

# Coherent Optical Fibre Links in Physics and Metrology

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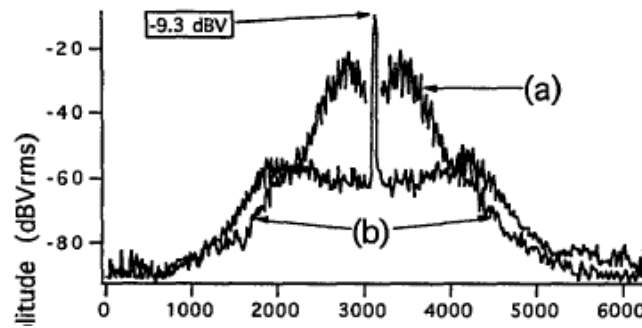
# Optical Carrier Transfer: The basic idea

November 1, 1994 / Vol. 19, No. 21 / OPTICS LETTERS 1777

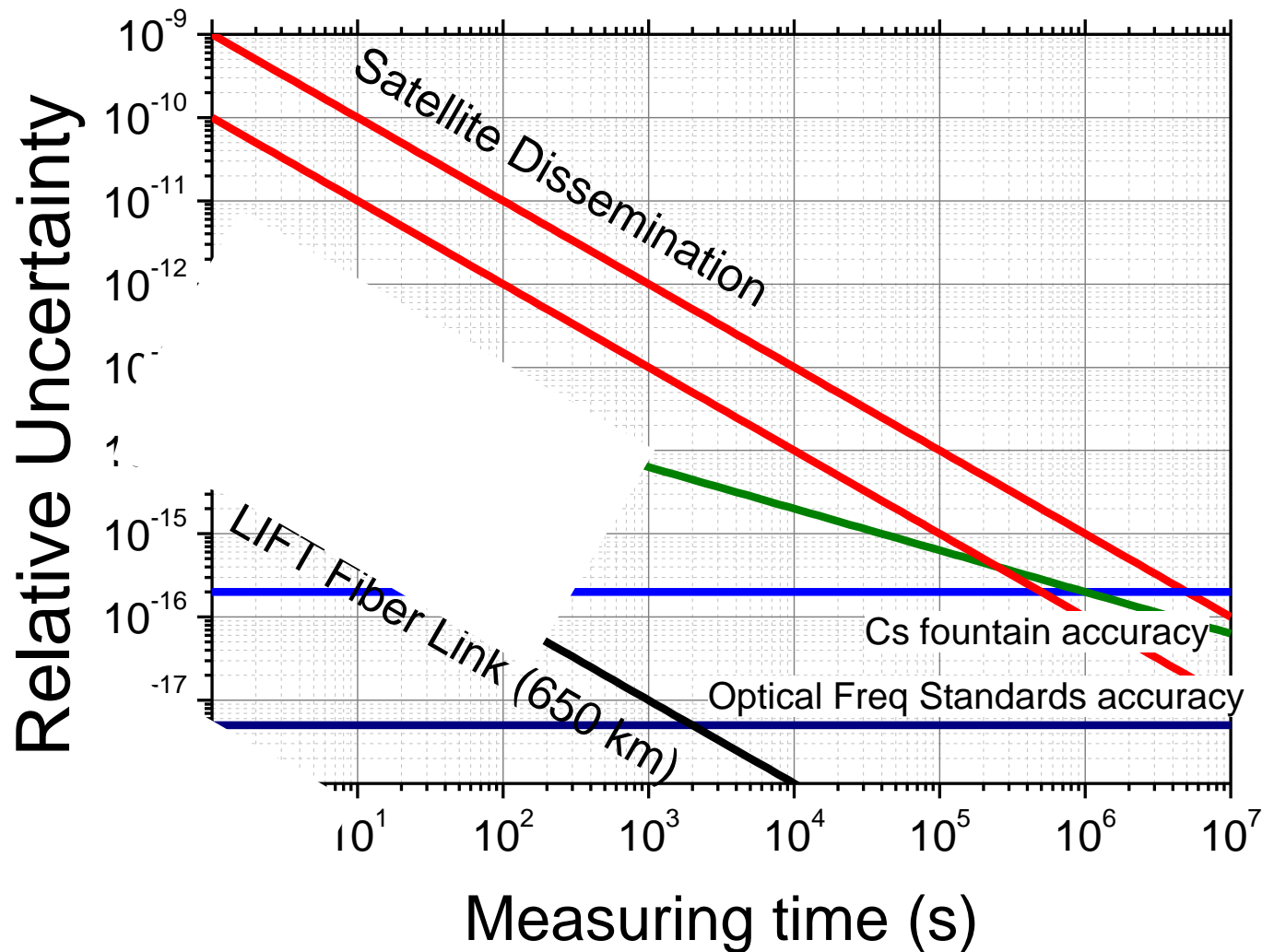
**Delivering the same optical frequency at two places:  
accurate cancellation of phase noise  
introduced by an optical fiber or other time-varying path**

**Long-Sheng Ma,\* Peter Jungner,† Jun Ye, and John L. Hall\***

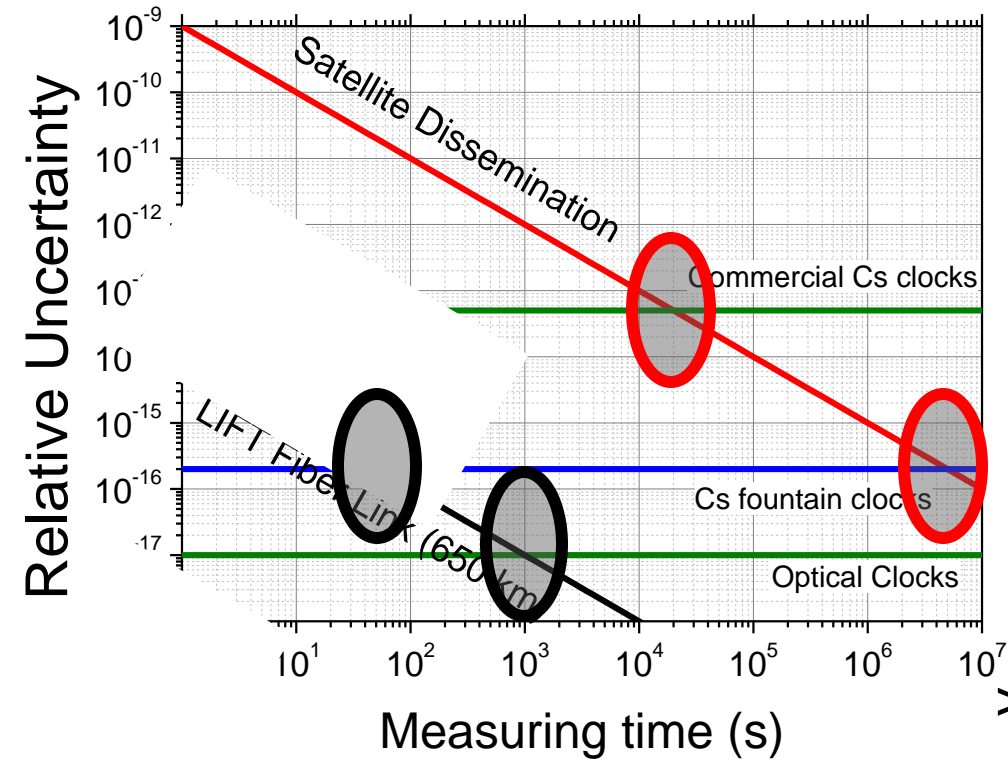
*Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics, University of Colorado and  
National Institute of Standards and Technology, Boulder, Colorado 80309-0440*



# Time/Frequency Dissemination: performances



# Atomic Frequency standards Comparison



## Satellites:

>4 h for commercial Cs

>20 g for Cs fountains

>100 g optical frequency standards

## Link in Fibra:

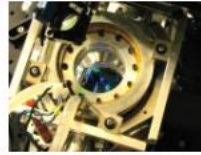
Always better than a commercial Cs

100 s for Cs fountains

1000 s for optical frequency standards



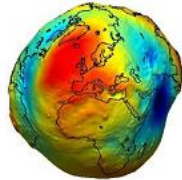
# Optical Fibre Links: a broad range of applications



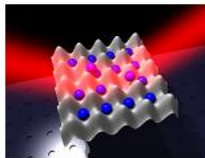
Remote clocks comparisons



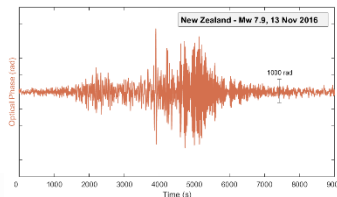
VLBI radioastronomy and geodesy



Relativistic Geodesy



High-precision spectroscopy



Seismology



# Optical Fiber Links: a worldwide snapshot

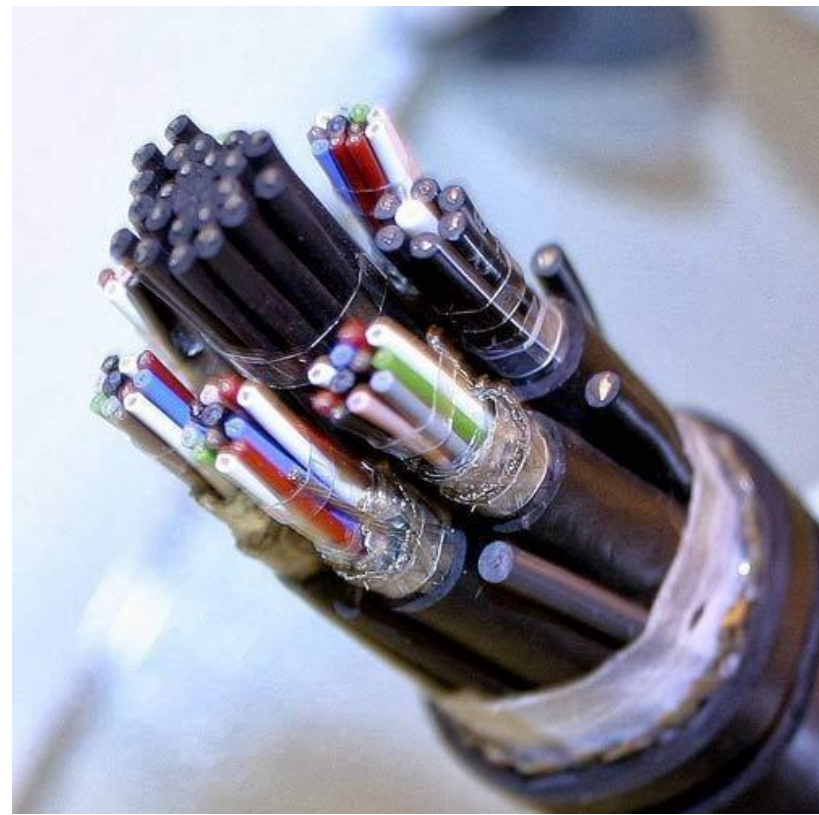
① Fiber Link in use

★ Ongoing projects



# Standard telecommunication optical fibre

- Made of glass (silica)
- 125  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter (slightly thicker than human hair)
- Very low loss (0.2 dB/km)



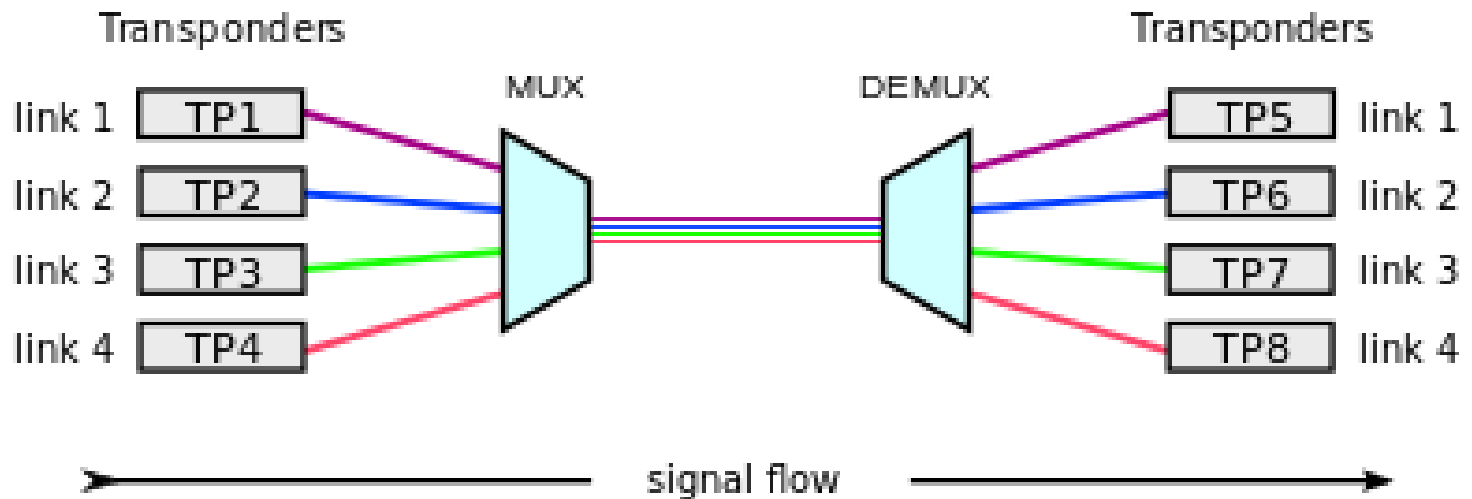
## Architectures:

- Dark Fibre (dedicated)
  - Coarse Division Wavelength Multiplexing (CWDM): spectrum divided into channels (16 nm each)
  - Dense Division Wavelength Multiplexing (DWDM): spectrum divided into channels (100 GHz each, but also 12.5 - 50 GHz) ITU grid: "channel ITUxx"
- In Europe, historically, we use ITU44 with a central wavelength at 1542.14 nm



- With DWDM and CWDM: we can have **metrological signals and data traffic at the same time.**
- Use of Optical Add and Drop Multiplexer or Wavelength Division Multiplexer (OADM or DWDM) to Add/Drop a specific wavelength (basically, they are Bragg filters)

## wavelength-division multiplexing (WDM)

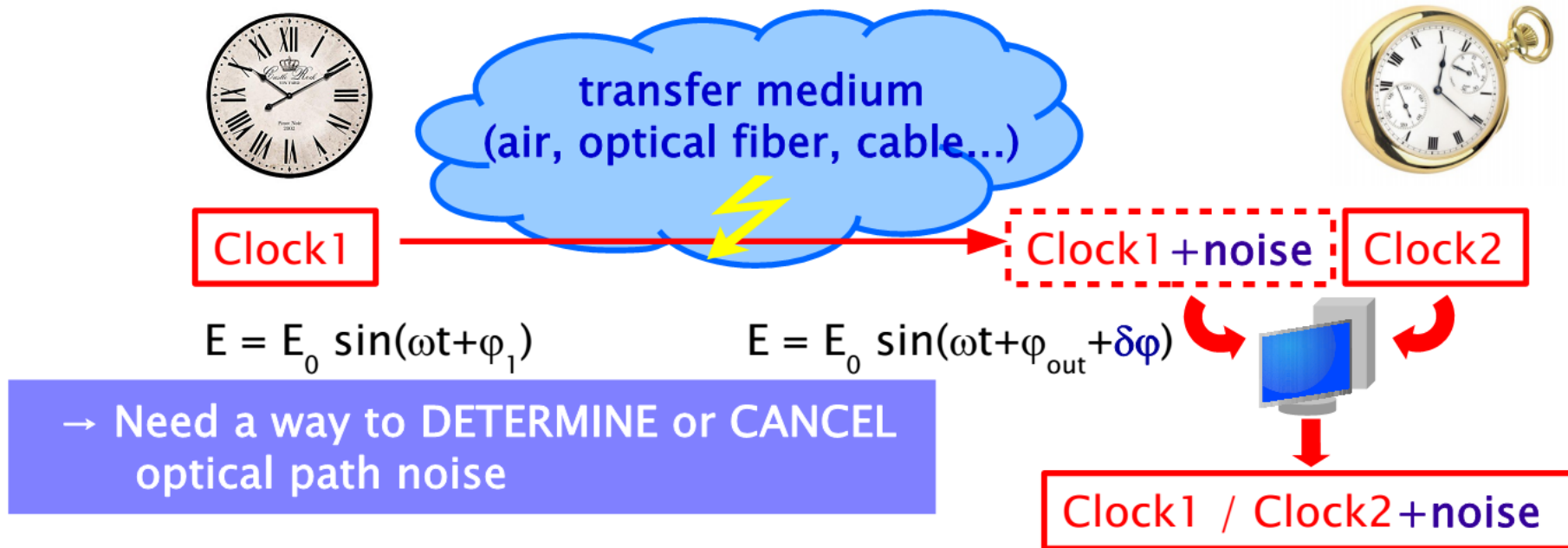




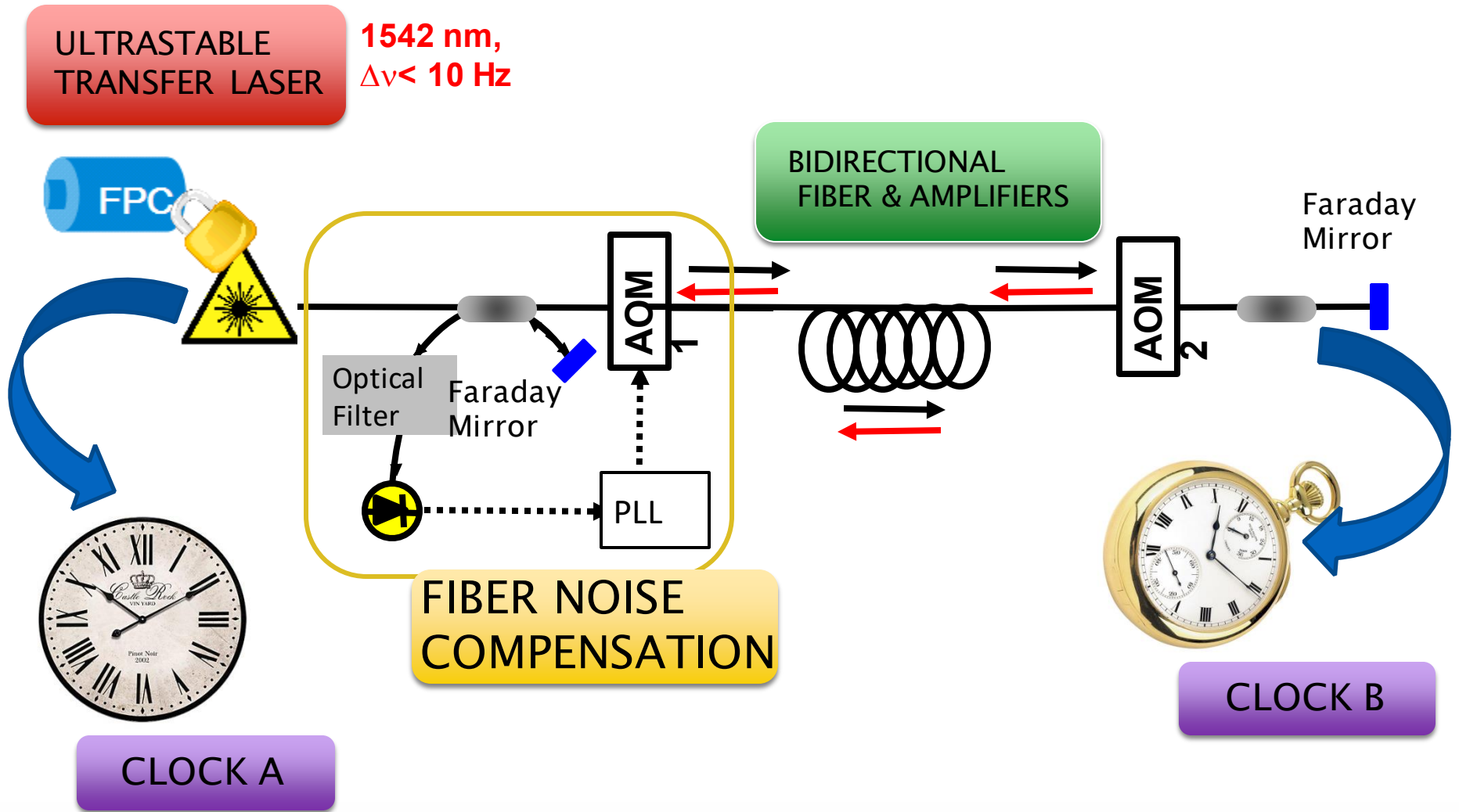
# A network of distant clocks: how?

- Portable clocks
- Remote comparisons

Real:



# Coherent Fiber Link: how it works

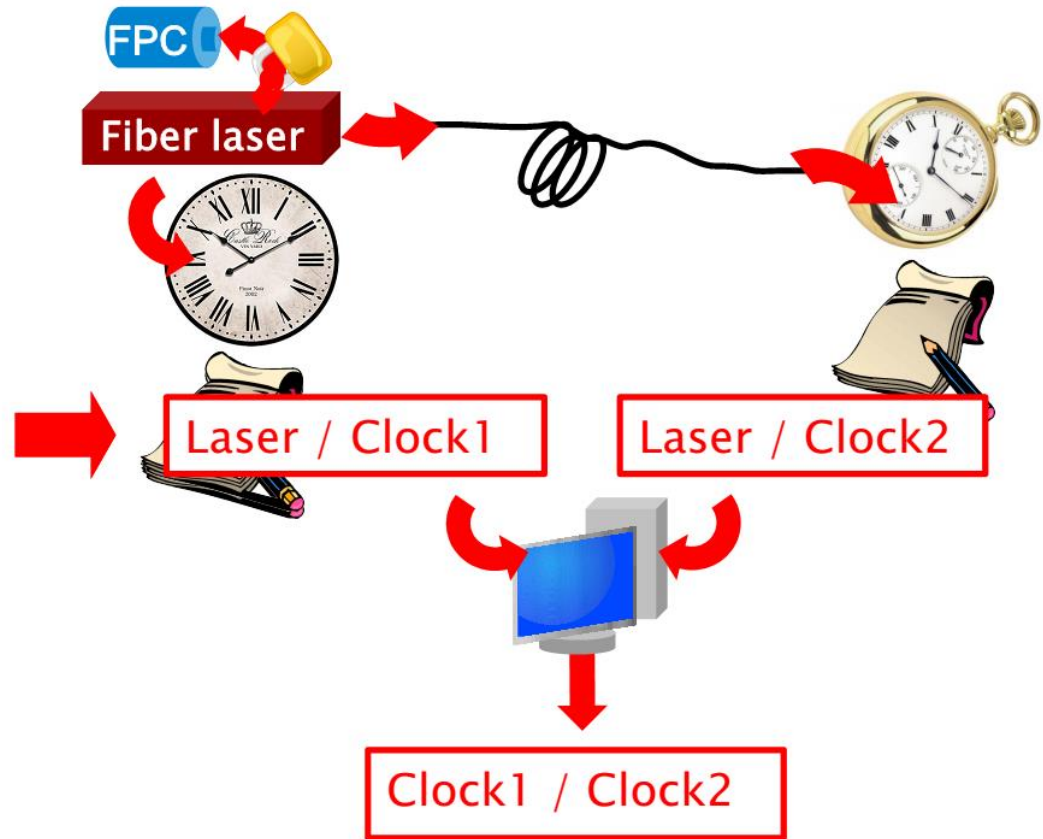


# Step-by-step remote comparison procedure

1. Take an ultrastable laser at the Metrology Institute and measure its frequency vs local (primary) atomic clock

2. Transfer the same laser to the remote lab through an optical fiber

3. Measure the received laser frequency vs local clock



# Frequency transfer through optical fiber

- Exploits the same fibers which are used for the Internet

**But....**

- The metrological information is the absolute frequency of the optical electric field travelling the fiber, i.e.:

$$E = E_0 \sin(\omega t + \varphi)$$

- Need full-optical path from transmitter to receiver
- Any environmental effect which affects the fiber length changes  $\varphi$ , as:

