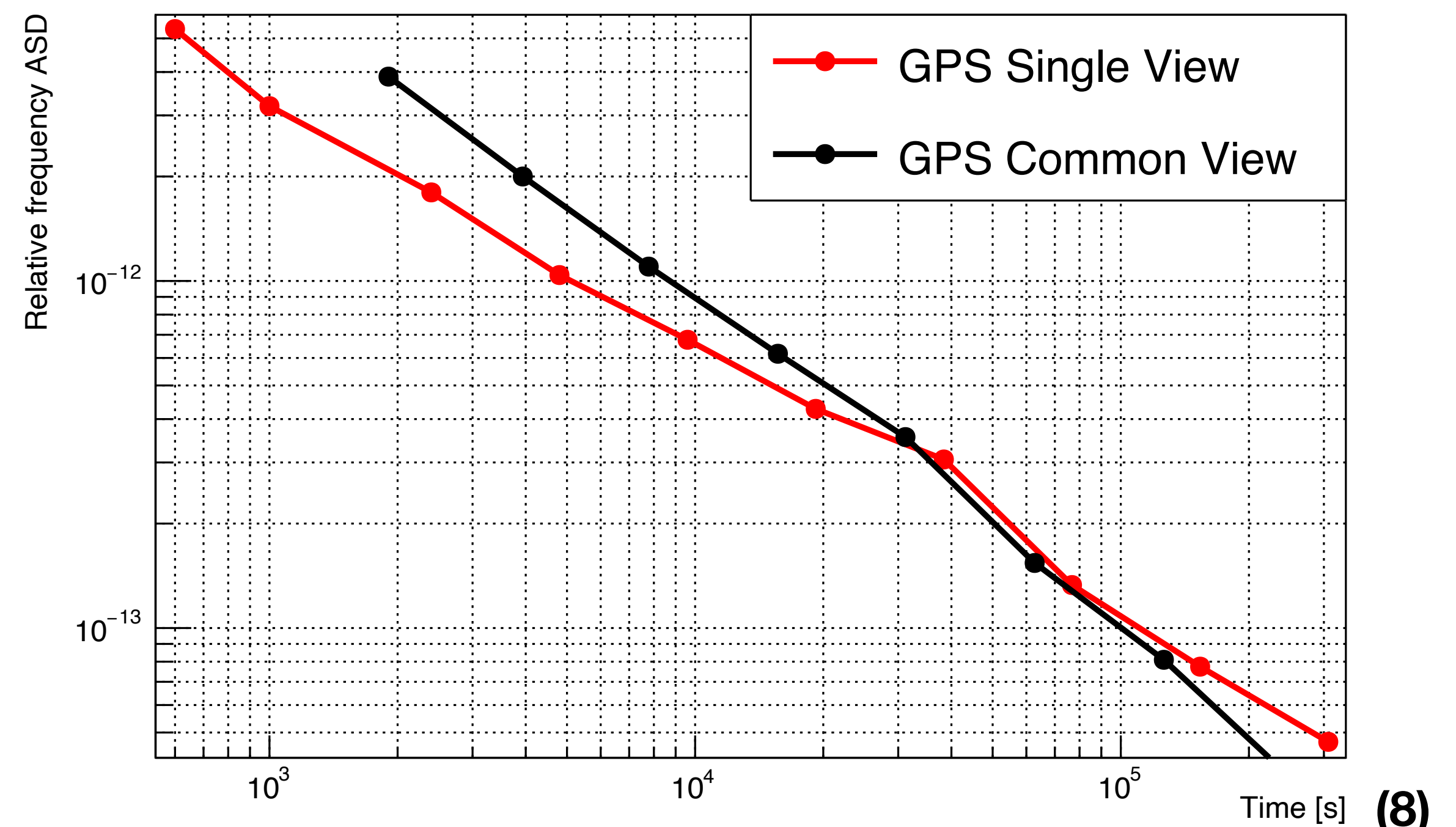
Search 20 Tracking 23 Sync 0 Position 17

It works (but only outside...!)