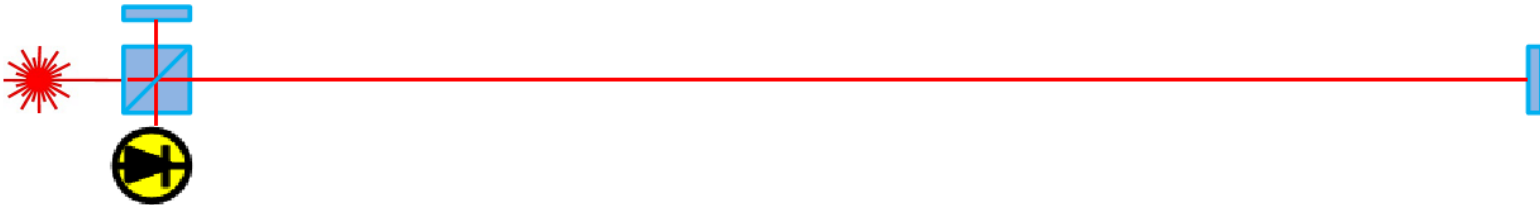
$$\varphi = 2\pi L/\lambda \rightarrow \Delta\varphi = 2\pi\Delta L/\lambda$$

..and this in turns affects  $\omega$ , since  $\omega = \frac{d}{dt}(\Delta\varphi)$



# The Doppler–noise cancellation technique

Considers the fiber as a (very) long arm of a Michelson interferometer



Interference appears on the photodiode between:

$$E_{\text{short}} = E_0 \sin(\omega_1 t + \varphi_{\text{short}}) = E_0 \sin(\omega_1 t + 2\pi \Delta L_{\text{short}} / \lambda)$$

$$E_{\text{long}} = E_0 \sin(\omega_2 t + \varphi_{\text{long}}) = E_0 \sin(\omega_1 t + 2\pi \Delta L_{\text{long}} / \lambda)$$

We are interested in the difference:

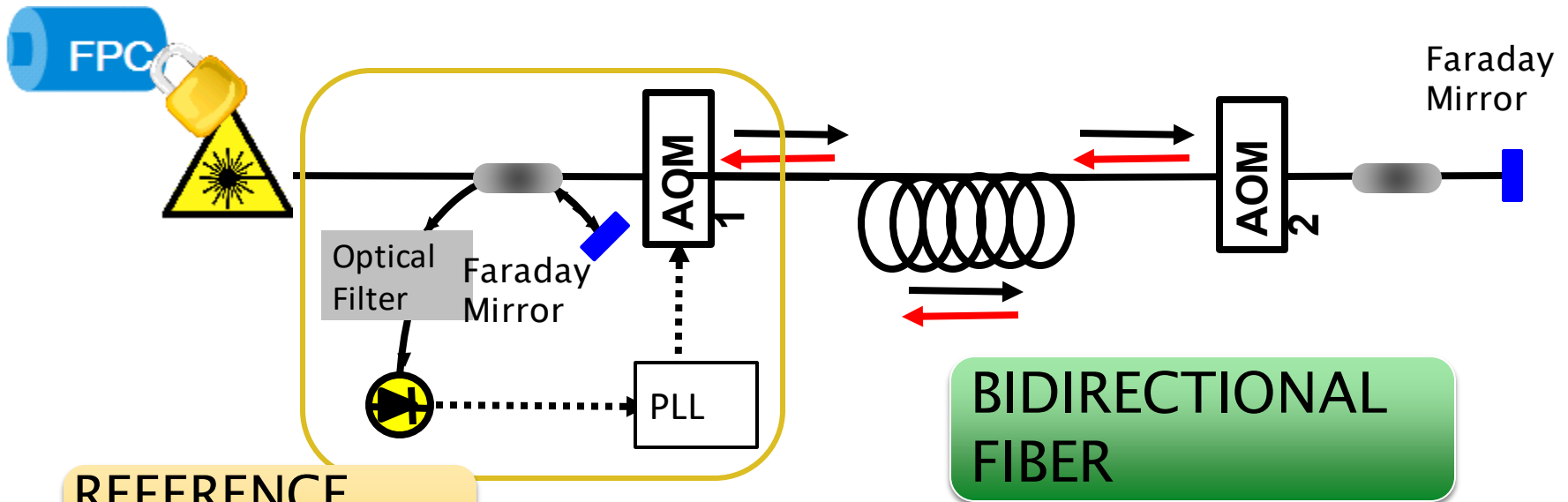
$$\dots \rightarrow V_{\text{photodiode}} \propto \sin[2\pi/\lambda (\Delta L_{\text{short}} - \Delta L_{\text{long}})] \sim \sin[(2\pi/\lambda) \Delta L_{\text{long}}]$$

An actuator changes the optical phase by an equal amount, opposite in sign

# Coherent Fiber Link: noise sources

**LASER NOISE**

Use Stabilised lasers, with coherence length > 2x link length



**REFERENCE PATH NOISE**

Should be short and Temperature Controlled

**BIDIRECTIONAL FIBER**

$$S_{remote}(f) = \frac{4\pi^2}{3} \left( f \frac{nL}{c} \right)^2 S_{fiber}(f)$$

Williams *et al.*, JOSA B25,1284 (2008)



# High-stability transfer of an optical frequency over long fiber-optic links

P. A. Williams,\* W. C. Swann, and N. R. Newbury

*National Institute of Standards and Technology, 325 Broadway, Boulder, Colorado 80305, USA*

*\*Corresponding author: pwilliam@boulder.nist.gov*

Received February 25, 2008; revised May 2, 2008; accepted May 31, 2008;  
posted June 9, 2008 (Doc. ID 93074); published July 17, 2008

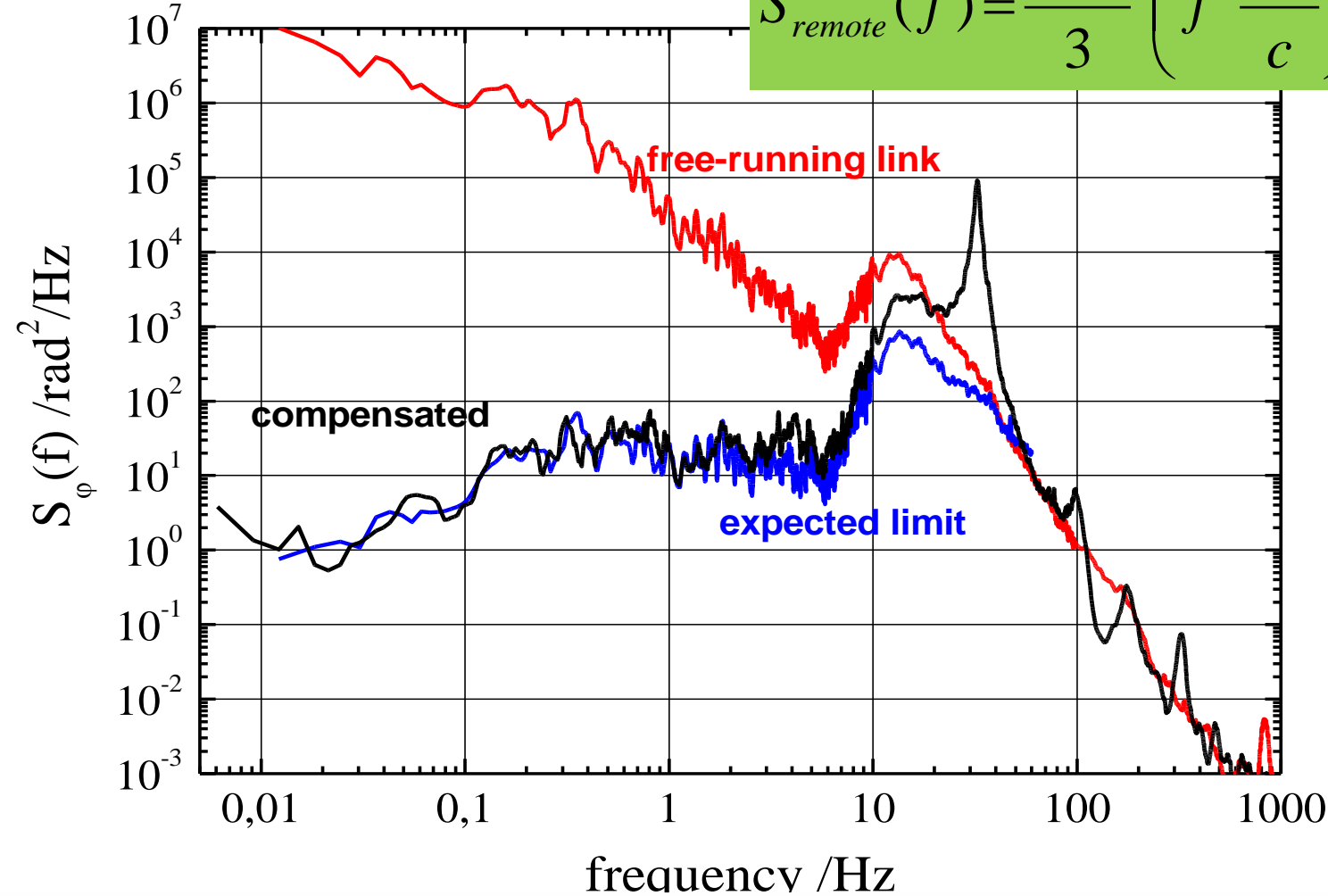
We present theoretical predictions and experimental measurements for the achievable phase noise, timing jitter, and frequency stability in the coherent transport of an optical frequency over a fiber-optic link. Both technical and fundamental limitations to the coherent transfer are discussed. Measurements of the coherent transfer of an optical carrier over links ranging from 38 to 251 km demonstrate good agreement with theory. With appropriate experimental design and bidirectional transfer on a single optical fiber, the frequency instability at short times can reach the fundamental limit imposed by delay-unsuppressed phase noise from the fiber link, yielding a frequency instability that scales as link length to the  $3/2$  power. For two-way transfer on separate outgoing and return fibers, the instability is severely limited by differential fiber noise.

*OCIS codes:* 060.2360, 120.3930.



# Link PSD, Example: LIFT Link 1284 km (642 kmx2)

$$S_{remote}(f) = \frac{4\pi^2}{3} \left( f \frac{nL}{c} \right)^2 S_{fiber}(f)$$

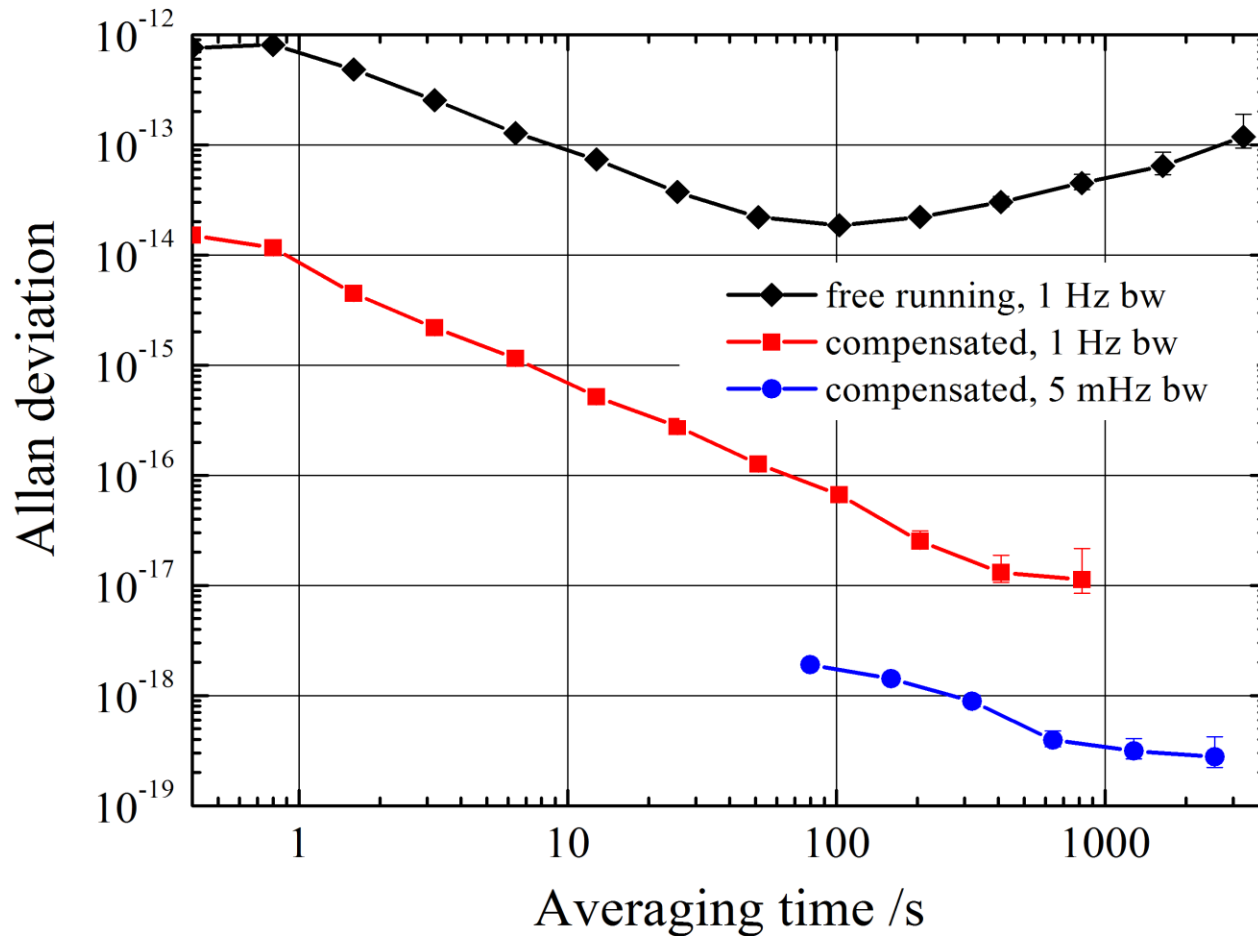


Ultimate Limit due to finite speed of light





# Italy, LIFT Link 1284 km (642 kmx2) ADEV



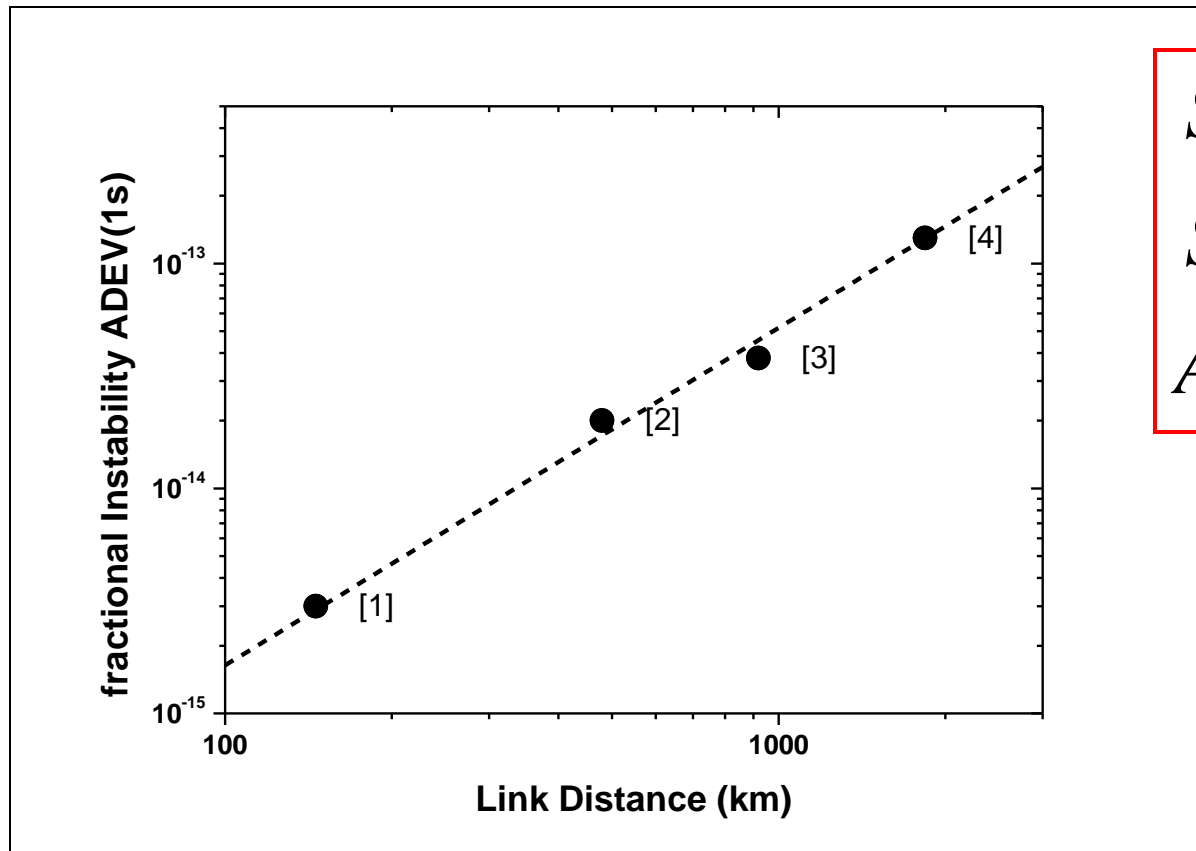
Offset between delivered and original signal  $< 5 \times 10^{-19}$

*D. Calonico et al., Applied Physics B, 117, 979 (2014).*



# Instability: Link Length Scaling Law

Assuming uniform noise distribution with fiber link length.

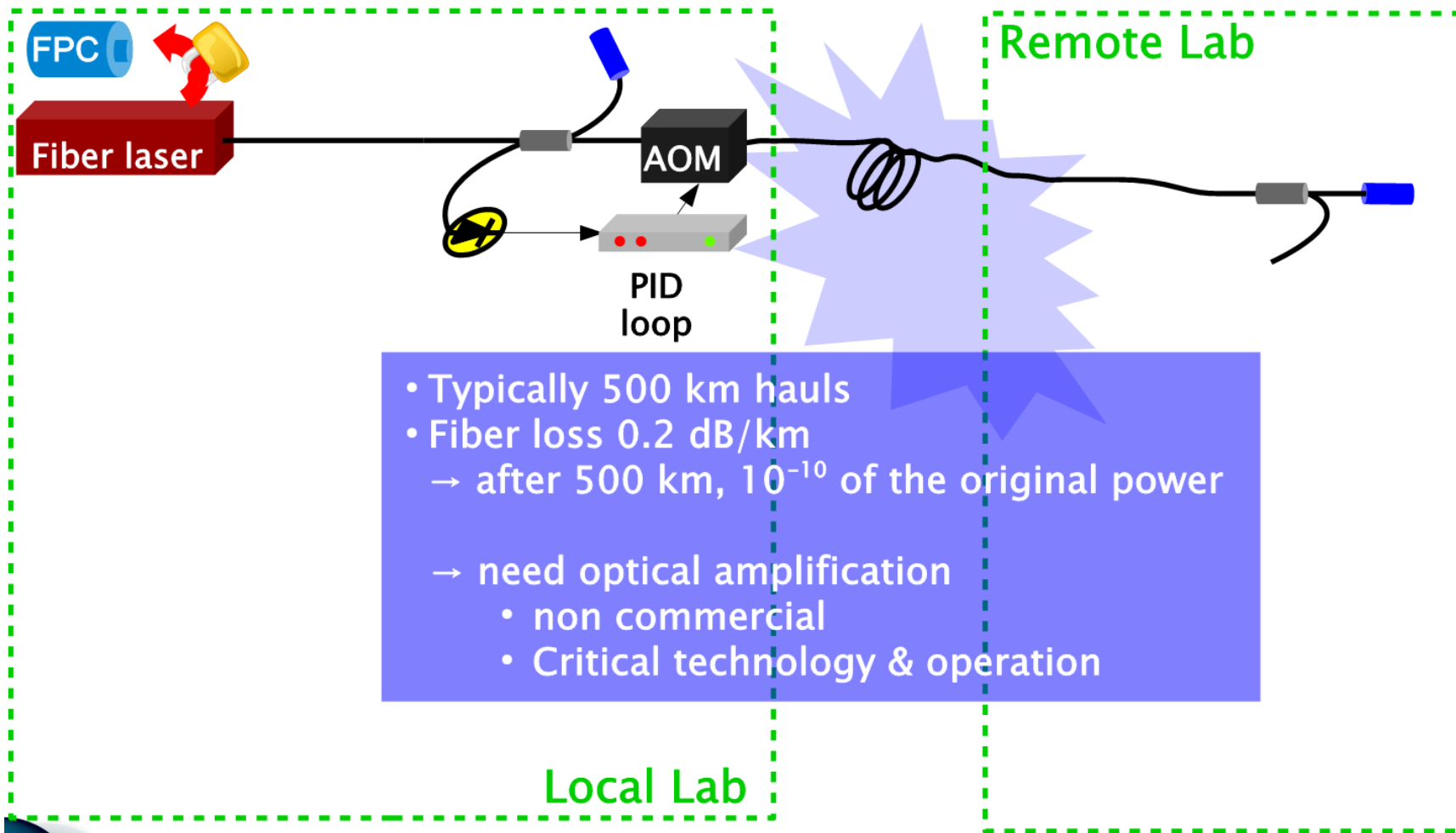


$$S_{\Phi}^{fiber}(f, L) \propto L \Rightarrow$$
$$S_{\Phi}^{remote}(f, L) \propto L^3 \Rightarrow$$
$$ADEV(L, 1s) \propto L^{3/2}$$

N. R. Newbury et al., Opt. Lett. **32**, 3056 (2007)



# The Doppler-noise cancellation technique



# Erbium Doped Fiber Amplifiers

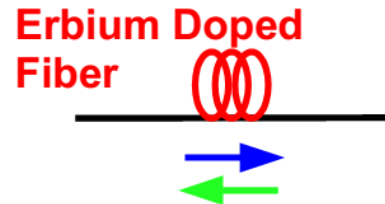
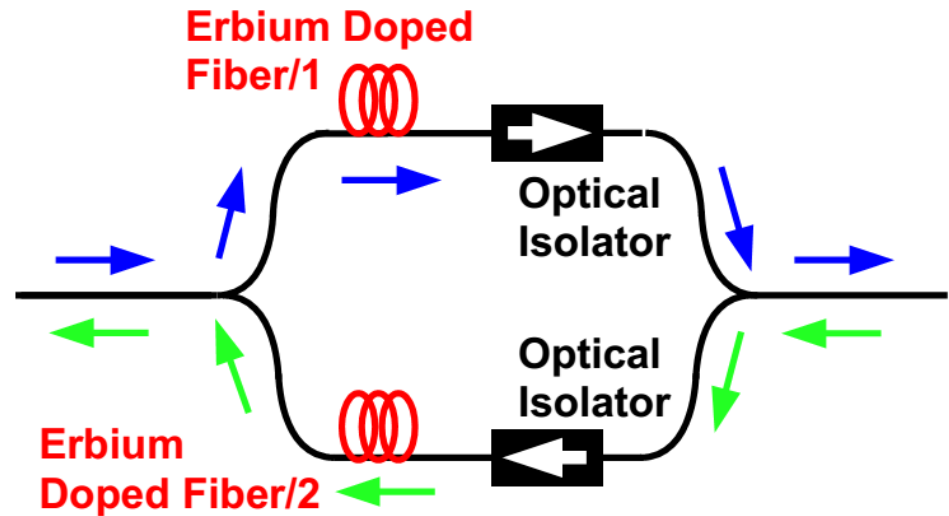
## Why not commercial ones?

- ✗ fiber is not the same in the two ways  
→ noise is different

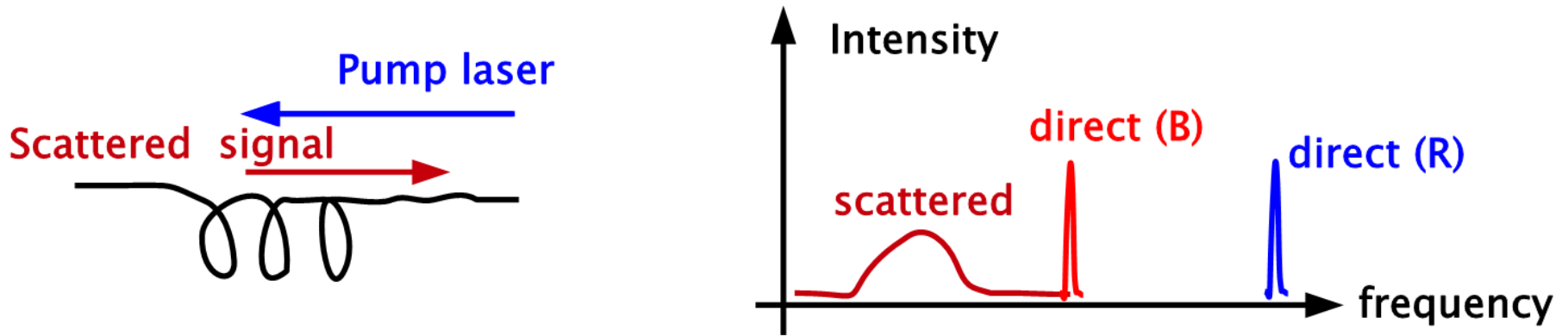
## Custom developed EDFAs

- ✓ Only one fiber  
→ fully symmetrical
- ✗ easily saturated by direct and backscattered ASE  
→ span length < 100 km

All coherent optical links so far rely on bidirectional EDFAs



# Distributed Amplification

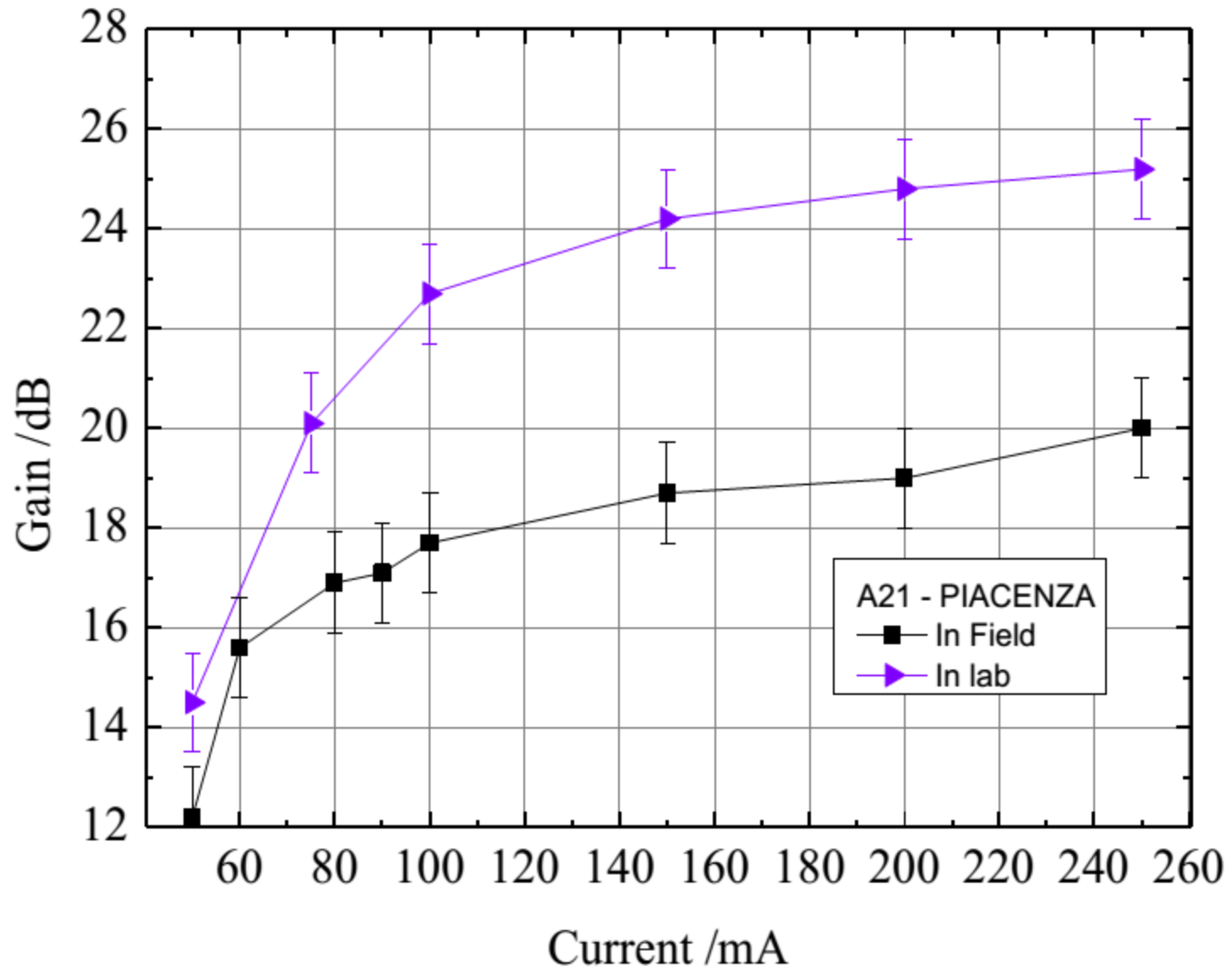


Non linear effects in optical fibers:

- Stimulated Raman Scattering (10 THz shift)
- Stimulated Brillouin Scattering (10 GHz shift)
- ✓ No special fiber is needed  
(the gain medium is standard fiber)
- ✓ Fully symmetrical
- ✓ High gain (gain is distributed on 20 km!)

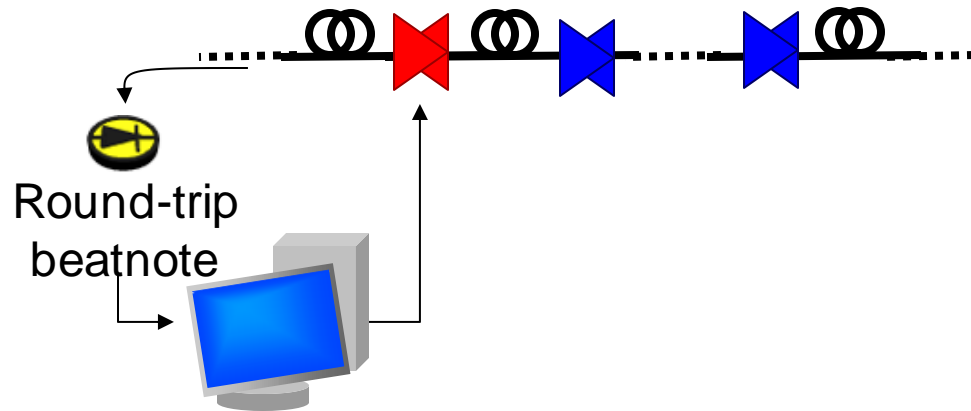
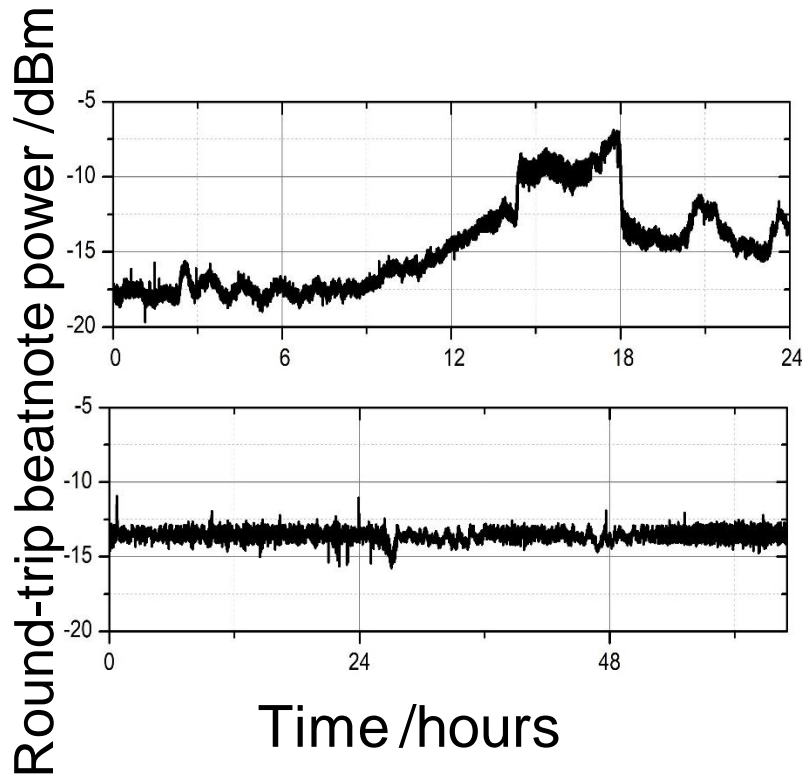


# Bidirectional EDFA saturation in-field



# Challenges: reliability

- Small gain (15-20 dB) & filtering
- Automated amplifiers gain adjustment



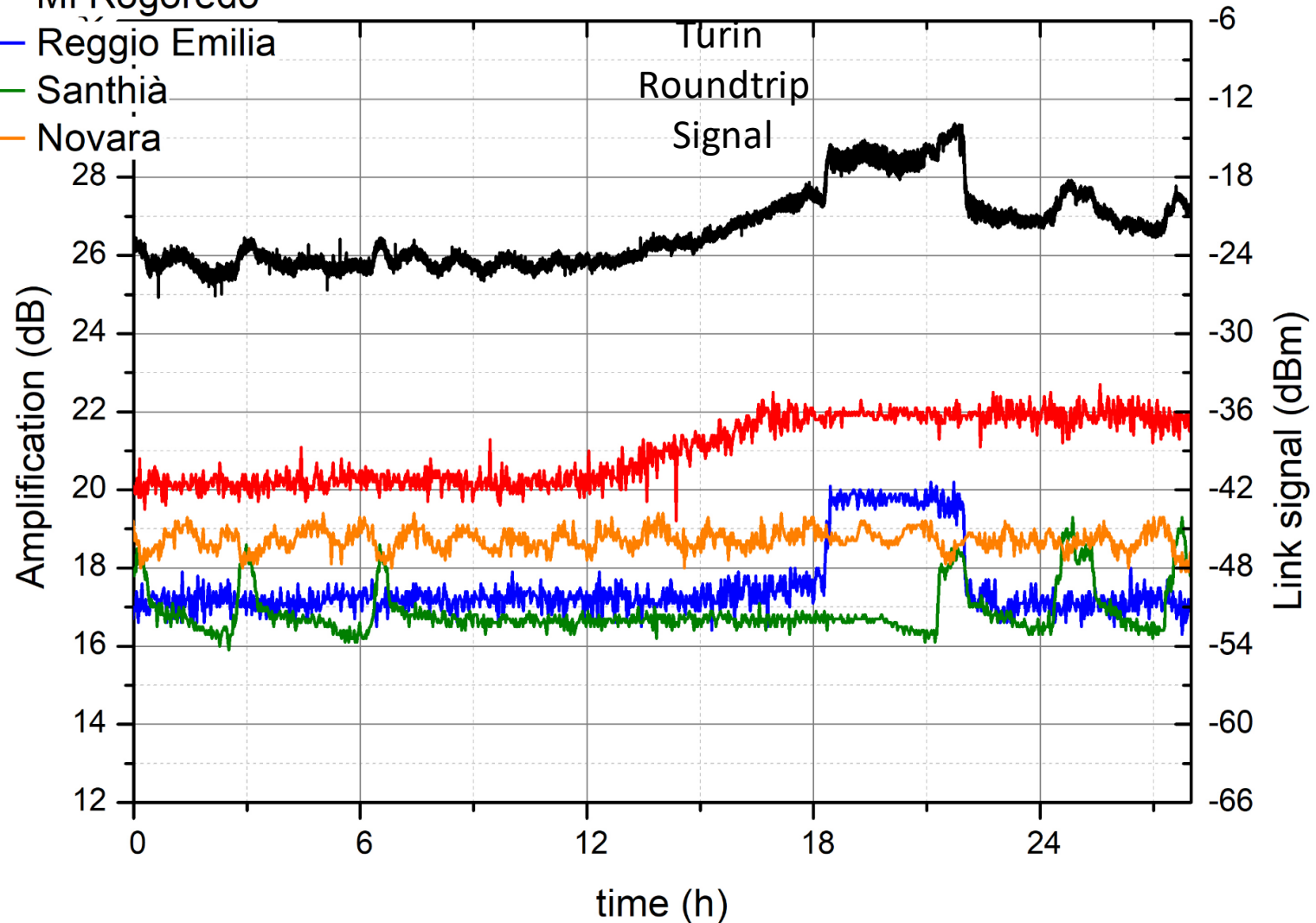
# Monitoring and Control

Fluctuations of the Amplifiers Gain used to take the system to delock

Amplifiers:

- Mi Rogoredo
- Reggio Emilia
- Santhià
- Novara

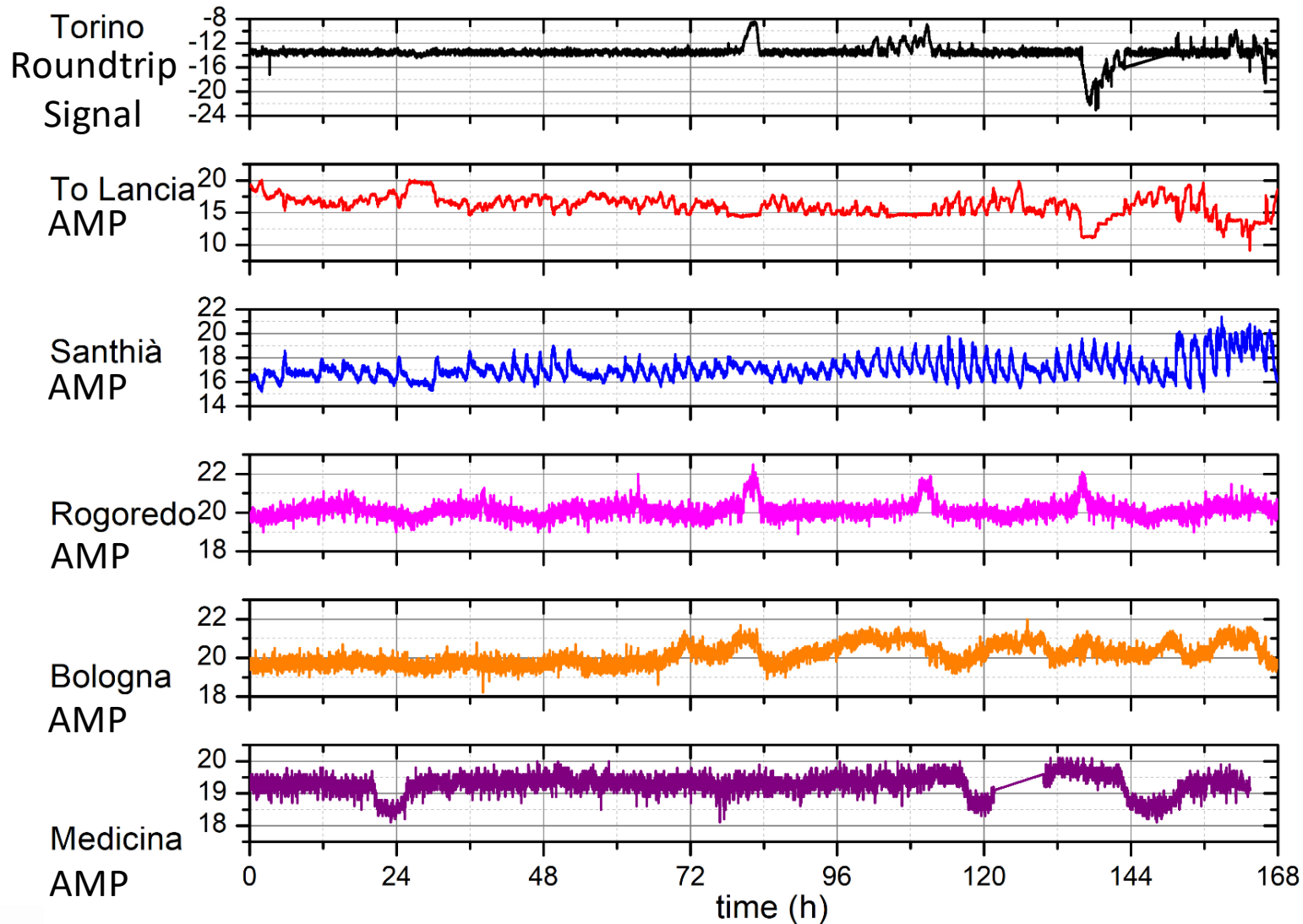
— signal in Turin





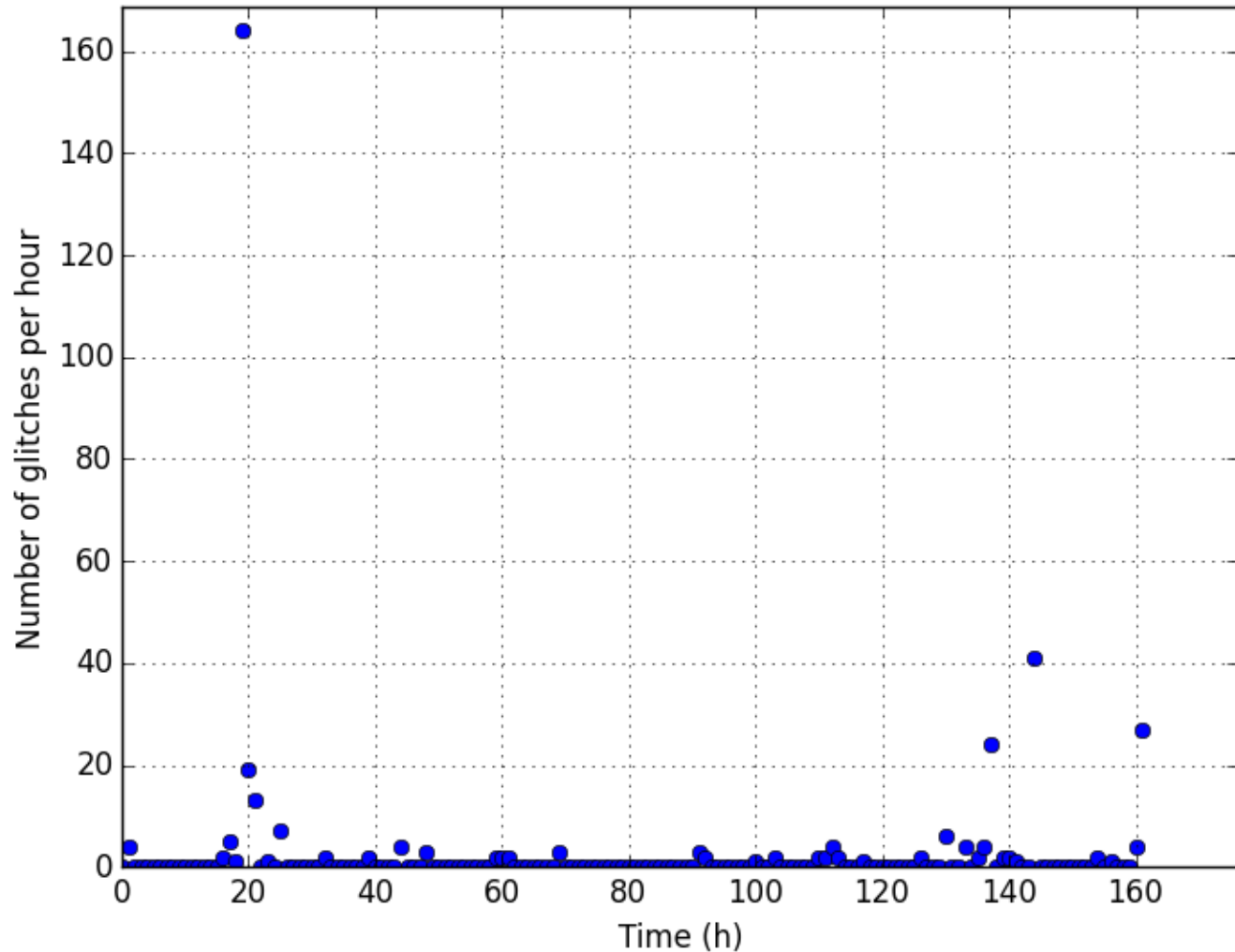
# Monitoring and Control /2

New Monitor and telecontrol allows for continuous operations over weeks

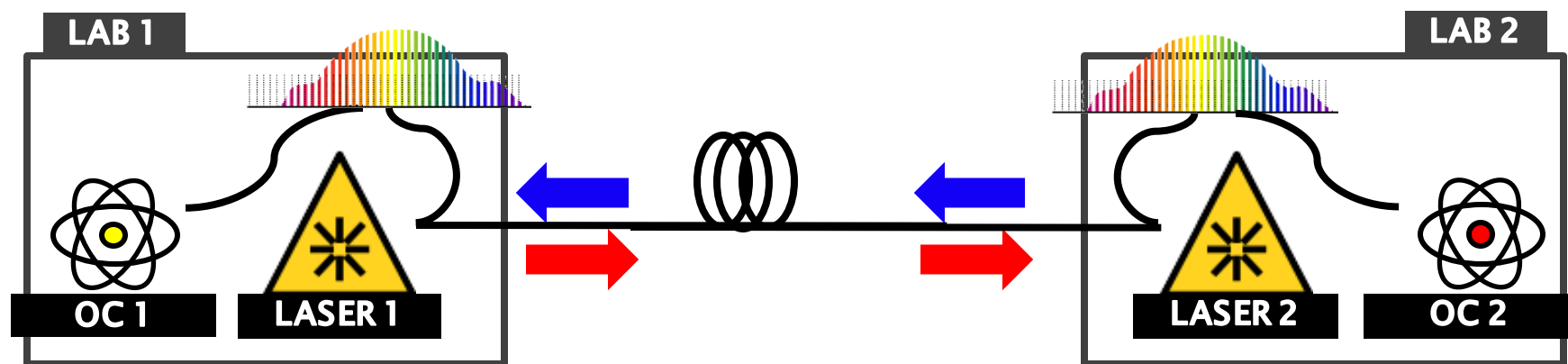


# Cycle Slips

Total 377 cycle slips in 160 hours



# TWO-WAY Optical Transfer



## Advantages:

- Lower attenuation (no need of a round-trip)
- Higher SNR at detection

## To be investigated:

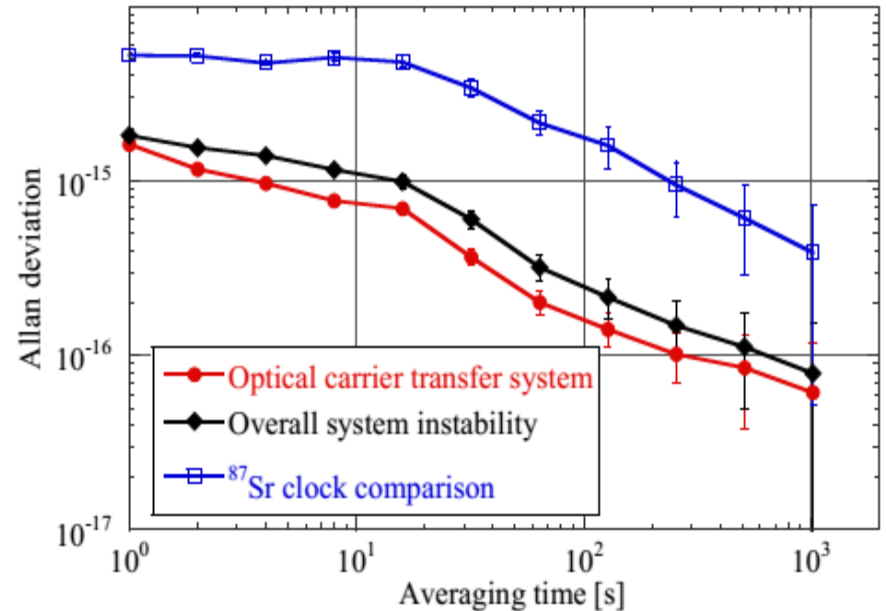
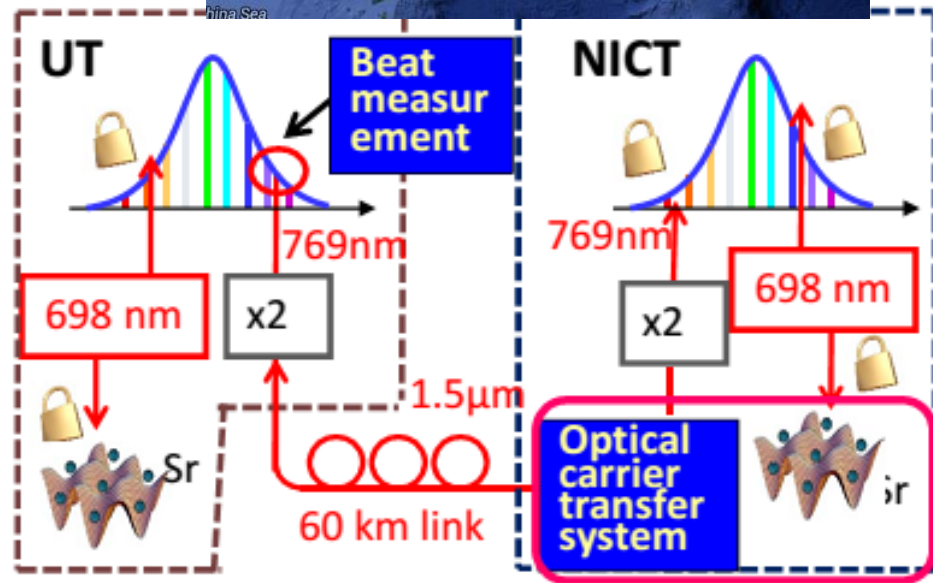
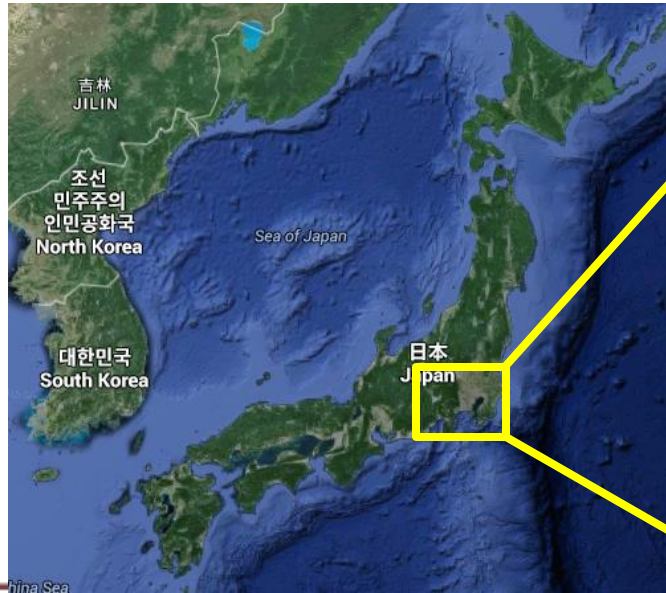
- “Real” testbed: independent detection and acquisition systems
- Data exchange between remote laboratories