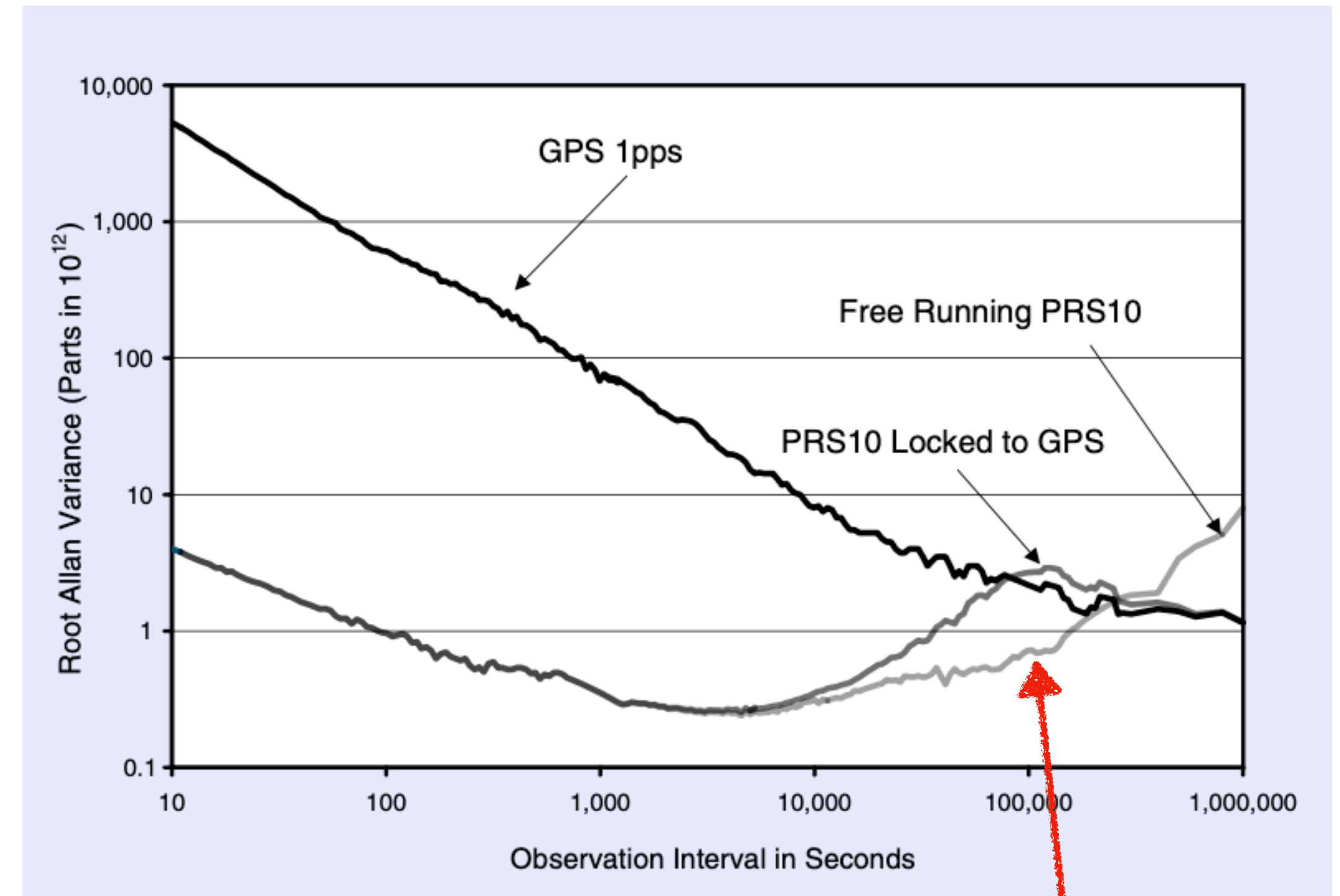
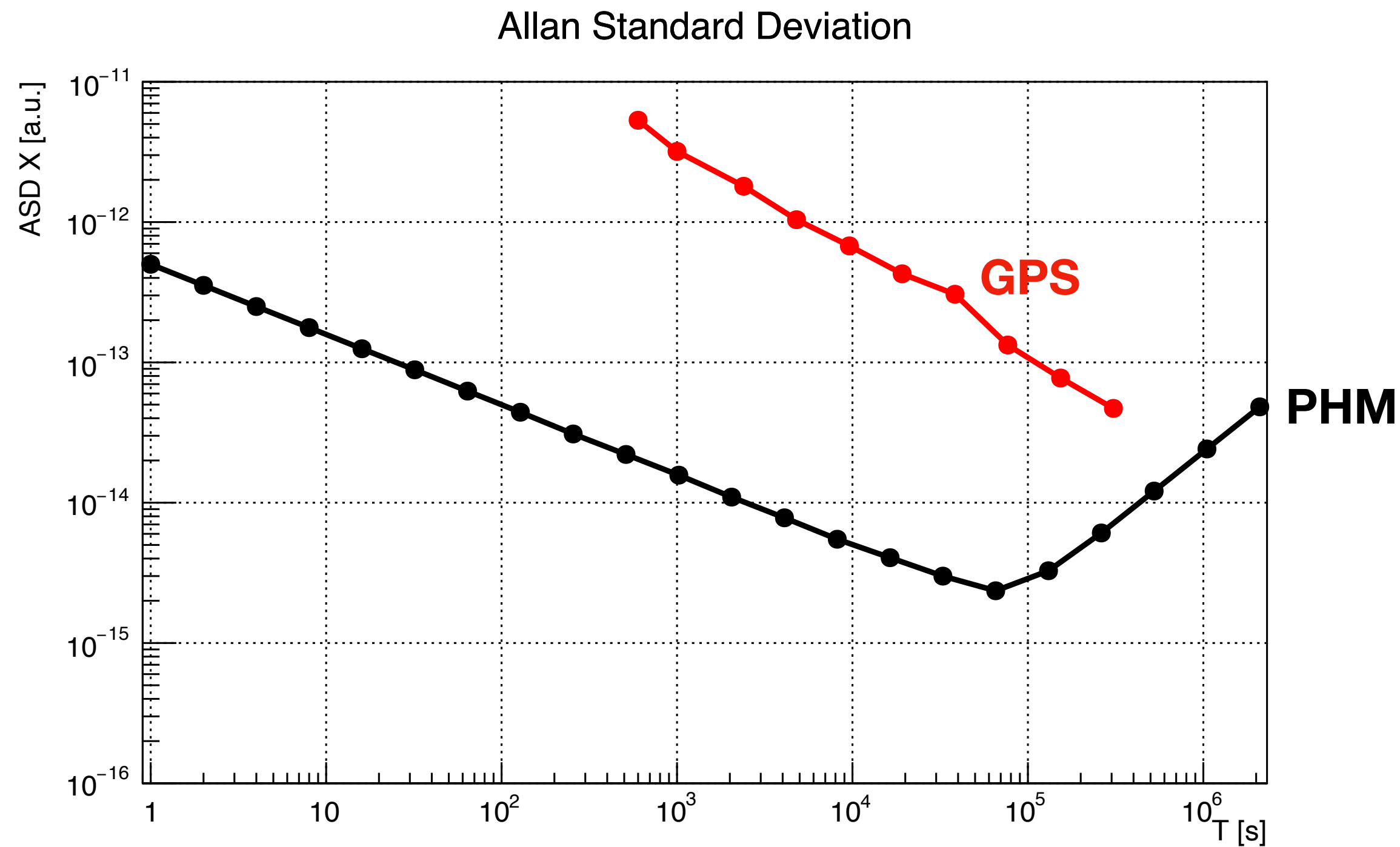
Technique	Timing Uncertainty, 24 h, 2σ	Frequency Uncertainty, 24 h, 2σ
One-Way	< 20 ns	$< 2 \times 10^{-13}$
Common View	≈ 10 ns	$\approx 1 \times 10^{-13}$
Melting pot	< 5 ns	$< 5 \times 10^{-14}$
Carrier-Phase	< 500 ps	$< 5 \times 10^{-15}$

GPS Comparison



Not quite $1/\sqrt{T}$ dependence...?
Old paper: how about now? Galileo?

Locking clock PPS on GPS



PRS10 Allan variance plot

Locking doesn't seem to be the best of both → why?

Is 1pps locking automatically done in the GNSS antenna control box?
What configuration is recommended?

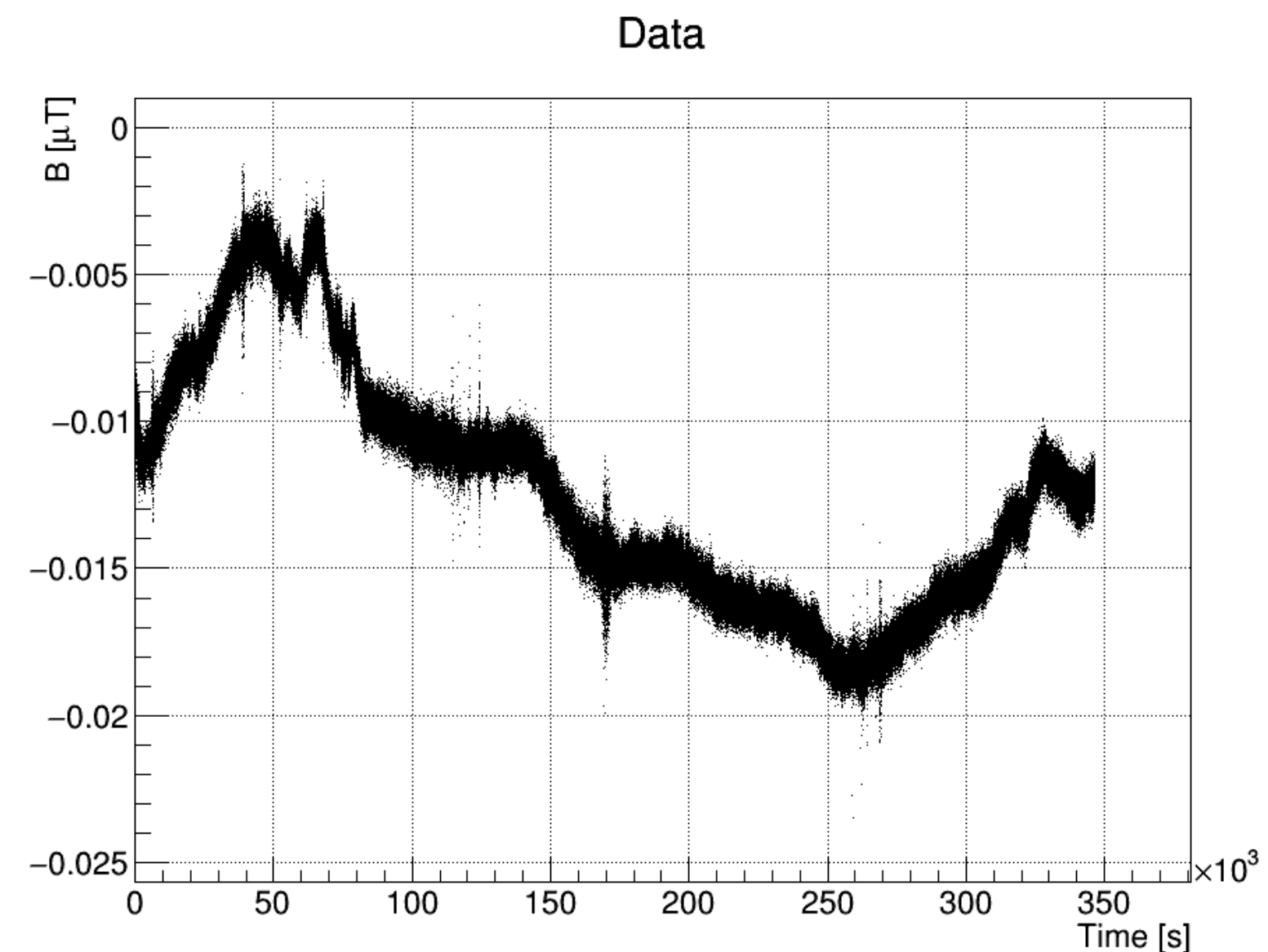
GNSS: what's next?