C. E. Calosso, et al. Opt. Lett. 40, 131-134 (2015)

C. E. Calosso, et al., Opt. Lett. 39, 1177-1180 (2014)



# 120 km Link in Japan

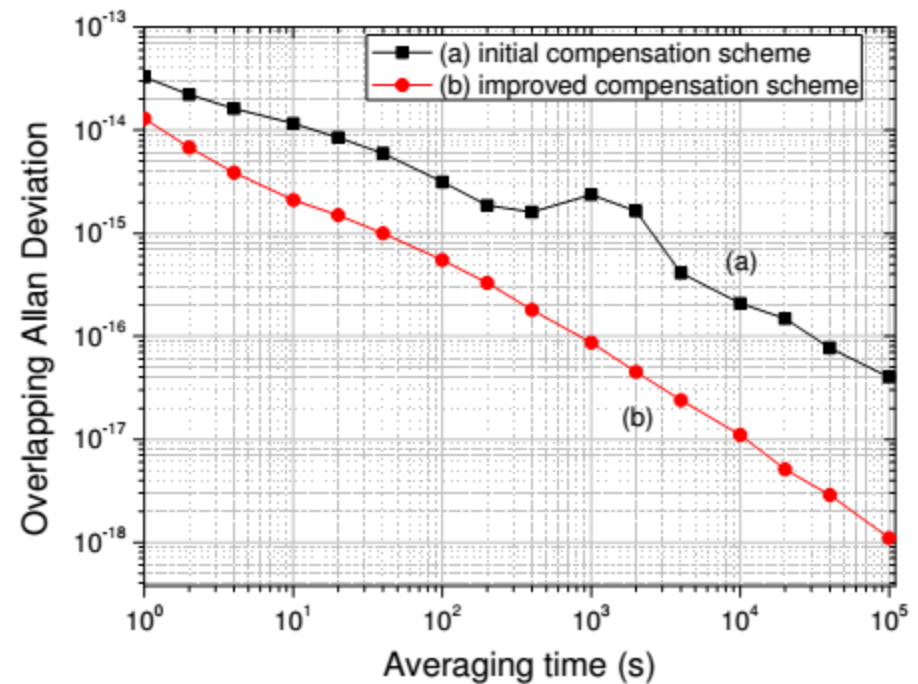


Hong, F.-L. et al. Opt. Lett. 34, 692–694 (2009).

# 50 km Link in China NIM-THU, Beijing

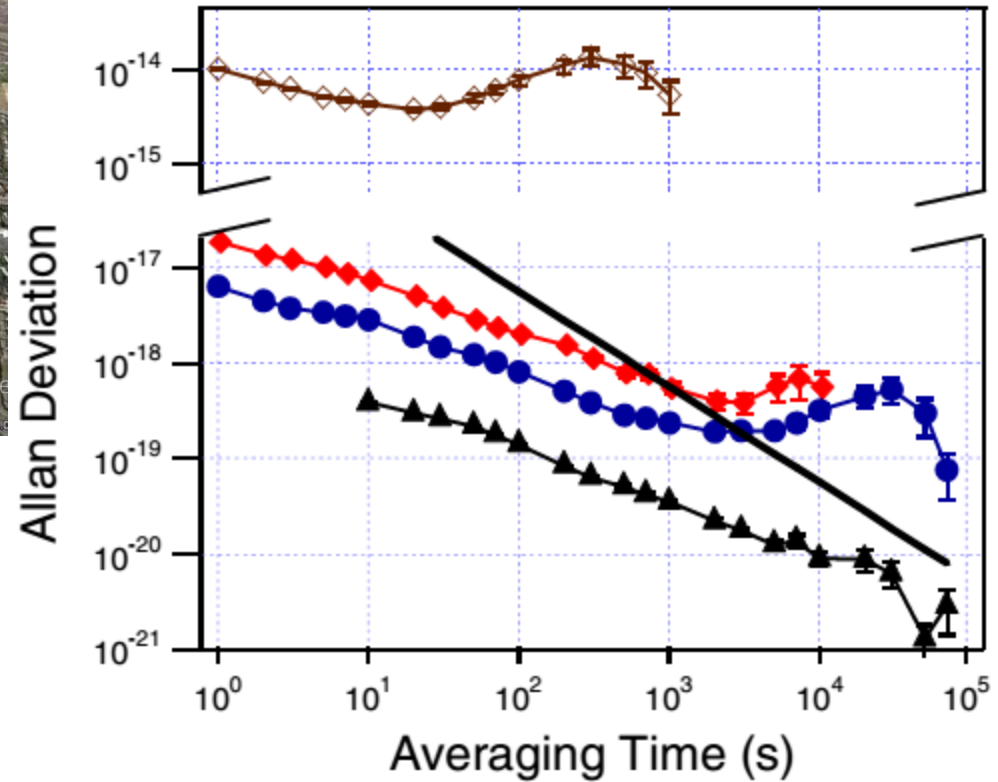
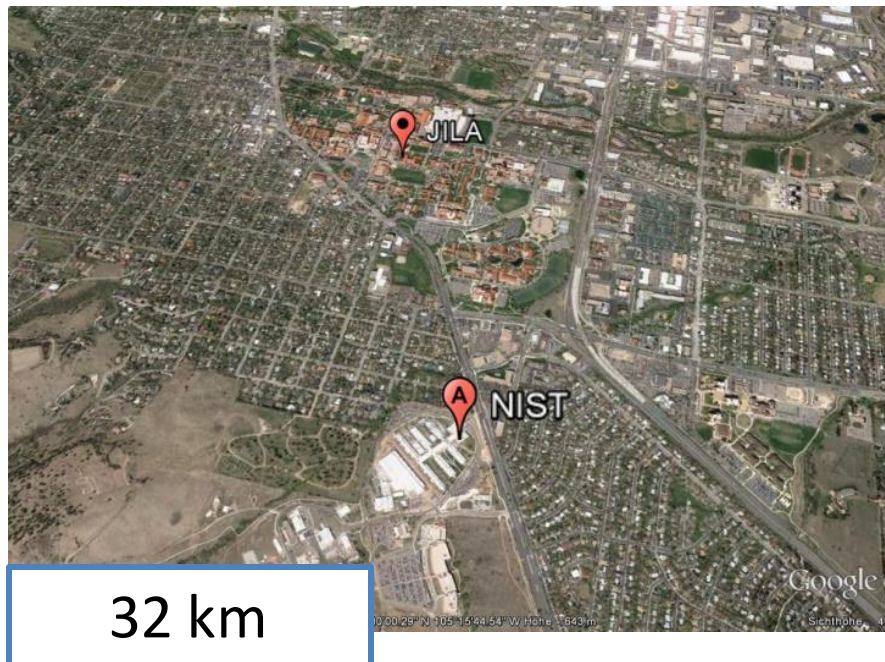


Carrier Amplitude  
modulation up to 9.2 GHz



Kun Liang, et al. Proc. 2015 Joint Conf. of the IEEE FCS & EFTF Forum, 12-16 Apr., 2015, Denver, USA, pp. 742-746, 2015

# U.S.A.: the NIST-JILA link



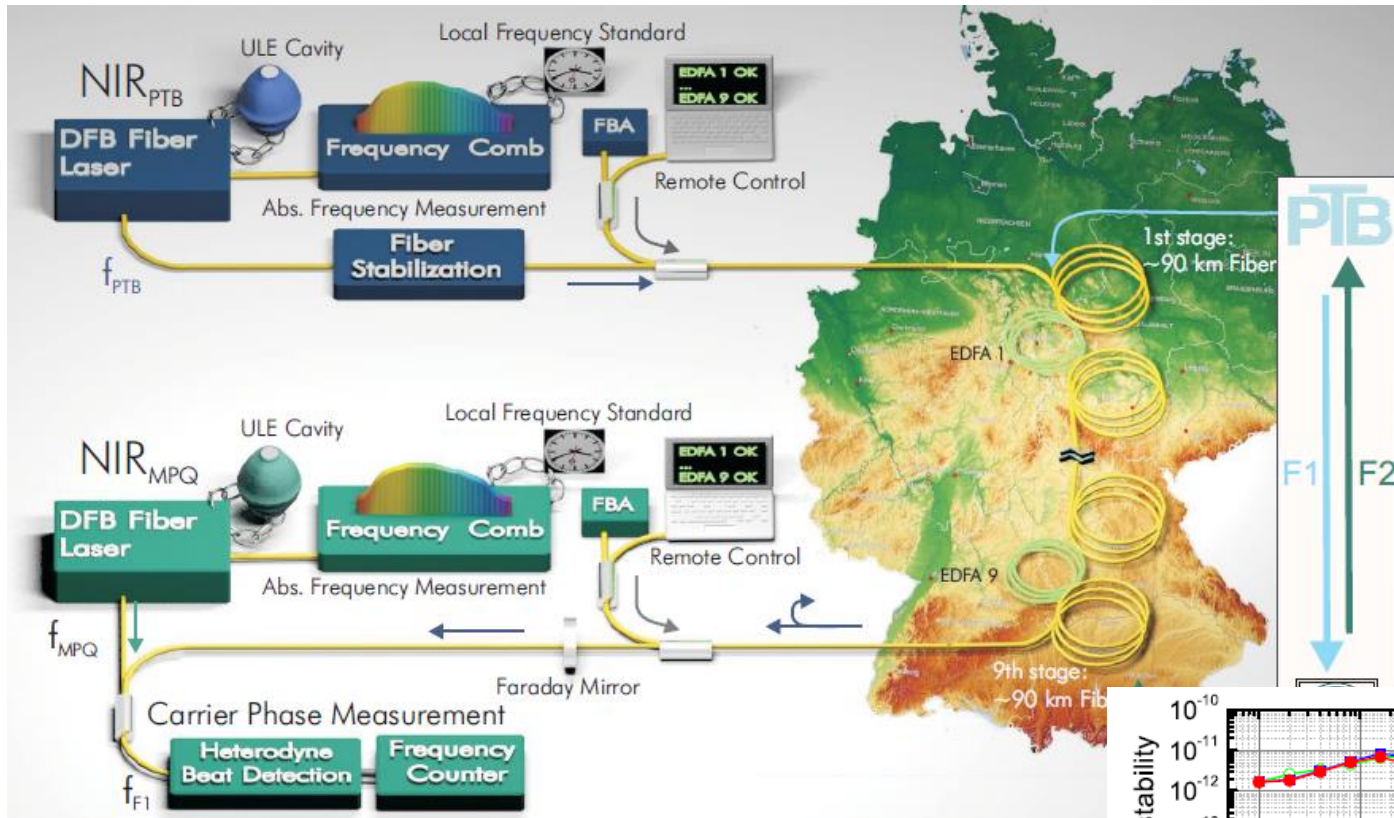
Jefferts S.R., et al., *IEEE Trans. Instrum. Meas.*, 46, 209-211 (1997)

Foreman S.M., et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 99, 153601 (2007)

P. A. Williams et al., *J Opt. Soc. Am. B* **25**, 1284 (2008)



# 920 km Link in Germany PTB-MPQ



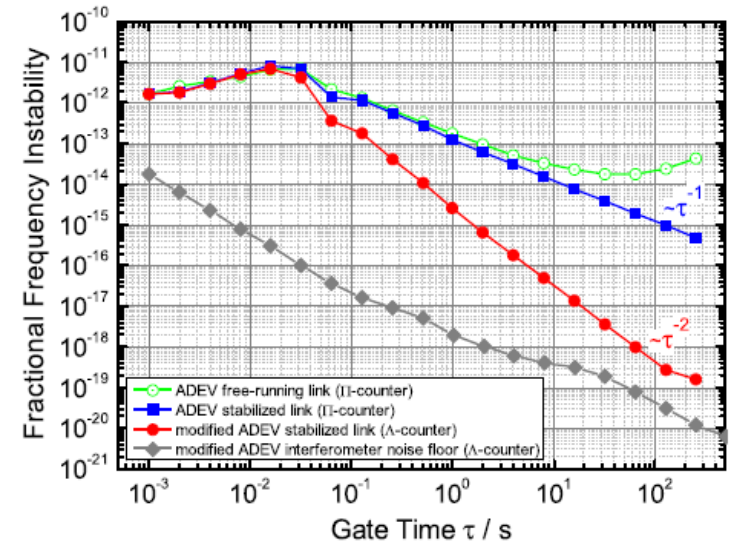
1840 km loop link, MPQ-PTB-MPQ

$$\sigma_y < 4 \times 10^{-19} \text{ @ } 100 \text{ s}$$

$$\text{Rel. uncertainty} < 3 \times 10^{-19}$$

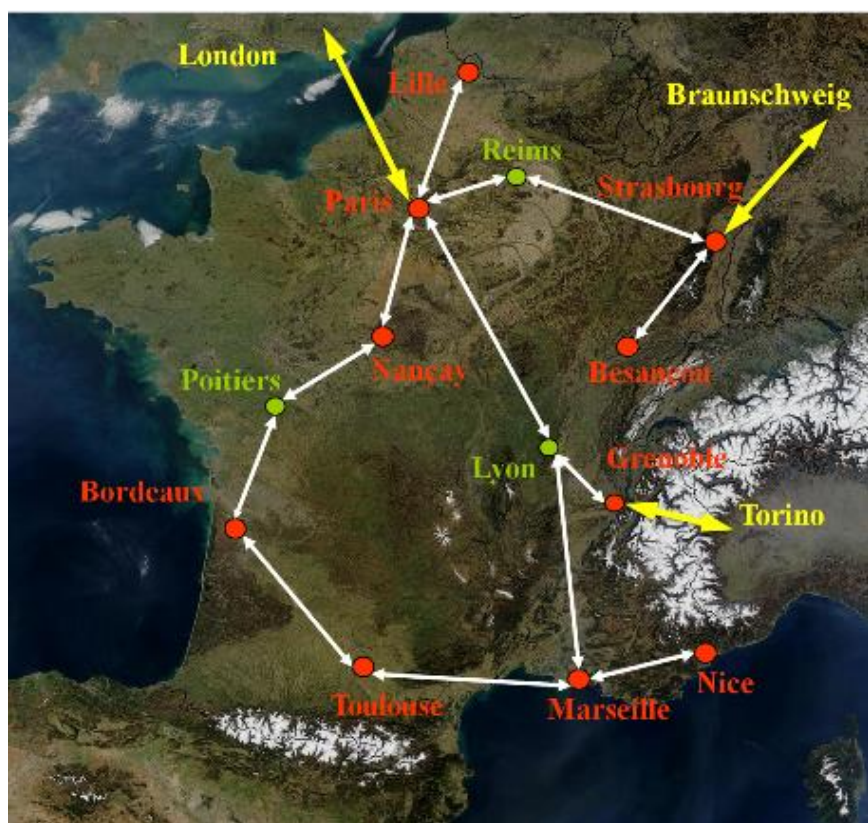
K. Predehl et al; Science 336 (2012) 441-444

S. Droste et al.; PRL 111,110801 (2013)

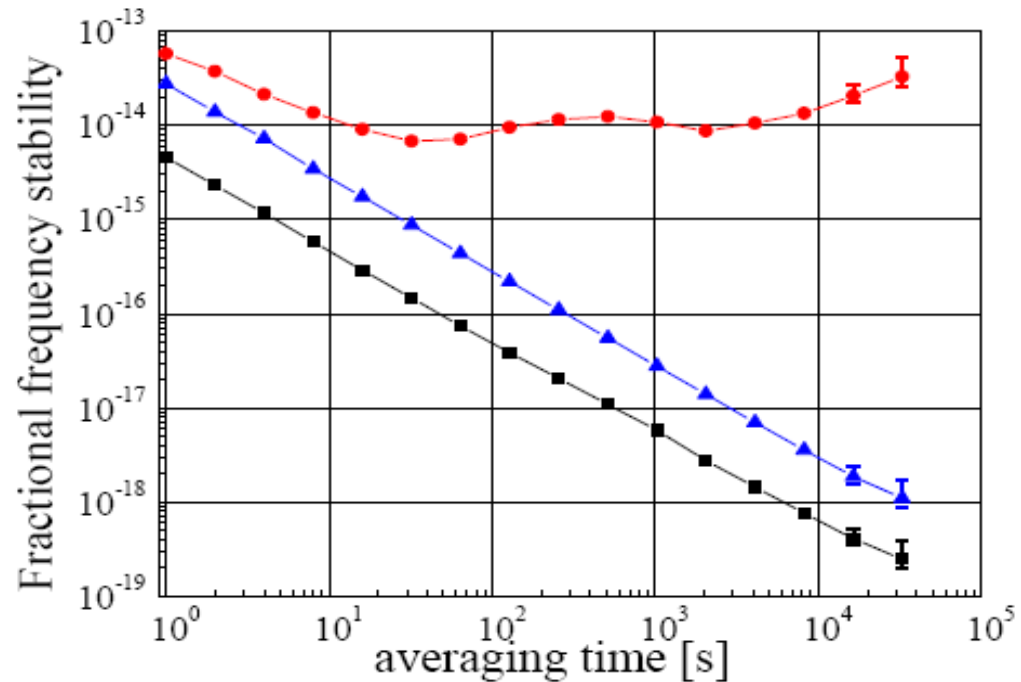


# France, Project REFIMEVE+ Fibré Météorologique à Vocation Européenne

Results on 740 km  
using the Internet fiber network  
(DWDM dark channel architecture)



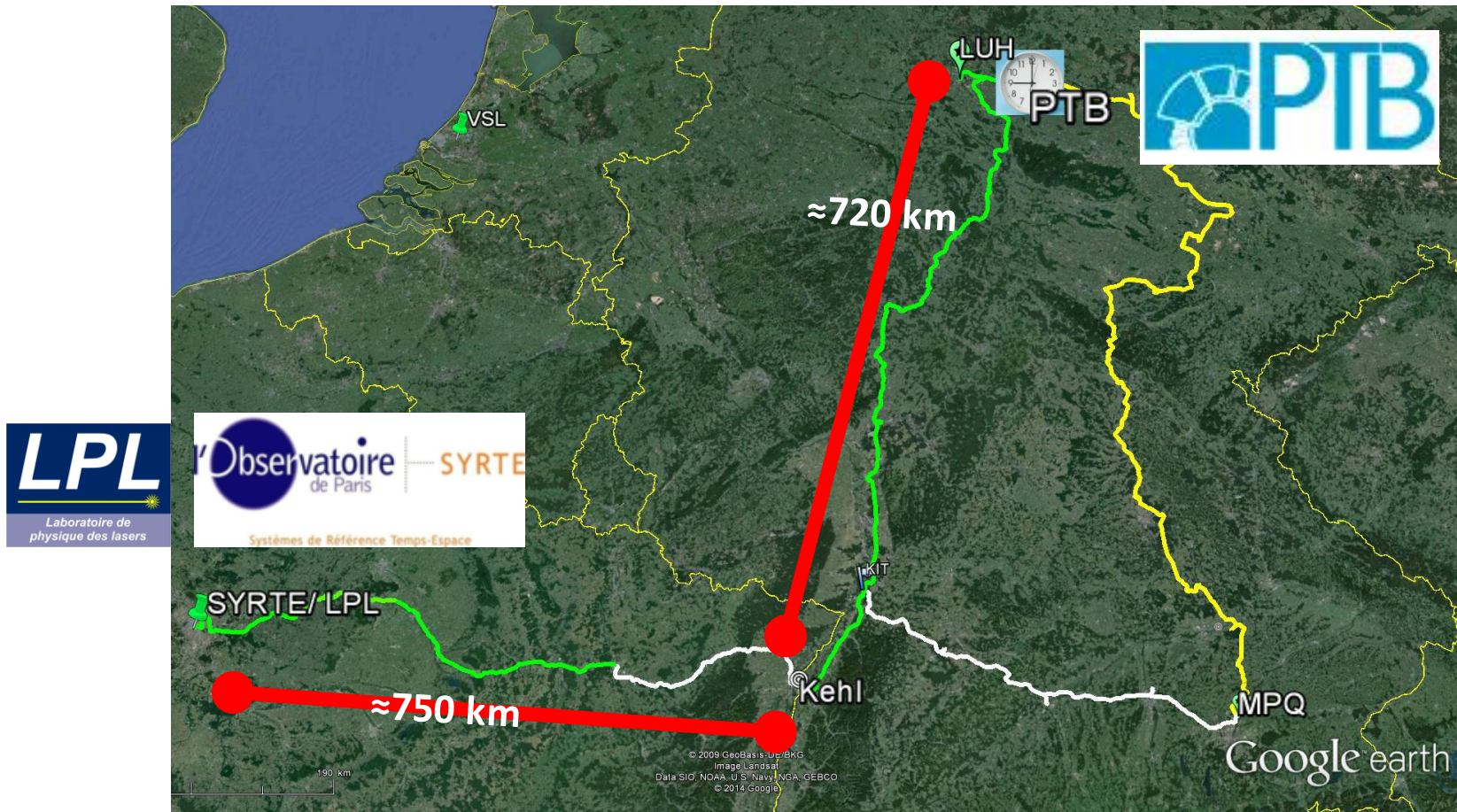
$$\text{ADEV } 3 \times 10^{-14} / (\tau/s) \text{ (full bw)}$$



Olivier Lopez *et al.*; Opt. Exp (2012) 20, p. 23518



# 1500 km Link PTB, Braunschweig - LNE-SYRTE, Paris



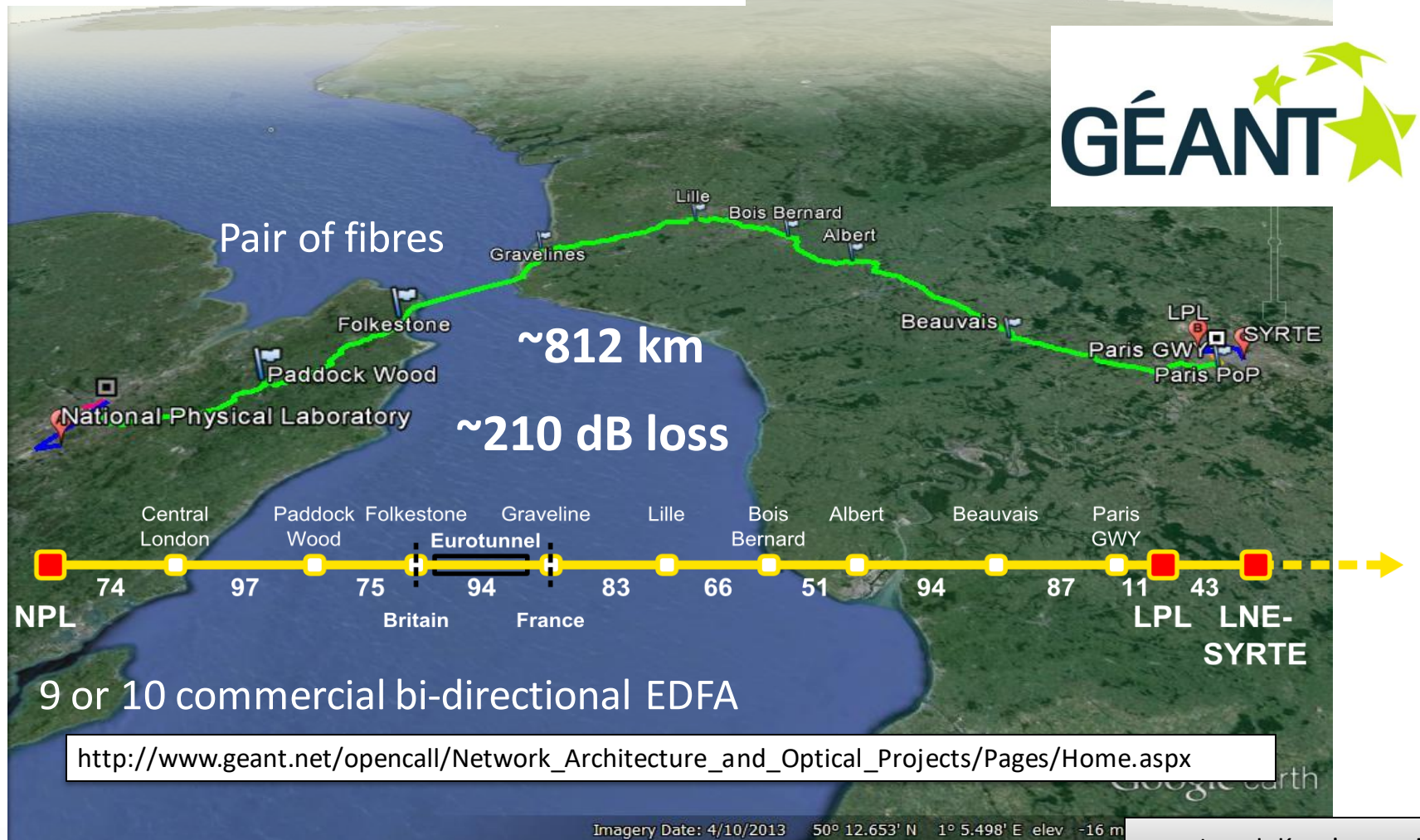
Presently under operation



# 812 km London-Paris link



- Open Call Project ICOF - GEANT



courtesy J. Kronjaeger, NPL

# Italy: LIFT, 1800 km



- Quantum Technologies
- Radioastronomy
- Ultracold atoms Physics
- Space - Galileo
- Finance

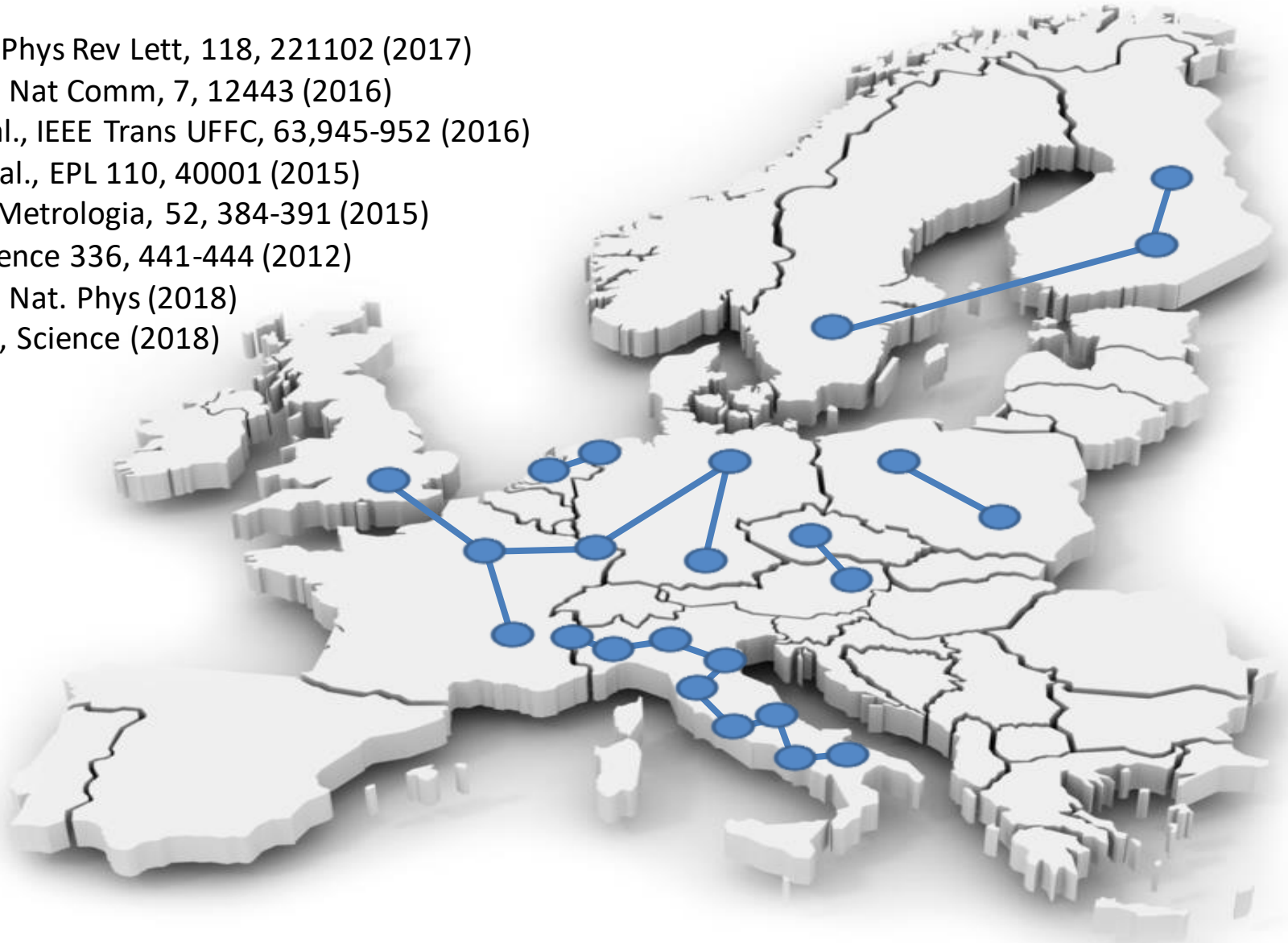
7 Research Institutes linked:  
CNR – National Research Council  
ASI – Italian Space Agency  
INAF – Italian Astrophysics Institute

3 Industrial Users  
Thales Alenia Space Italy  
Telespazio;  
Consortium Top-IX



# European fibre links

- P. Delva et al., Phys Rev Lett, 118, 221102 (2017)
- C. Lisdat et al., Nat Comm, 7, 12443 (2016)
- E. Dierickx et al., IEEE Trans UFFC, 63,945-952 (2016)
- D. Calonico et al., EPL 110, 40001 (2015)
- Z. Jiang, et al. Metrologia, 52, 384-391 (2015)
- K. Predehl, Science 336, 441-444 (2012)
- J. Grotti et al. , Nat. Phys (2018)
- G. Marra et al., Science (2018)



# European fibre links



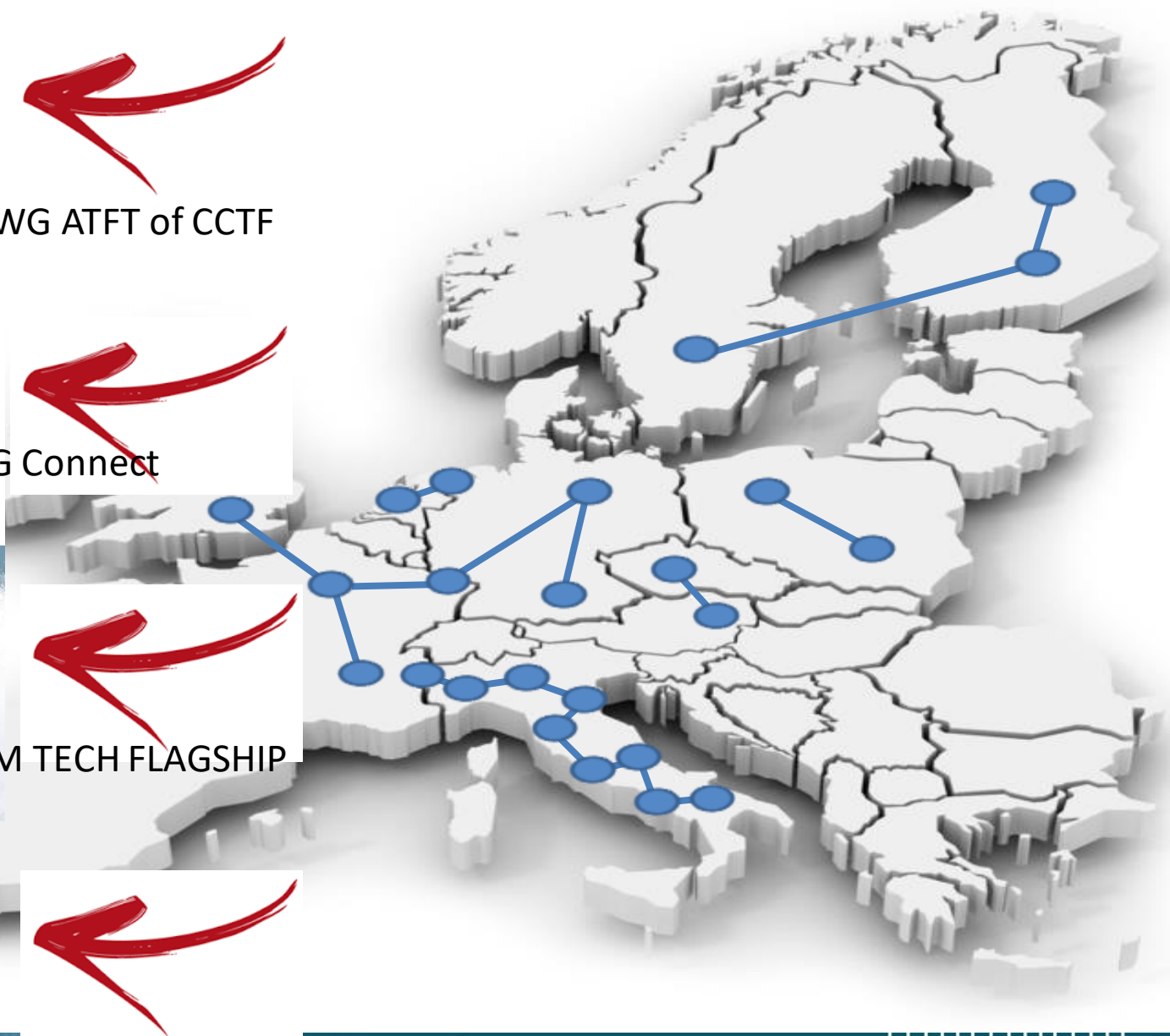
and WG ATFT of CCTF



And DG Connect

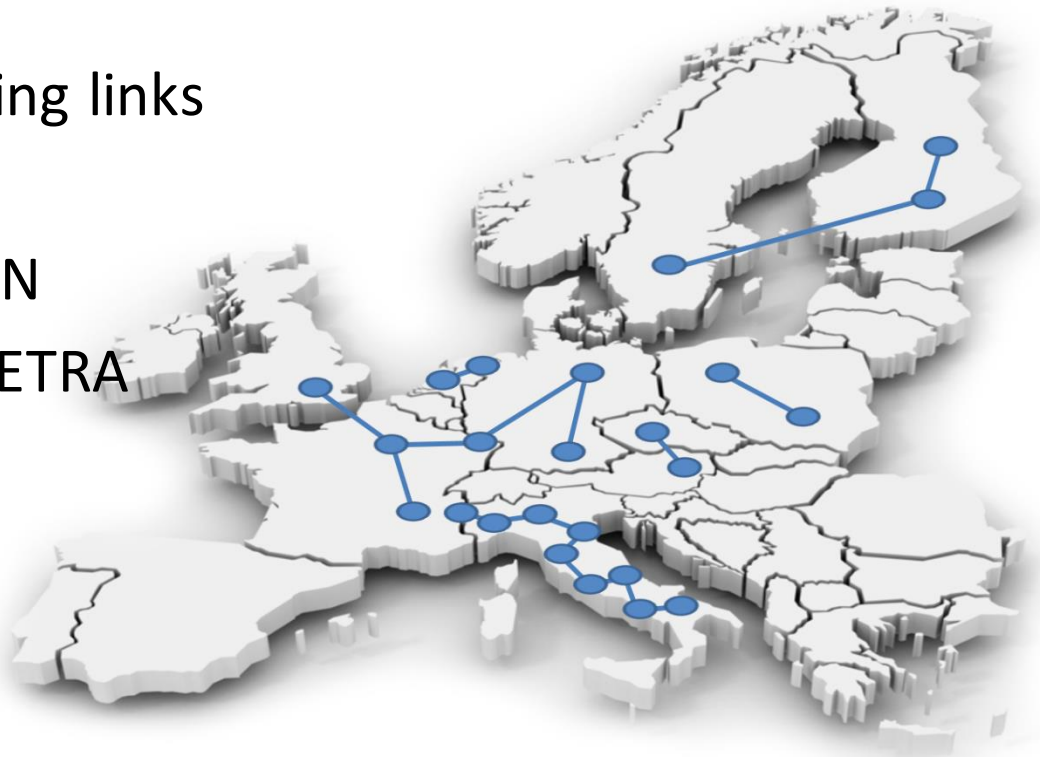


And QUANTUM TECH FLAGSHIP



# European fibre links

- In Europe there is an intense research activity on fibre links
- There is a variety of techniques: Coherent FL, Electronic Stabilized Links, PTP High Accuracy (White Rabbit) Time Transfer, Optical Combs over fibre
- So far, Large projects involving links (NMI coordination):  
EMRP-NEAT-FT / EMPIR-OFTEN  
H2020-CLONETS/ H2020-DEMETRA



# European Projects on fibre links

H2020-INFRAINNOV



Strategy and innovation for clock services over optical-fibre networks  
16 partners, Coordination: OP



# APPLICATIONS

- Optical Clock Comparisons
- Frequency dissemination for VLBI radioastronomy and geodesy
- Relativistic geodesy with clocks
- Earthquake detection with coherent optical fibers
- Atomic and Molecular Spectroscopy



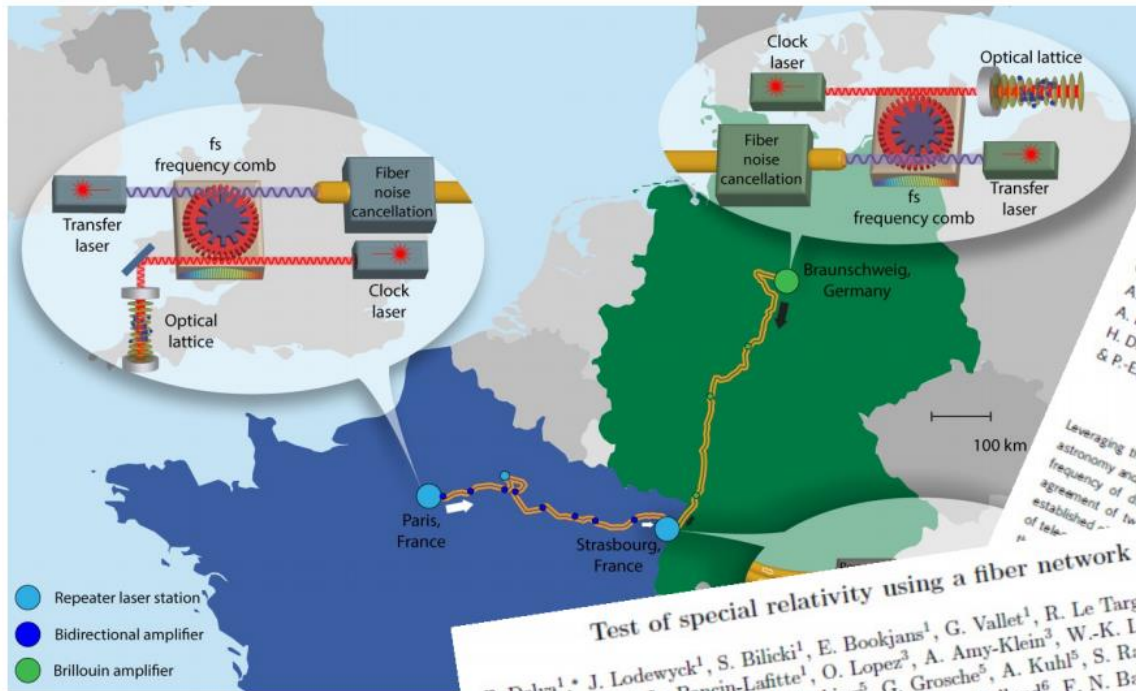


# APPLICATIONS

- Optical Clock Comparisons
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# Towards a European network of atomic clocks



**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>1</sup>, E. Bookjans<sup>3</sup>, A. Koczwara<sup>1</sup>, S. Koke<sup>1</sup>, A. Kuhl<sup>1</sup>, F. Wlotte<sup>2</sup>, F. Meynadier<sup>3</sup>, E. Carnisard<sup>4</sup>, M. Algrai<sup>1</sup>, M. Lours<sup>3</sup>, T. Leggero<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>

**Test of special relativity using a fiber network of optical clocks**

P. Delva<sup>1,\*</sup>, J. Lodewyck<sup>1</sup>, S. Bilicki<sup>1</sup>, E. Bookjans<sup>1</sup>, G. Vallet<sup>1</sup>, R. Le Targat<sup>1</sup>, P.-E. Pottie<sup>1</sup>, C. Guerlin<sup>2,1</sup>, F. Meynadier<sup>1</sup>, C. Le Poncin-Lafitte<sup>1</sup>, O. Lopez<sup>3</sup>, A. Amy-Klein<sup>3</sup>, W.-K. Lee<sup>1,4</sup>, N. Quintin<sup>3</sup>, C. Lisdat<sup>5</sup>, A. Al-Masoudi<sup>5</sup>, S. Dörscher<sup>5</sup>, C. Grebing<sup>5</sup>, G. Grosche<sup>5</sup>, A. Kuhl<sup>5</sup>, S. Raupach<sup>5</sup>, U. Sterr<sup>5</sup>, I. R. Hill<sup>6</sup>, R. Hobson<sup>6</sup>, W. Bowden<sup>6</sup>, J. Kroujäger<sup>6</sup>, G. Marra<sup>6</sup>, A. Rolland<sup>6</sup>, F. N. Baynes<sup>6</sup>, H. S. Margolis<sup>6</sup>, and P. Gill<sup>6</sup>

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

<sup>2</sup>Laboratoire Kastler Brossel, ENS-PSL Research University, CNRS, UPMC-Sorbonne Universités, Collège de France, 75005 Paris, France

<sup>3</sup>Laboratoire de Physique des Lasers, Université Paris 13, Sorbonne Université, CNRS, 99 Avenue Jean-Baptiste Clément, 93430 Villetaneuse, France

<sup>4</sup>Korea Research Institute of Standards and Science, Daejeon 34113, South Korea

<sup>5</sup>Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt, Bundesallee 100, 38116 Braunschweig, Germany and

<sup>6</sup>National Physical Laboratory, Hampton Road, Teddington, TW11 0LW, UK

**First remote clocks comparisons via optical fiber in 2015**

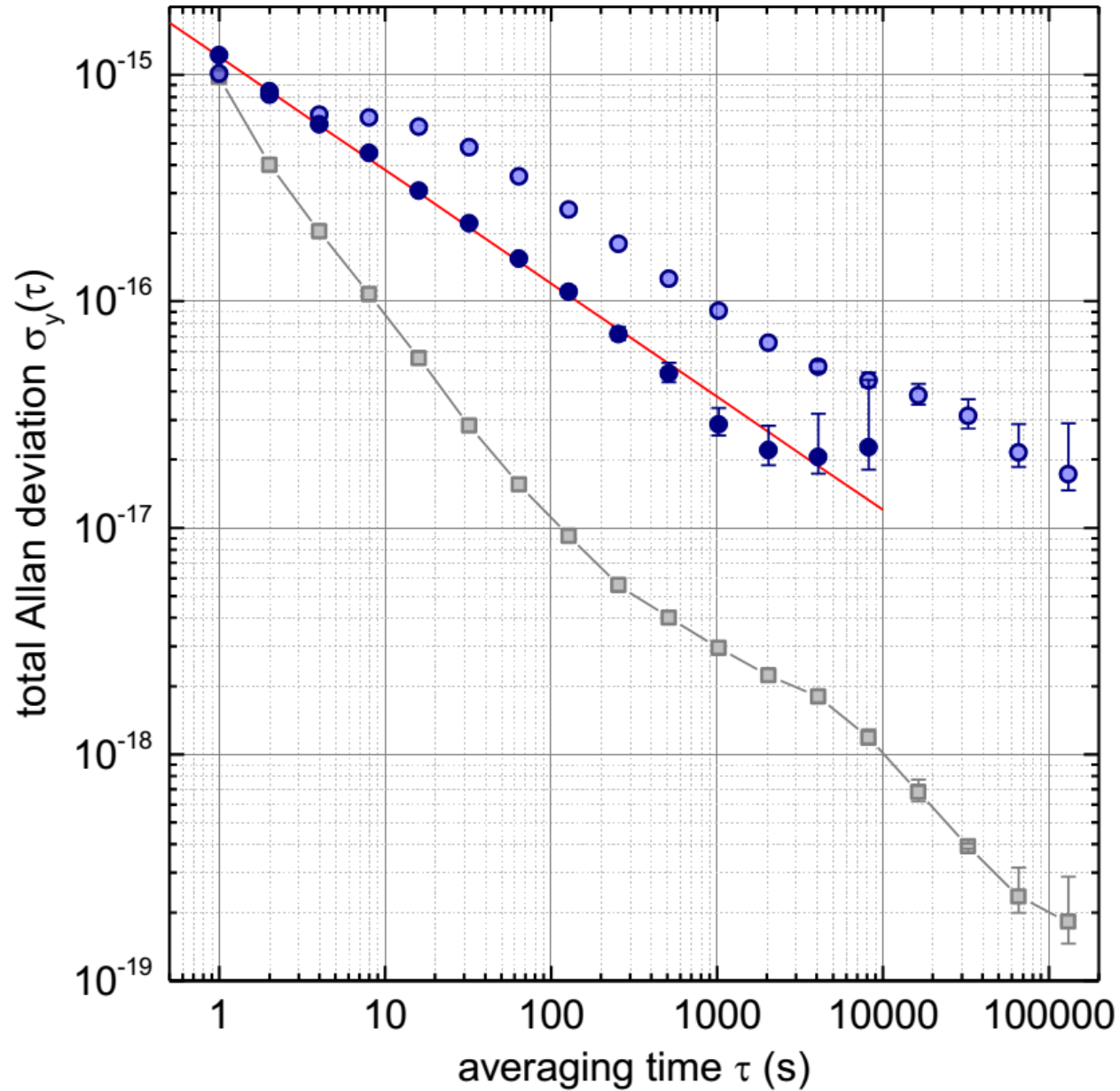
Phase compensated optical fiber links enable high accuracy atomic clocks separated by thousands of kilometers to be compared with unprecedented statistical resolution. By searching for a daily variation of the frequency difference between four strontium optical lattice clocks in different locations throughout Europe connected by such links, we improve upon previous tests of time dilation predicted by special relativity. We obtain a constraint on the Robertson-Mansouri-Sexl parameter of  $1.1 \times 10^{-8}$  quantifying a violation of time dilation, thus improving by a factor of around 100 the constraint obtained with Ives-Stilwell type experiments. This work is the first of a new generation of experiments comparing atomic clocks. As clocks improve, the accuracy of this paper will improve.