- Install and test software interfaces
 - Backend API necessary/available?
- Install antenna on Jussieu roof (in the coming months)
- Test long-term stability of GNSS 1pps with and without atomic clock
 - what equipment?
- Test locking method
- Calibrate cables and antenna at SYRTE

- (1) *Statistics of Atomic Frequency Standards*, D. W. Allan, Proceedings of the IEEE, 54 **2** 221-230, Feb. 1966, doi: 10.1109/PROC.1966.4634.
- (2) *Characterization of frequency stability*, J. A. Barnes, A. R. Chi, et al., IEEE Trans. Instrum. Meas. IM-20 **2** 105 (1971).
- (3) Long-range time transfer with optical fiber links and cross comparisons with satellite-based methods, N. Kaur, PhD thesis 2019.
- (4) T4Science pH Maser 1008 Specifications sheet
- (5) *Handbook of Frequency Stability Analysis*, W.J. Riley, here
- (6) *A Review of Contemporary Atomic Frequency Standards*, B.L. Schmittberger, D.R. Scherer, arXiv:2004.09987
- (7) cRb-Clock Preliminary Data sheet, SpectraDynamics, here
- (8) *Time and Frequency Measurements Using the Global Positioning System*, M.A. Lombardi, L.M. Nelson, A.N. Novick, V.S. Zhang Cal Lab 8. 26-33
- (9) *Direct comparisons of European primary and secondary frequency standards via satellite techniques*, F. Riedel et al 2020 Metrologia **57** 045005