# Coherent Fibre link comparing optical clocks at parts in 1e17

Clock uncertainty	Sr lattice clock Paris		Sr lattice clock Braunschweig	
	Corr. ( $10^{-17}$ )	Unc. ( $10^{-17}$ )	Corr. ( $10^{-17}$ )	Unc. ( $10^{-17}$ )
<b>Effect</b>				
First and higher order lattice LS	0	2.5	-1.1	1.0
Black-body radiation	515.5	1.8	492.9	1.3
Black-body radiation oven	0	1.0	0.9	0.9
Density shift	0	0.8	0	0.1
Quadratic Zeeman shift	134.8	1.2	3.6	0.15
Line pulling	0	2.0	0	$\ll 0.1$
<b>Total clocks</b>	<b>650.3</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>496.3</b>	<b>1.9</b>

Ratio $Sr_{PTB}/Sr_{SYRTE}$	Campaign I Unc. ( $10^{-17}$ )	Campaign II Unc. ( $10^{-17}$ )
Systematics $Sr_{SYRTE}$	4.1	4.1
Systematics $Sr_{PTB}$	2.1	1.9
Statistical uncertainty	2	2
fs combs	0.1	0.1
Link uncertainty	$< 0.1$	0.03
Counter synchronization *	10	$< 0.01$
Gravity potential correction **	0.4	0.4
<b>Total clock comparison</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>5.0</b>

# Coherent Fibre link comparing optical clocks at parts in $1e17$



# APPLICATIONS

- Optical Clock Comparisons
- Frequency dissemination for VLBI radioastronomy and geodesy
- Relativistic geodesy with clocks
- Earthquake detection with coherent optical fibers
- Atomic and Molecular Spectroscopy



# Dissemination for radioastronomy



## T/F fibre links for Radioastronomy :

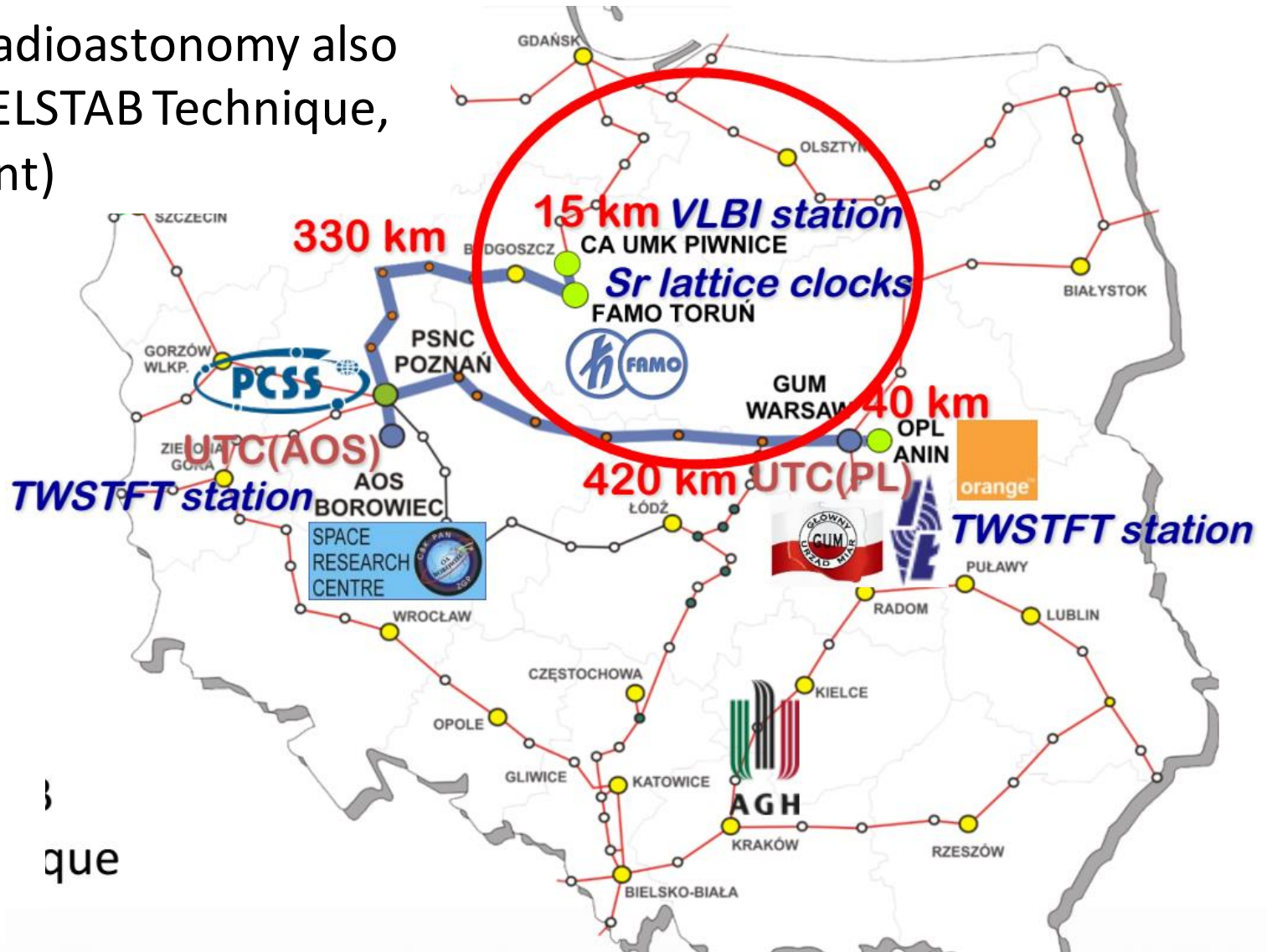
- ❑ Faster operations
- ❑ Better mm-VLBI: above 80 GHz, H-Masers are the main limit to resolution
  - M. Rioja, et al. Astron. J., vol. 144, no. 4, art. no. 121, 2012.
  - B. Nikolic, et al. Astron. Astrophys., vl. 552, art. no. A104, Apr. 2013.
  - M. Rioja and R. Dodson, Astron. J., vol. 141, no. 4, art. no. 114, 2011
- ❑ Existing mm-VLBI Telescope in Europe: MPIfR (Germany), IRAM (Spain), Onsala (Sweden), Metsahovi (Finland),

- ❑ Study of compact radio sources (better angular resolution) and interstellar molecular clouds
- ❑ In Geodesy VLBI, accuracy is relevant and 1-mm positioning accuracy requires clocks uncertainties at  $1e-16$ .
  - A. Neill, et al. Report of Working Group 3 to the IVS Directing Board, Sep. 2005.
- ❑ Studying Pulsar through absolute accurate time
  - Andrew Lyne, EFTF2016



# Dissemination for radioastronomy

A link for Radioastronomy also in Poland (ELSTAB Technique, not coherent)



que



# Dissemination for radioastronomy

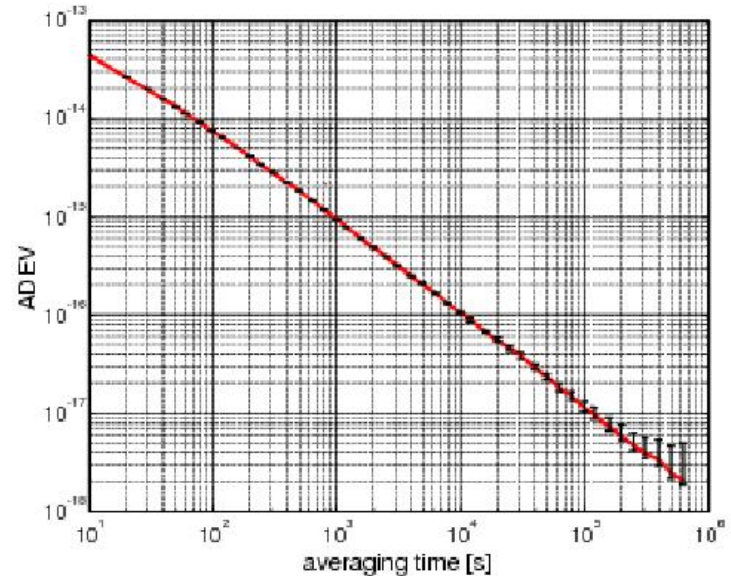
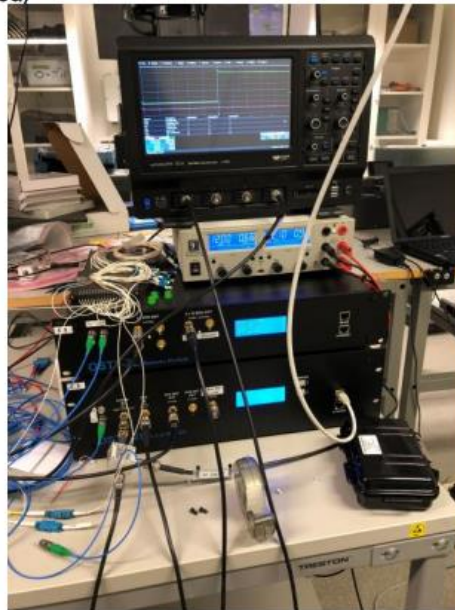
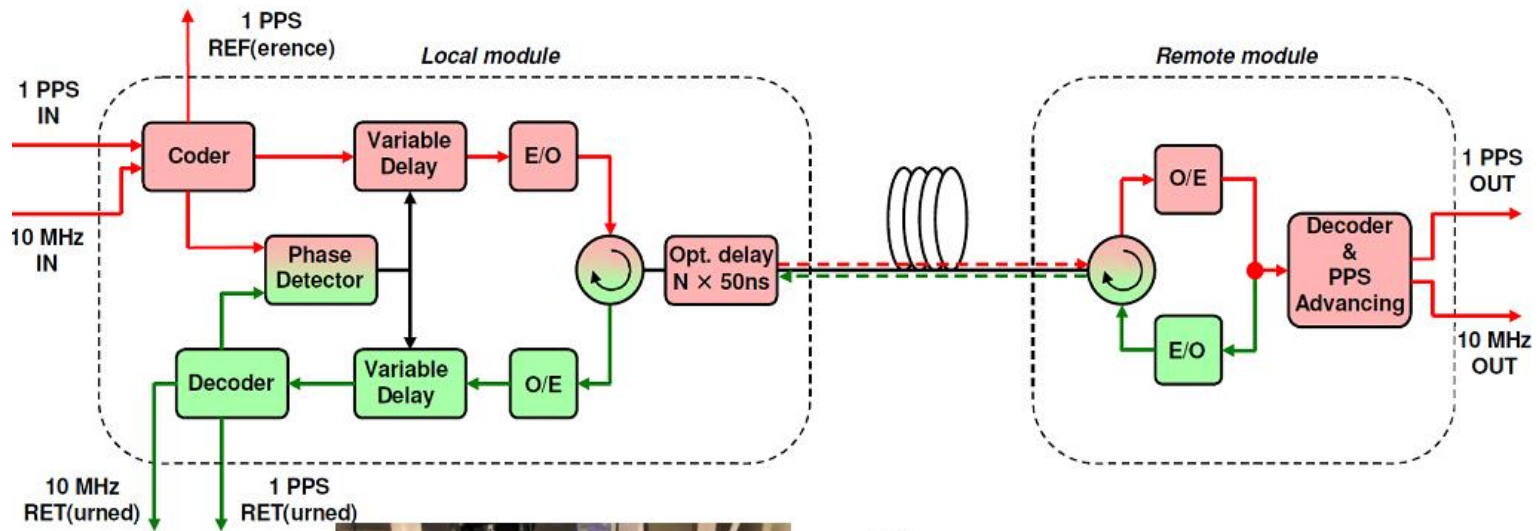
A link for Radioastronomy also in Sweden  
(ELSTAB Technique, not coherent)

Goteborg-Onsala, 50 km



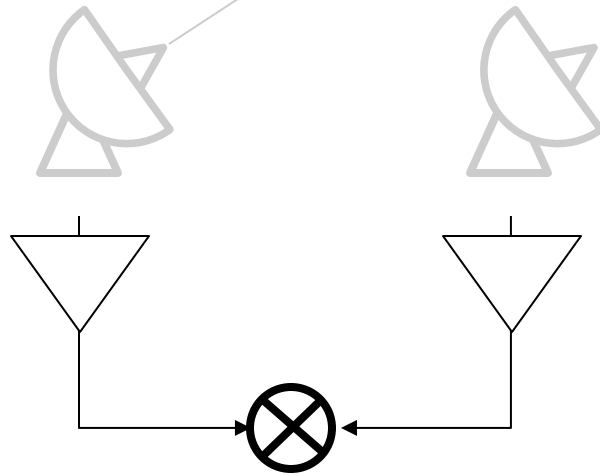


# ELSTAB – the minimum introduction



# Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI)

Typical frequency range:  
100 MHz-30 GHz

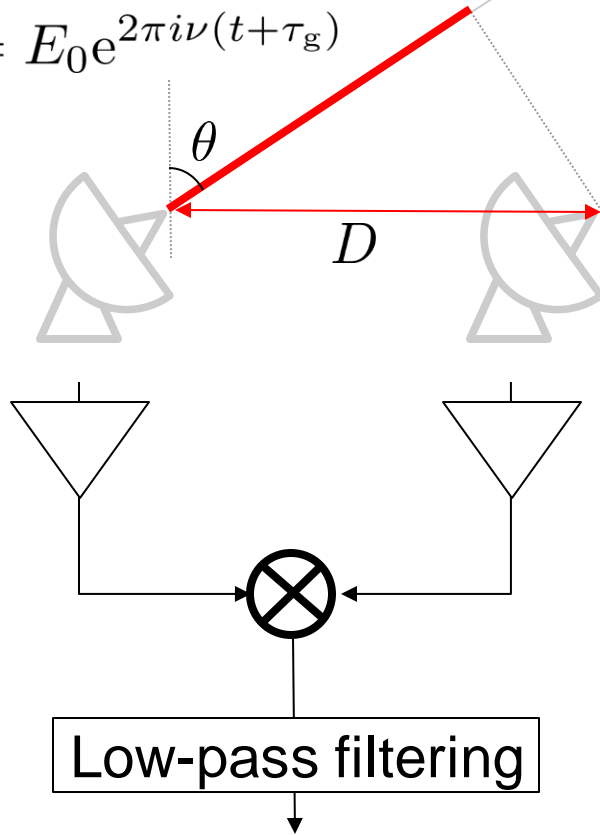


# Very Long Baseline Interferometry

$$E_1 = E_0 e^{2\pi i \nu (t + \tau_g)}$$

$$E_2 = E_0 e^{2\pi i \nu t}$$

$$\tau_g = \frac{D \sin \theta}{c}$$



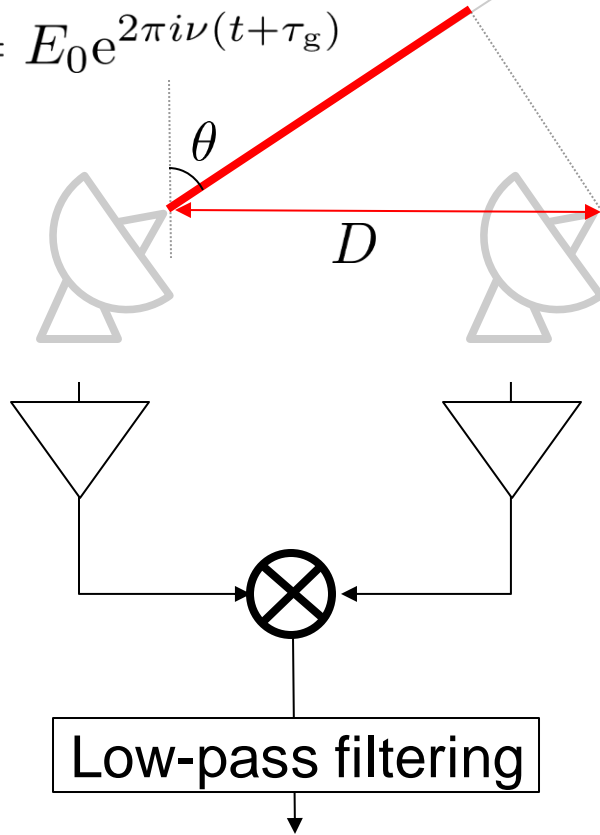
$$r = \cos \left( 2\pi \nu \frac{D \sin \theta}{c} \right)$$

# Very Long Baseline Interferometry

$$E_1 = E_0 e^{2\pi i \nu (t + \tau_g)}$$

$$E_2 = E_0 e^{2\pi i \nu t}$$

$$\tau_g = \frac{D \sin \theta}{c}$$

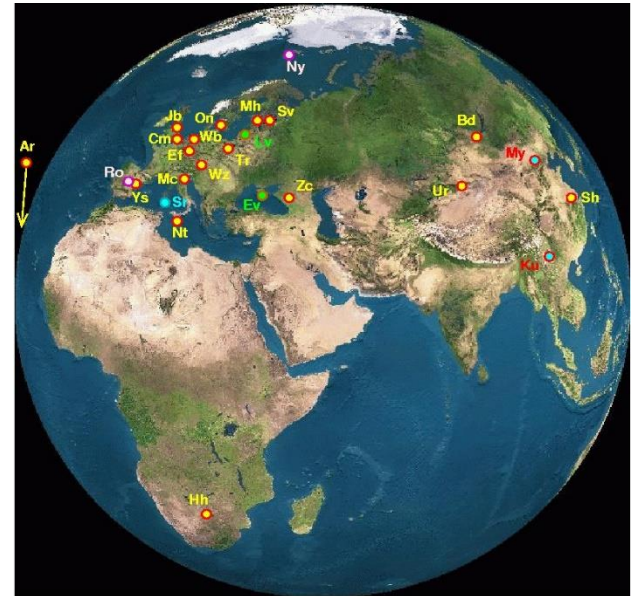
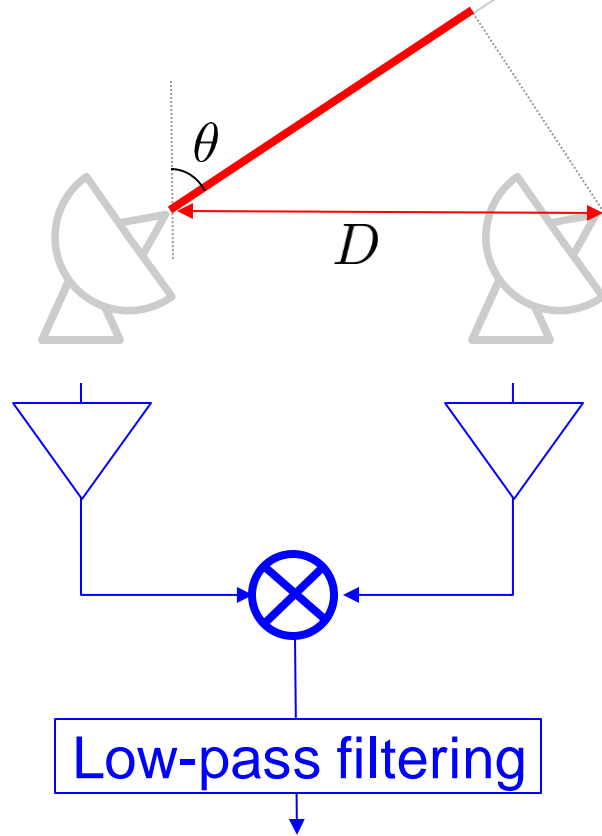