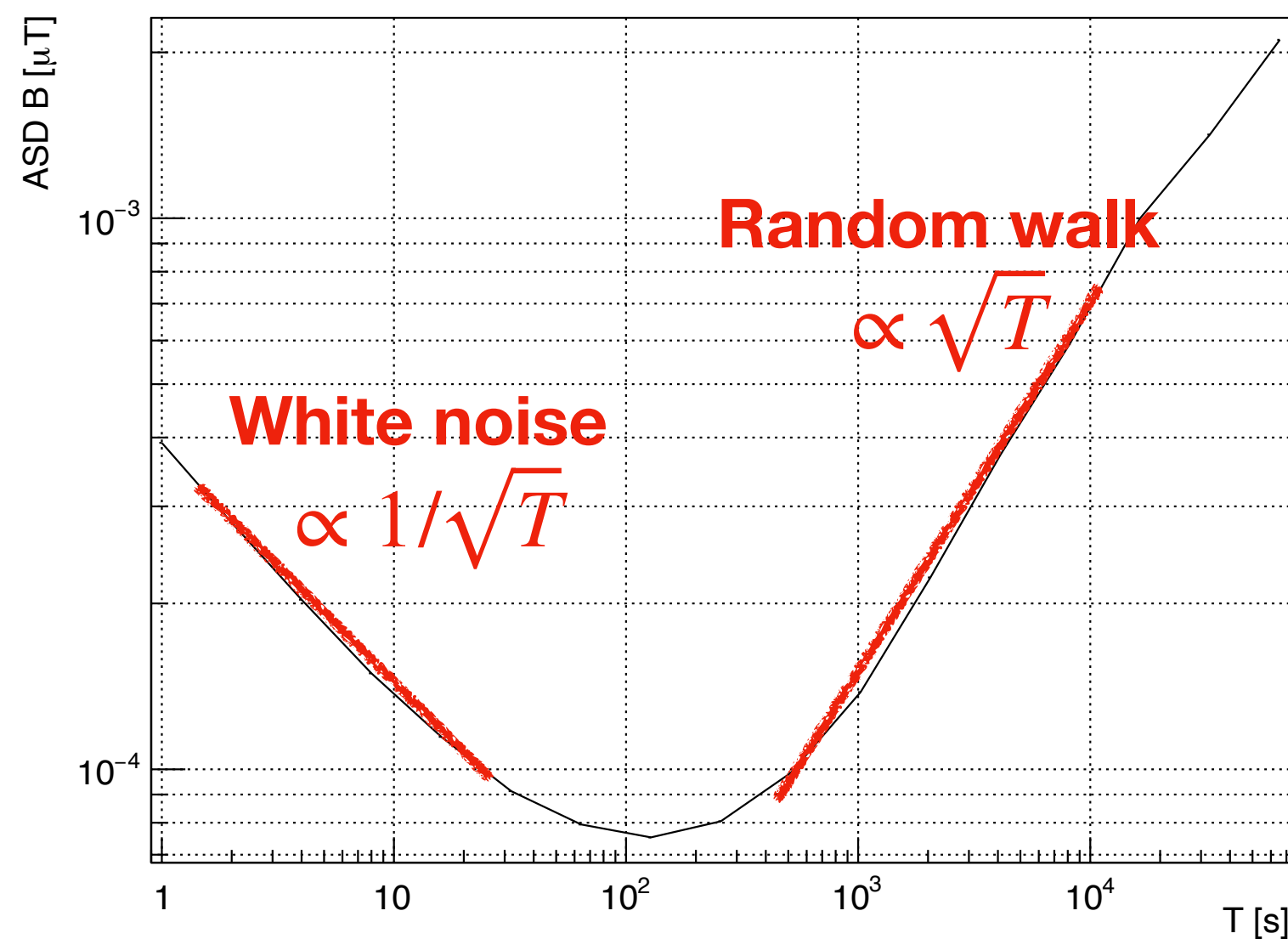
Backup

Visualizing things



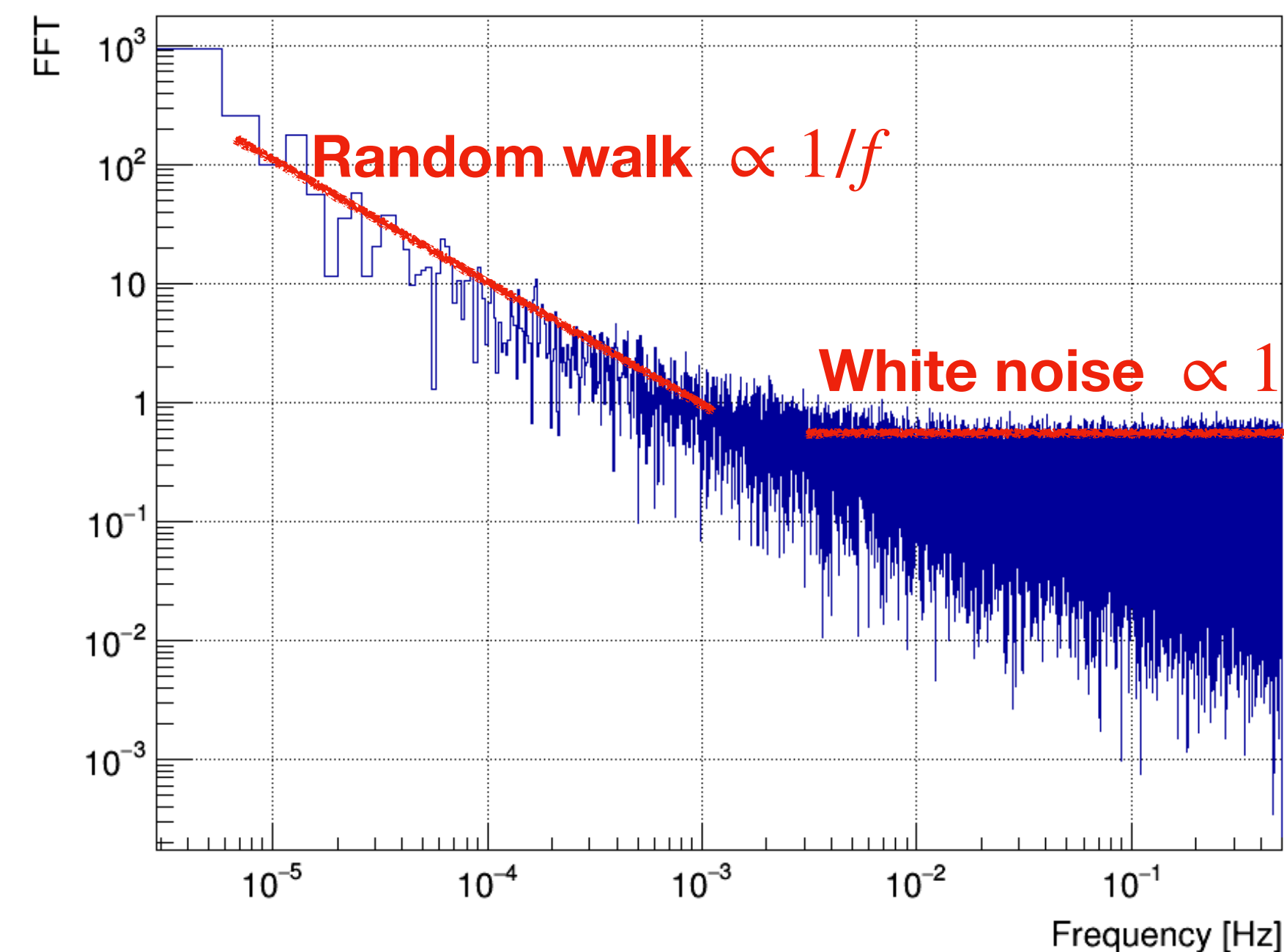
Simpler representation
less sensible to stats.

Allan Standard Deviation



More structures visibles
e.g. peaks = periodic signals

Magnitude of FFT



Some pieces of code:

<https://gitlab.in2p3.fr/hk/clocks/asd>

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Similarly to the usual variance is related to the Discrete Fourier transform (via Parseval-Plancherel theorem), we have:

$$\sigma_{\text{Allan}}(n) = \frac{2}{\pi n \tau} \int_0^\infty du S_y \left(\frac{u}{\pi n \tau} \right) \frac{\sin^4 u}{u^2} \quad (5)$$

(Averaging over all noise frequency scales gives time stability)

For comparing two clocks (especially digital clocks), easier to look at phase differences defined by the up-front (or down-front) instead of looking at the instantaneous period/frequency of the signal.

Relations between frequency and phase:

$$S_{\dot{\phi}}(\omega) = \omega^2 S_{\phi}(\omega)$$

$$\sigma_{\phi}^2(\tau) = \left(\frac{\tau^2}{3} \right) \cdot \text{Mod } \sigma_{\dot{\phi}}^2(\tau) \quad (5)$$

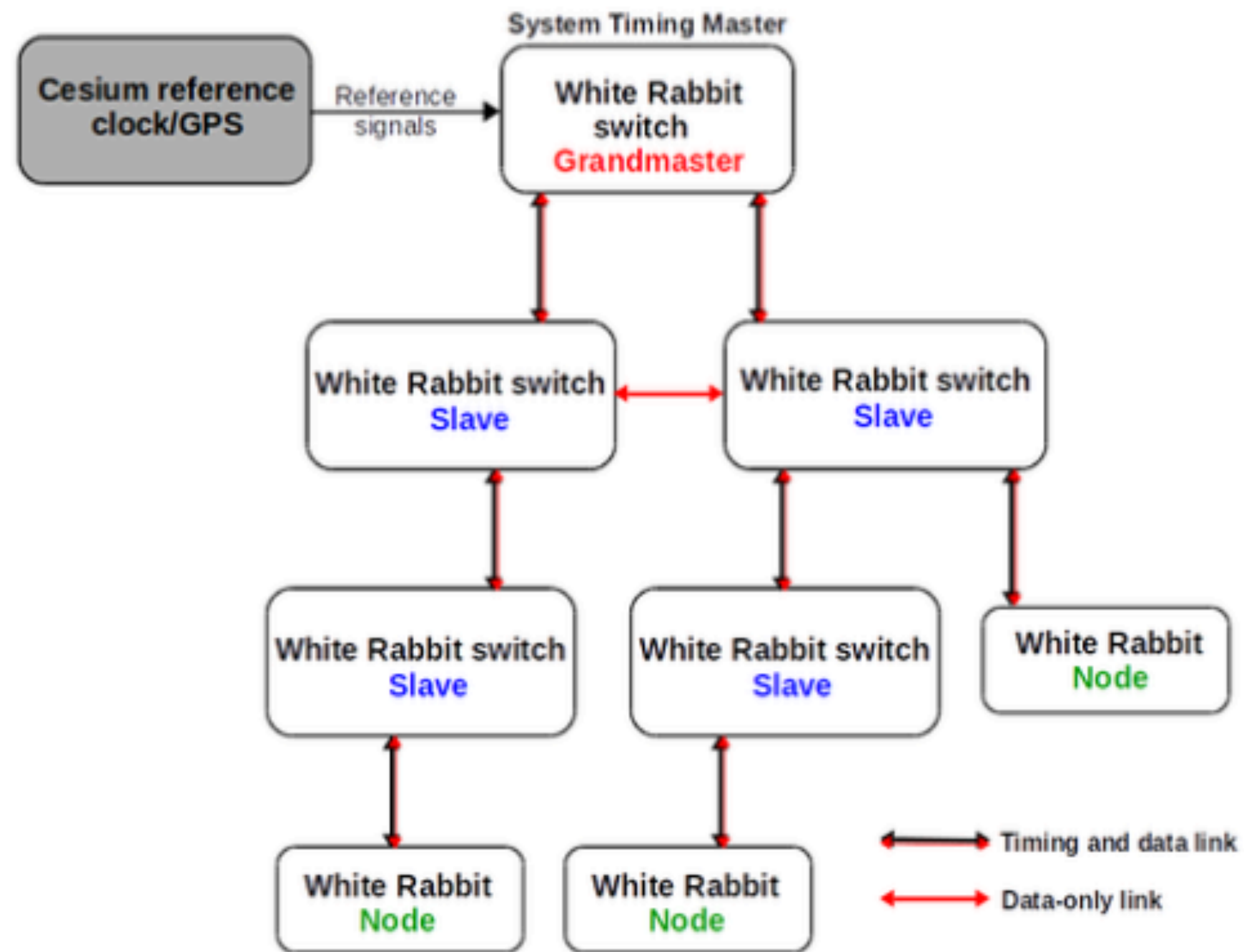


FIGURE 2.5: A typical White Rabbit Network [42]. (3)