$$r = \cos \left( 2\pi \nu \frac{D \sin \theta}{c} \right) * \{I(\theta)\}$$



# VLBI in practice

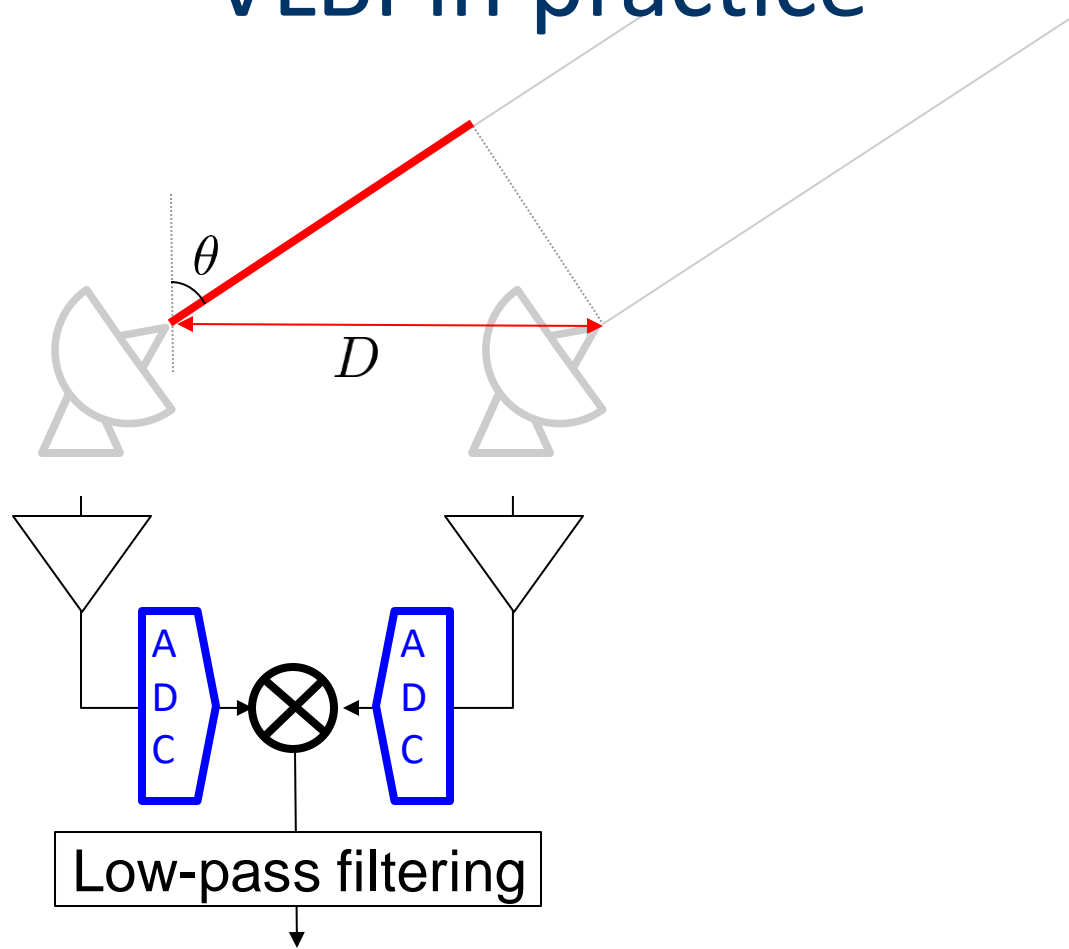
Digital Signal Processing



$$r = \cos \left( 2\pi\nu \frac{D \sin \theta}{c} \right) * \{I(\theta)\}$$

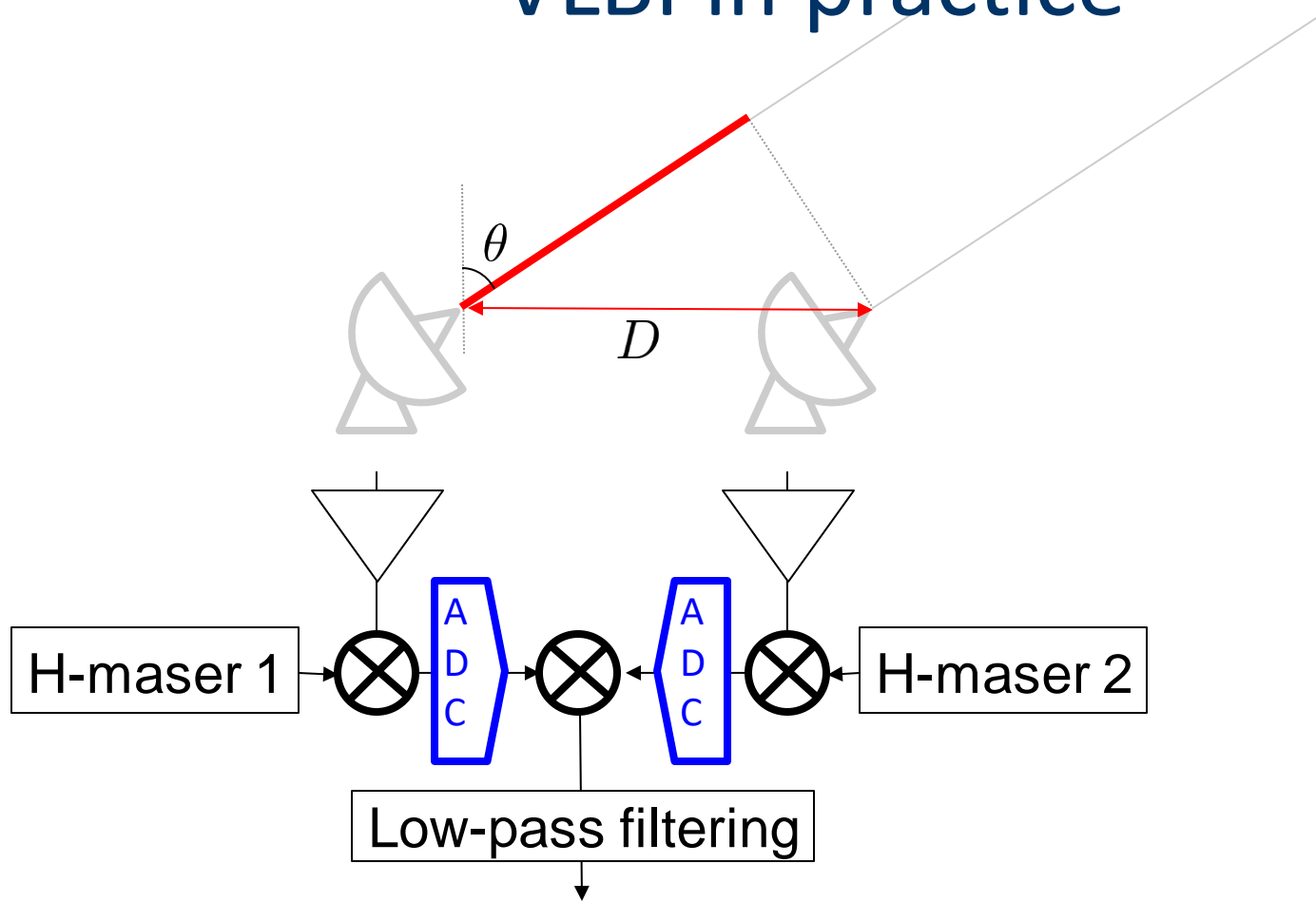


# VLBI in practice



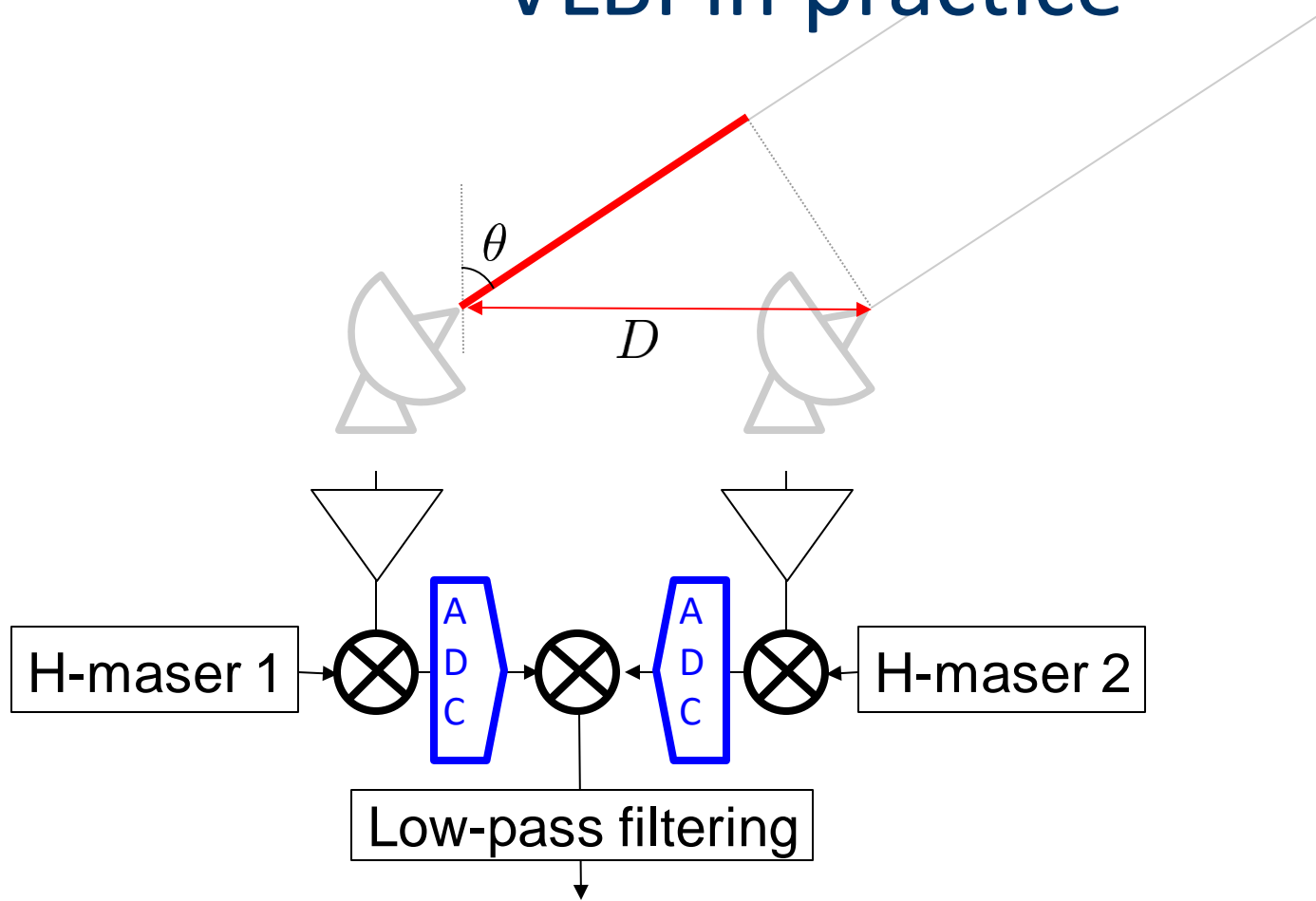
$$r = \cos \left( 2\pi\nu \frac{D \sin \theta}{c} \right) * \{I(\theta)\}$$

# VLBI in practice



$$r = \cos \left( 2\pi\nu \frac{D \sin \theta}{c} + \phi_{\text{clocks}} + \dots \right) * \{I(\theta)\}$$

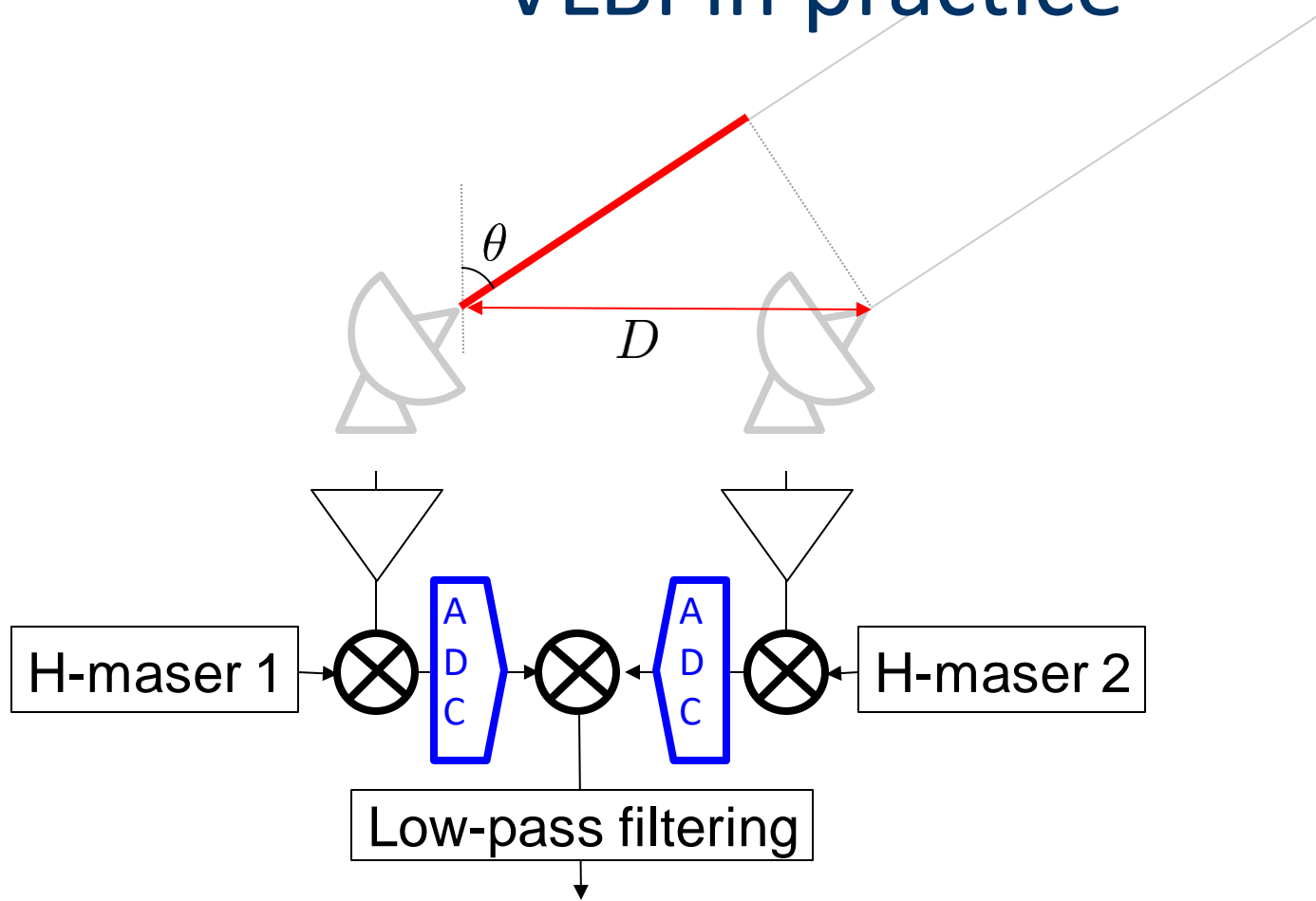
# VLBI in practice



$$r = \cos \left( 2\pi\nu \frac{D \sin \theta}{c} + \phi_{\text{clocks}} + \phi_{\text{atm}} + \dots \right) * \{I(\theta)\}$$

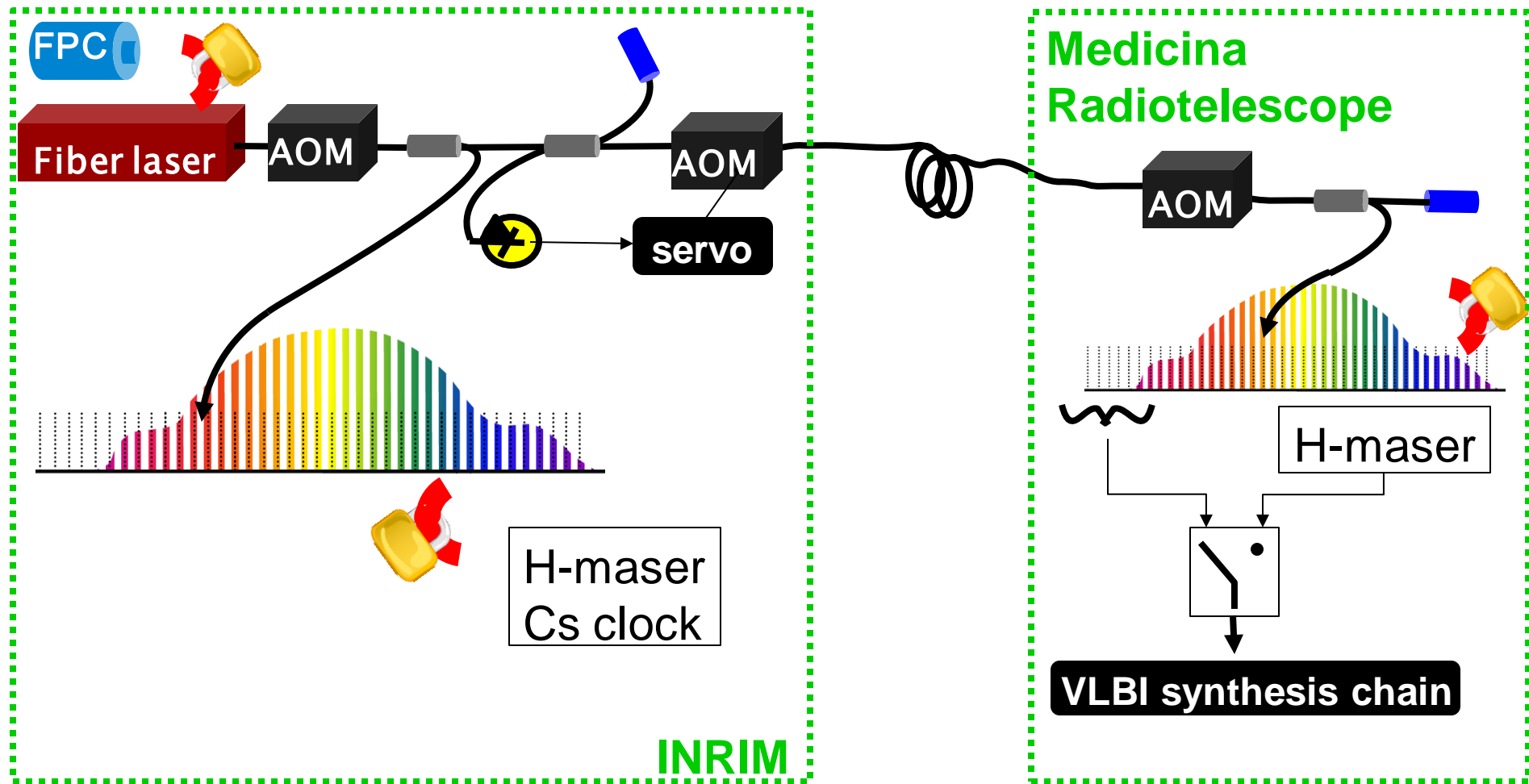


# VLBI in practice



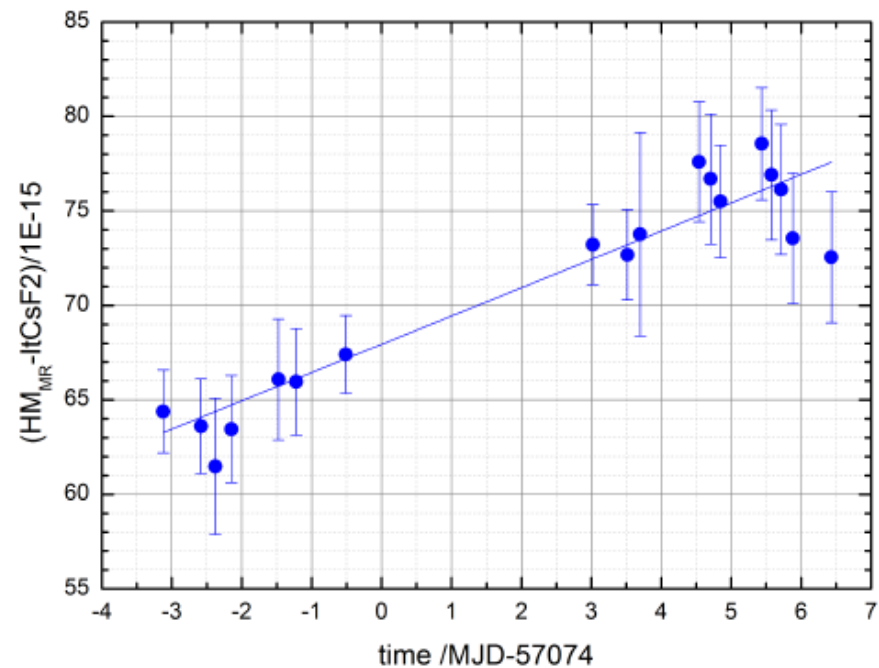
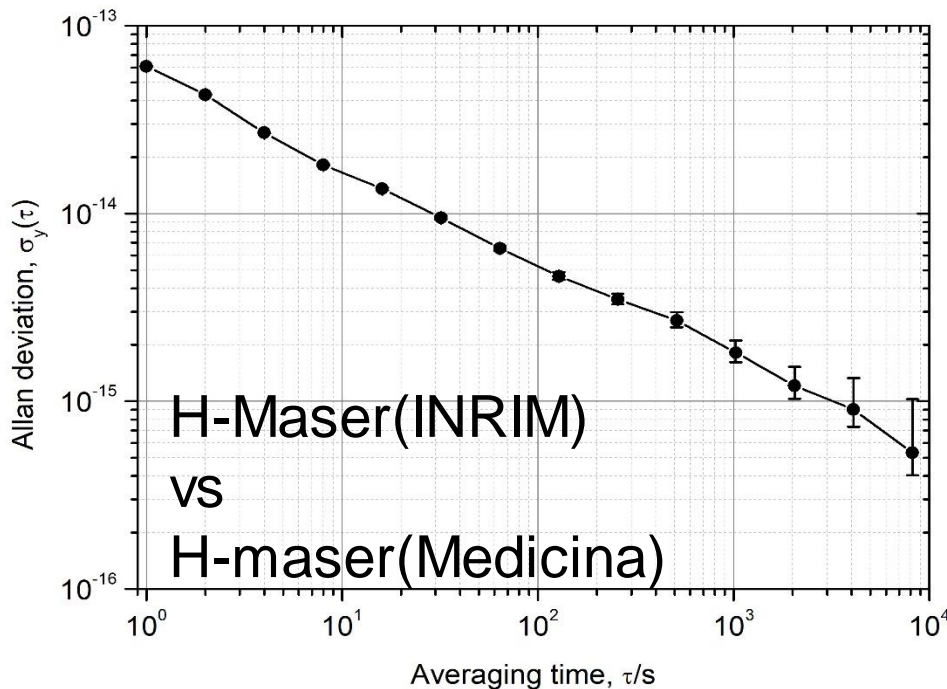
$$r = \cos \left( 2\pi\nu \frac{D \sin \theta}{c} + \phi_{\text{clocks}} + \phi_{\text{atm}} + \phi_{\text{instr}} \right) * \{I(\theta)\}$$

# Delivering the same clock to multiple telescopes



# Delivering the same clock to multiple telescopes

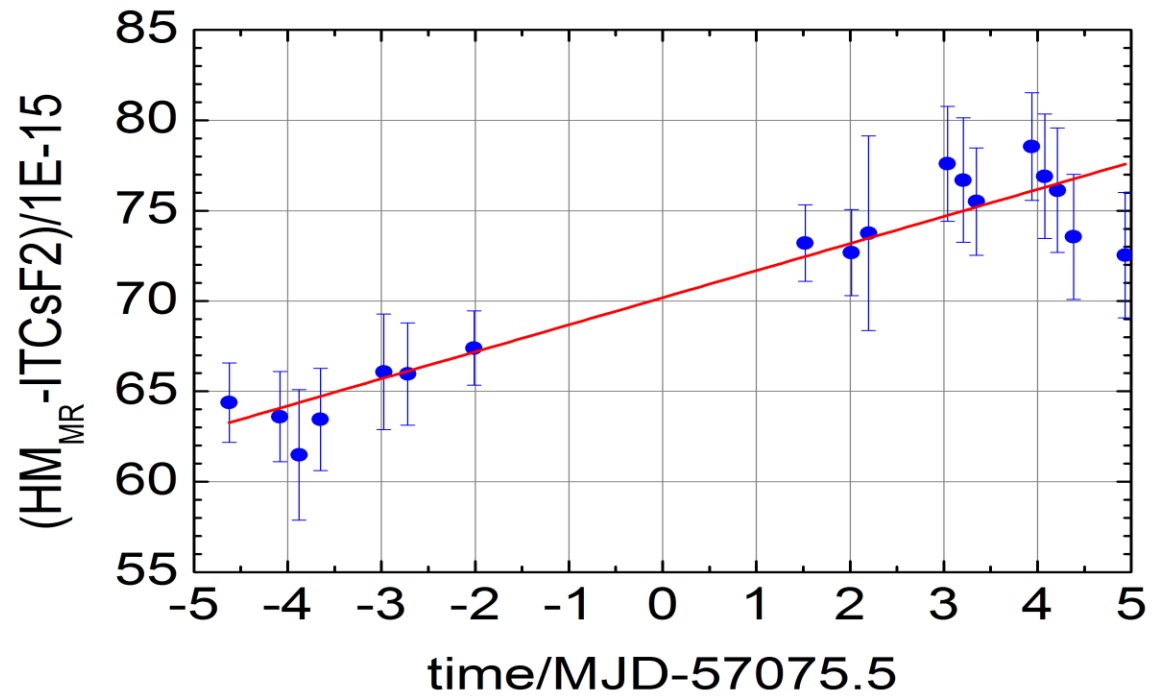
- Remote calibration of Medicina H-maser



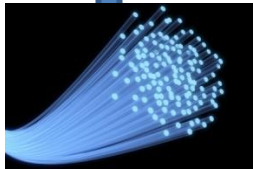
# Medicina H-Maser Absolute calibration

- HM frequency =  $(70.2 \pm 0.4)10^{-15}$
- HM drift =  $(1.5 \pm 0.1)10^{-15}/\text{day}$

- $4 \times 10^{-16}$  Uncertainty, dominated by HMs
- Accuracy and resolution otherwise impossible



C. Clivati et al., IEEE TRANS. UFFC, 62, 1907 (2015)





# Experiment EUR137

Radioantennas involved:

DSS65A (SPAIN)

MEDICINA (ITALY)

METSAHOV (FINLAND)

NYALES20 (SVALBARD)

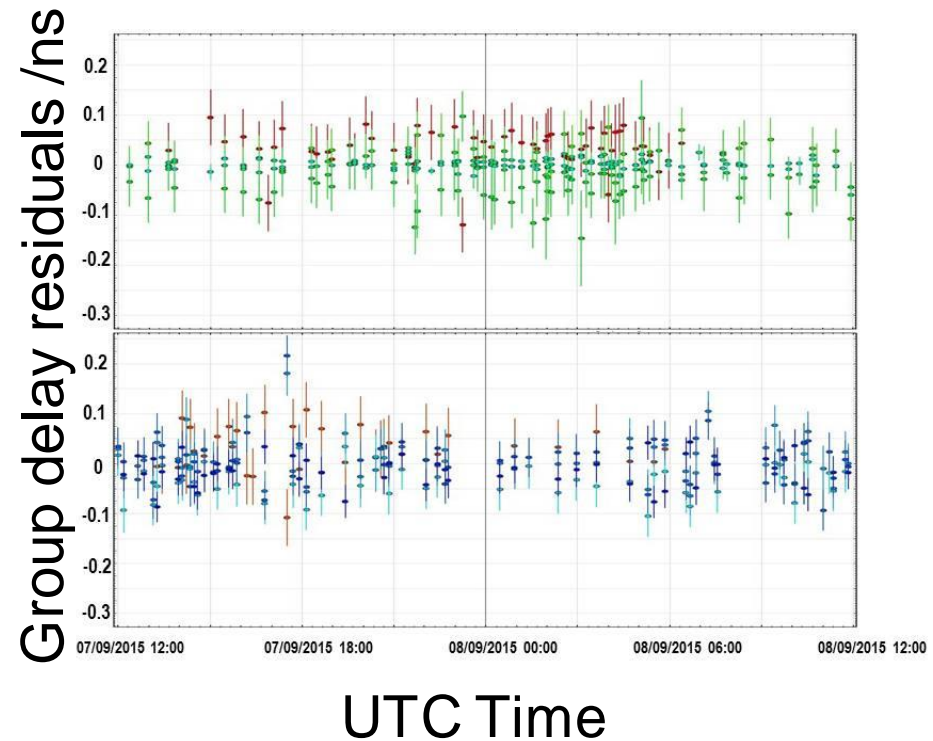
ONSALA60 (SWEDEN)

WETTZELL (GERMANY)



# Delivering the same clock to multiple telescopes

- Fringe recovery using a remote H-maser:
  - Residuals of  $\phi$  after modeling at the same level using local or remote clock
  - Improvement expected by connecting two clocks



# INRIM- INAF- ASI: geodesy and radioastronomy



- Enhanced Geodetic VLBI with 4 radioantennas (more in the international campaigns)
- LIFT to connect Bologna (INAF) and Matera (ASI)
- Not fibre connected VLBI stations in Noto, Sicily (INAF) and in Cagliari, Sardinia (INAF)

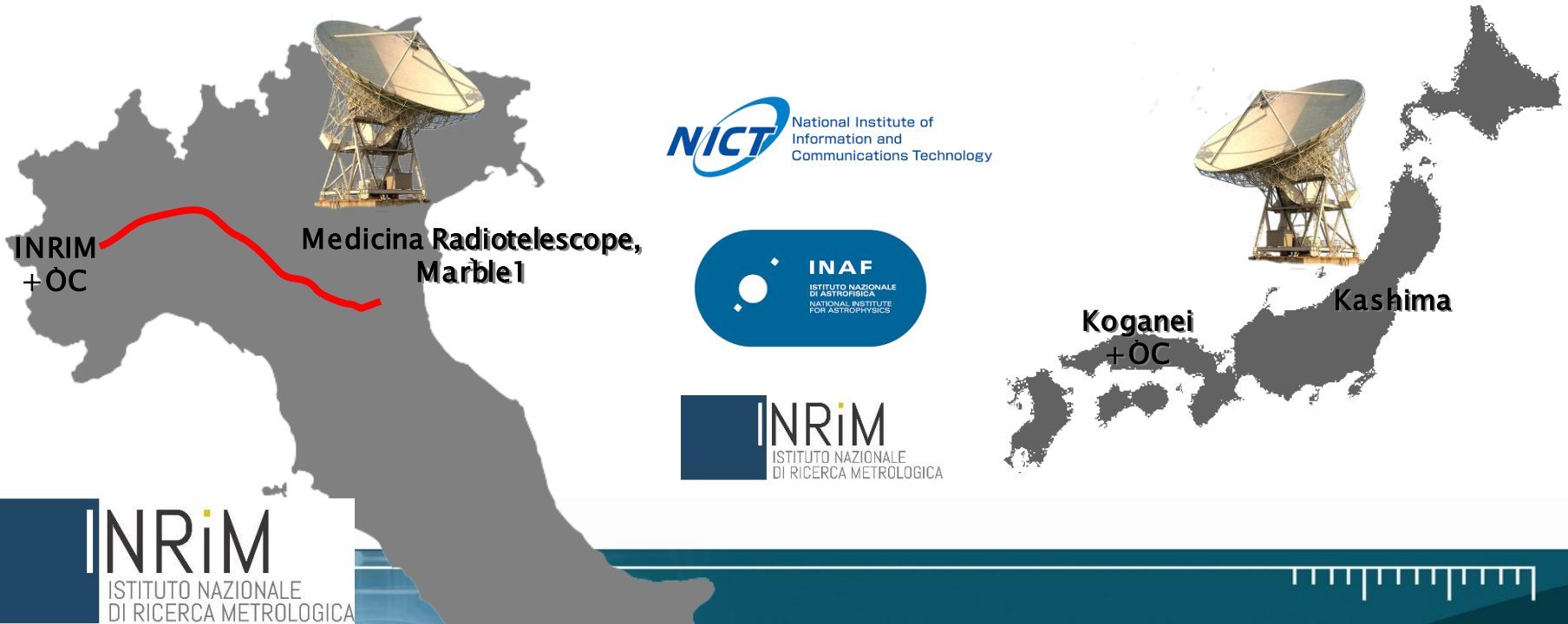
# VLBI clocks comparison

- Can atomic clocks be compared with VLBI techniques?

$$\phi = \phi_{\text{geom}} + \phi_{\text{source}} + \phi_{\text{atm}} + \phi_{\text{instr}} + \phi_{\text{clocks}}$$

→ VLBI clock comparison between Italy and Japan (Sept./Oct. 2018)

- Koganei (JAP) and *Marble1* (IT) *transportable* antennas (+ Kashima & Medicina telescopes for support)
- All stations equipped with a local H-maser
- Optical clocks available from NICT / INRIM via optical fiber





# APPLICATIONS

- Optical Clock Comparisons
- Frequency dissemination for VLBI radioastronomy and geodesy
- **Relativistic geodesy with clocks**
- Earthquake detection with coherent optical fibers
- Atomic Spectroscopy



# Chronometric levelling

- Determining  $\Delta U$  as

$$\Delta U(L) = \int_{L_0}^{L_0+L} g(l) dl$$

- **Standard geodetic methods:**

- Geometric levelling + local  $g(l)$  measurements  
( $u \sim 1$  mm over short distances)
- GNSS positioning+gravity models from terrestrial/satellite  $g$  data  
( $u$  depends on quality of models over small/regional areas & GNSS accuracy)

# Chronometric levelling

- Determining  $\Delta U$  as

$$\Delta U(L) = \int_{L_0}^{L_0+L} g(l) dl$$

- **Gravitational potential difference between two sites measured by gravitational redshift**

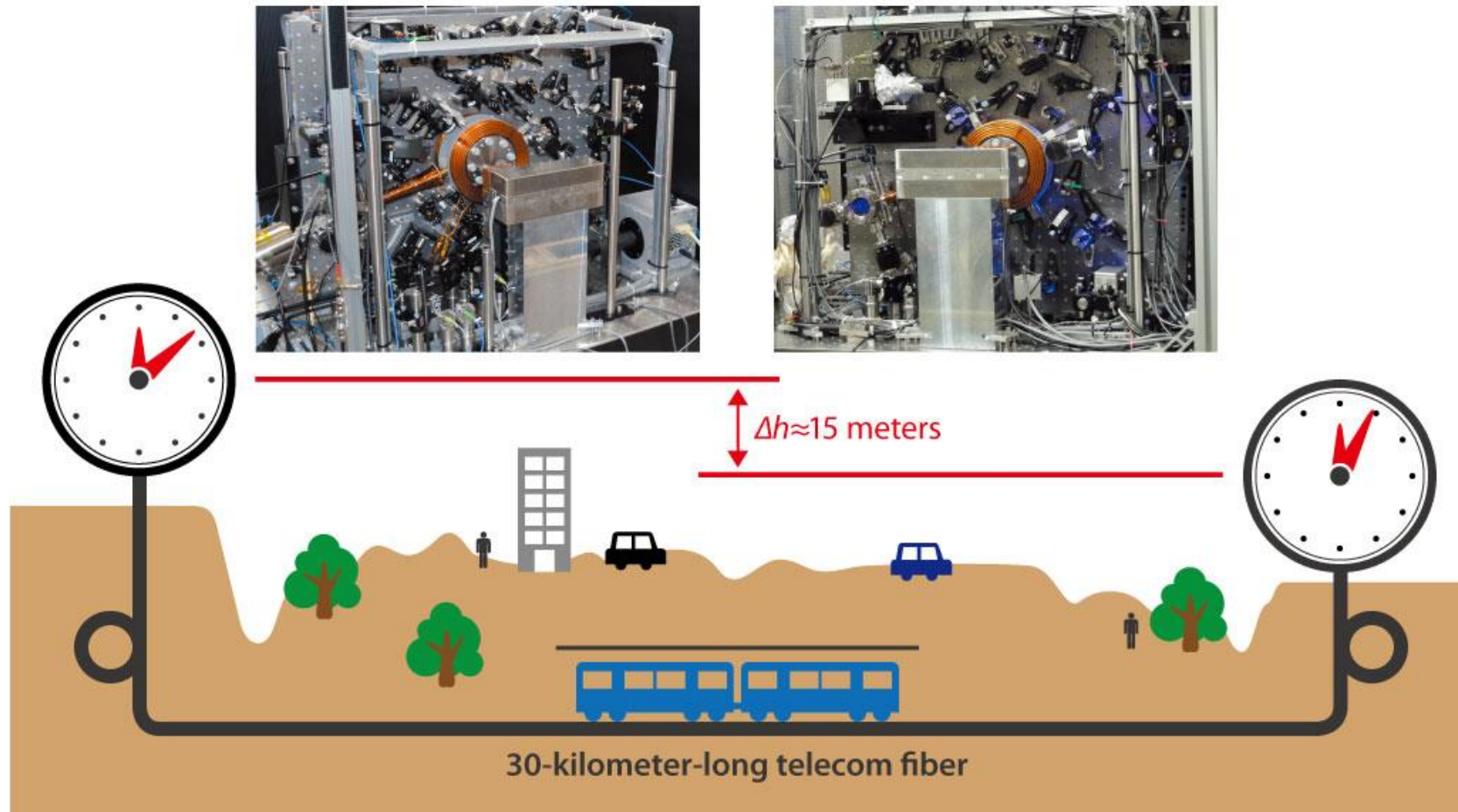
- Sensitivity is  $\sim 1\text{E-}16/\text{m}$  on Earth's surface
- Clocks at  $1\text{E-}17 \rightarrow$  differences in height measured with 10 cm accuracy:

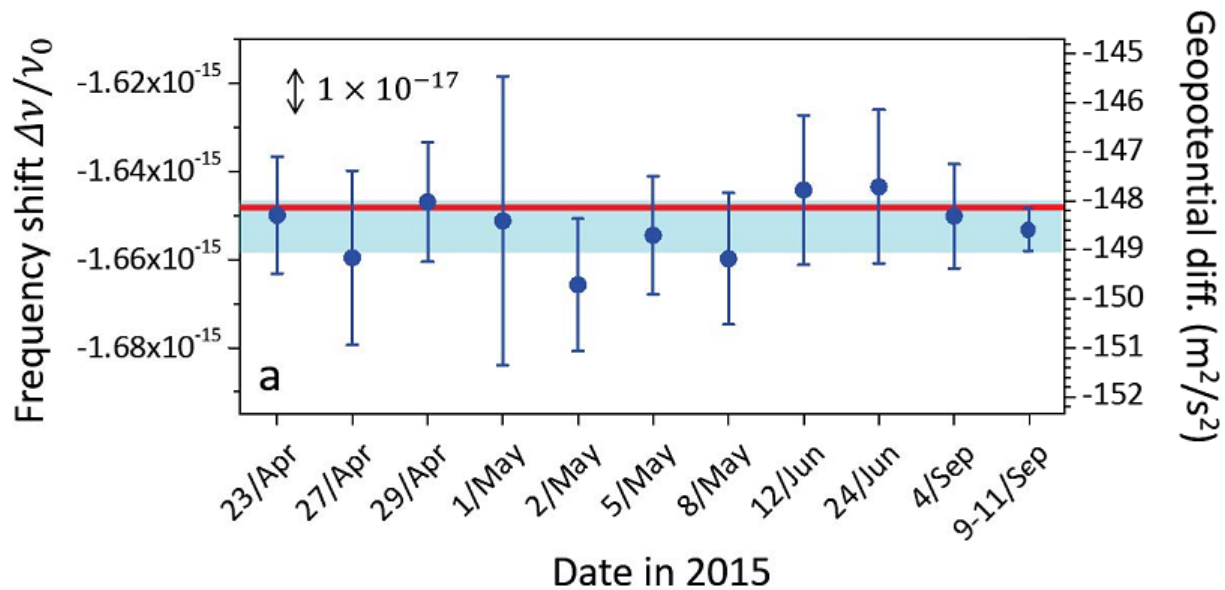
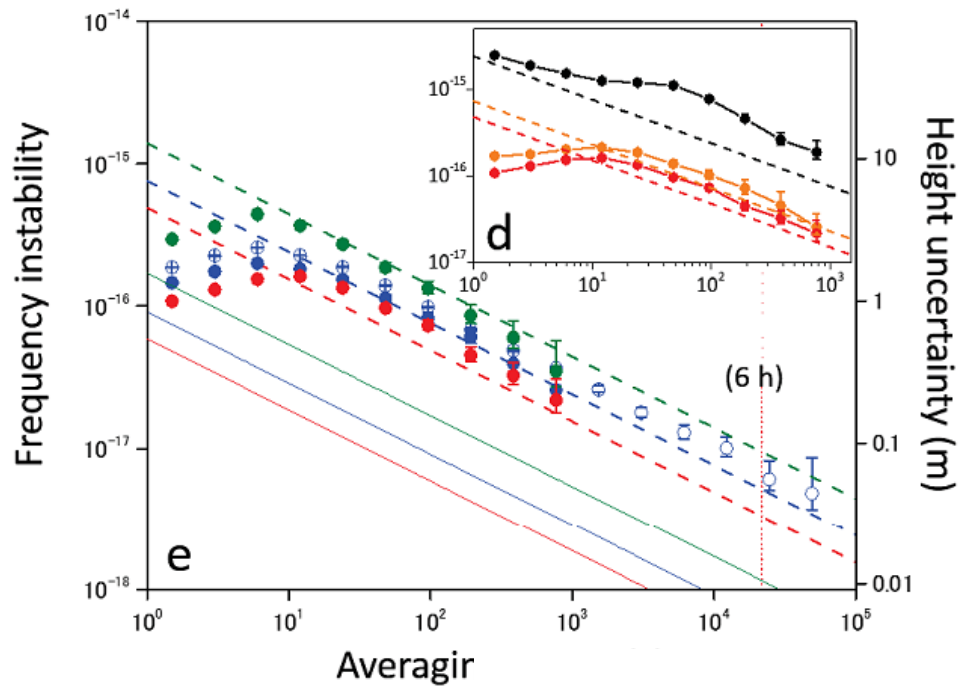
$$\frac{\Delta\nu}{\nu} = \frac{\Delta U}{c^2} \approx 10^{-16}/\text{m}$$

- Combines high resolution over large distances (optical links)
- Can detect time variations of  $\Delta U$

# Chronometric levelling

Takano, T., et al. Geopotential measurements with synchronously linked optical lattice clocks. *Nature Photonics* **10**, 662–666 (2016).



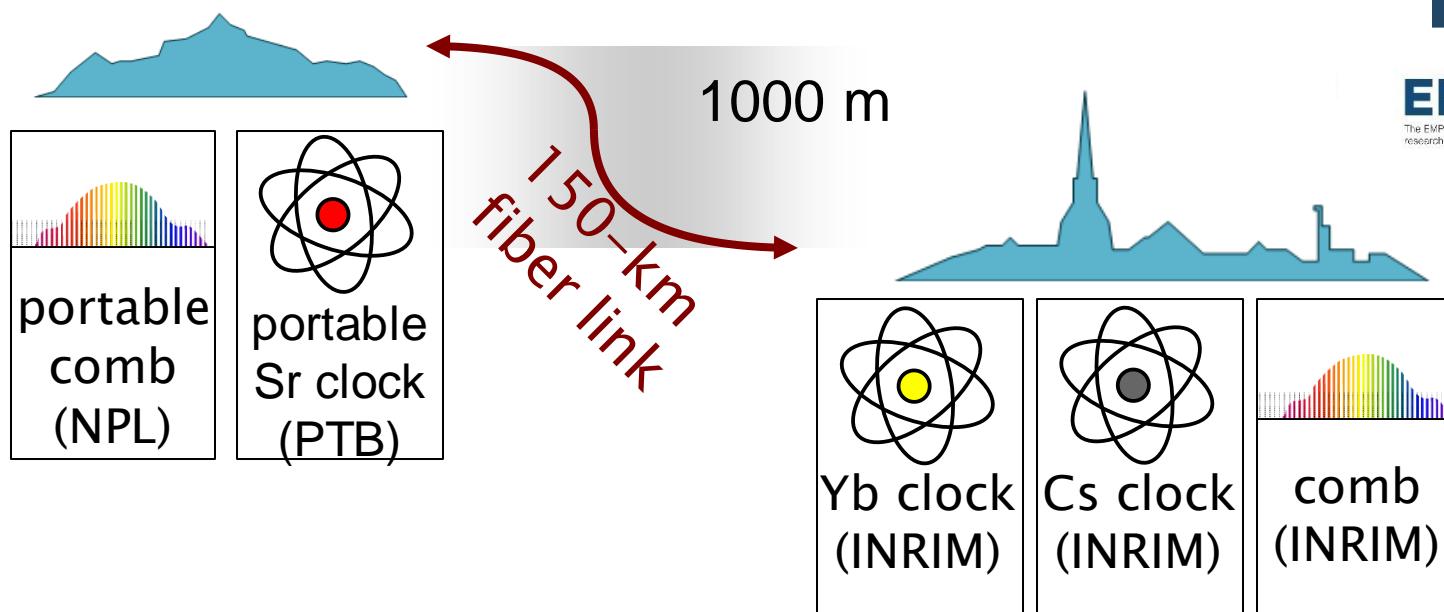


Contributor	$^{87}\text{Sr}$ (UT)		$^{87}\text{Sr}$ (UT)- $^{87}\text{Sr}$ (RIKEN1)	
	Correction ( $10^{-18}$ )	Uncertainty ( $10^{-18}$ )	Correction ( $10^{-18}$ )	Uncertainty ( $10^{-18}$ )
Quadratic Zeeman shift	109.0	0.9	-8.2	0.5
Blackbody radiation shift*	79.1	0.9	24.9	1.2
Lattice light shift <sup>†</sup>	3.5	5.0	0.0	4.4
Clock light shift	0.047	0.023	0.0	0.014
First-order Doppler shift	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.7
AOM chirp & switching	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.3
Servo error <sup>†</sup>	1.3	3.9	0.6	0.5
Density shift <sup>†</sup>	1.1	5.2	0.7	3.3
Systematic total	194.8	8.3	18.7	5.7



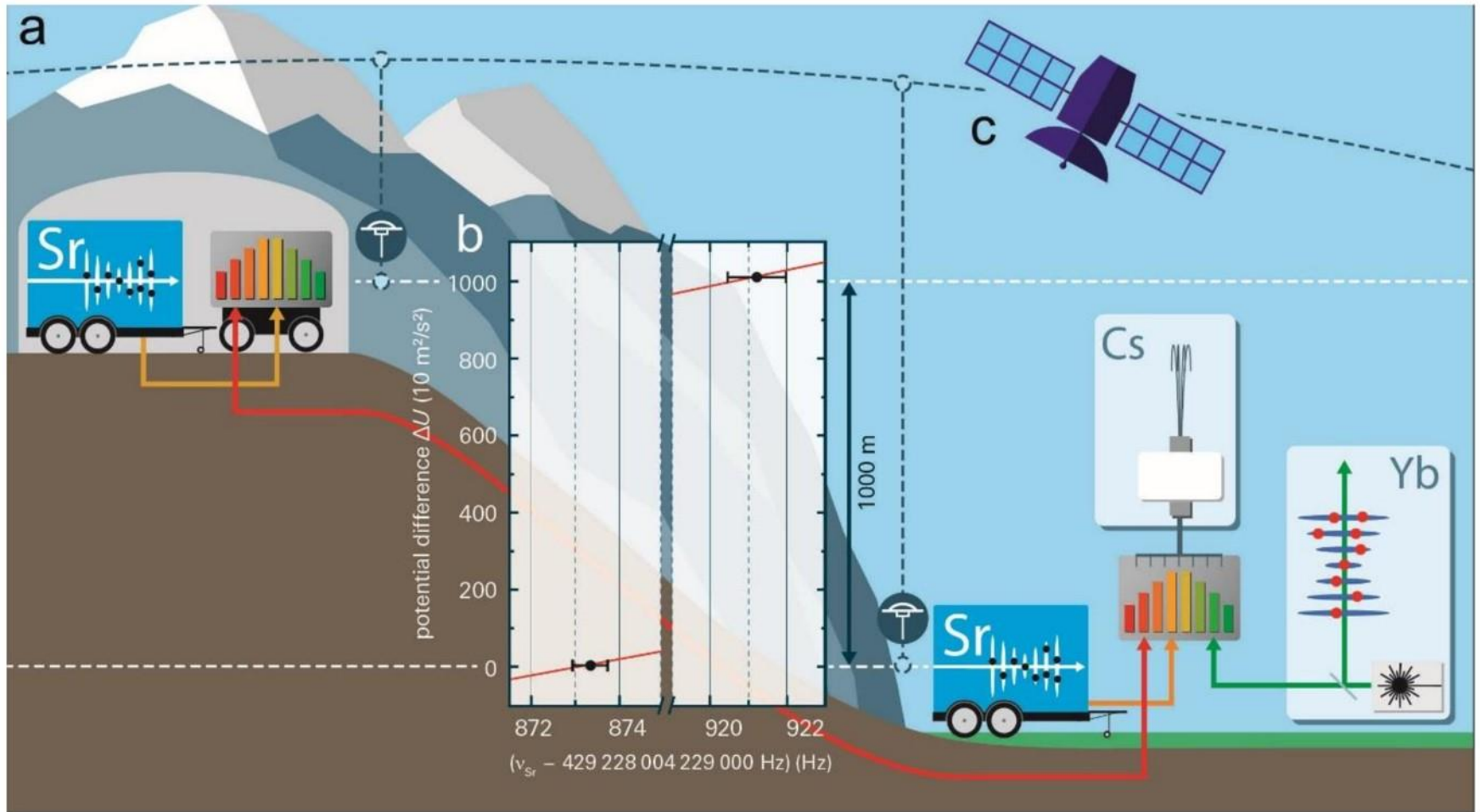
# Chronometric levelling

- How to translate this into a “real instrument”?  
→ Transportable optical clocks + fibre link  
A proof-of-principle geodesy experiment on the Alps



J. Grotti et al., Nature Phys. **14**, 2018

# Chronometric Levelling (Relativistic Geodesy)



J. Grotti et al., Nature Phys. **14**, 2018





# Chronometric levelling

$$\Delta U_{\text{clocks}} = 10,034(174) \text{ m}^2\text{s}^{-2} \quad \Delta U_{\text{GNSS}} = 10,032.1(16)\text{m}^2\text{s}^{-2}$$

- First demonstration of chronometric levelling in real field with transportable clocks

## Optical clocks + frequency links: a quantum tool for probing $\Delta U$

- Short overlapped uptime between optical clocks in Modane/Turin; only Cs fountain used  $\leftrightarrow$  Resolution limited by averaging time
- Higher resolution expected through optical / optical clock comparison

J. Grotti et al., Nature Phys. **14**, 2018



# APPLICATIONS

- Optical Clock Comparisons
- Frequency dissemination for VLBI radioastronomy and geodesy
- Relativistic geodesy with clocks
- Earthquake detection with coherent optical fibers
- Atomic and Molecular Spectroscopy



# Earthquake detection with coherent optical fibers

- A coherent optical fiber link is a giant Michelson interferometer
- Able to detect fiber length changes as small as  $\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$
  - Detection of seismic noise is feasible (...Earthquakes!)

Science

REPORTS

Cite as: G. Marra *et al.*, *Science* 10.1126/science.aat4458 (2018).

## Ultrastable laser interferometry for earthquake detection with terrestrial and submarine cables

Giuseppe Marra<sup>1\*</sup>, Cecilia Clivati<sup>2</sup>, Richard Lockett<sup>3</sup>, Anna Tampellini<sup>2,4</sup>, Jochen Kronjäger<sup>1</sup>, Louise Wright<sup>1</sup>, Alberto Mura<sup>2</sup>, Filippo Levi<sup>2</sup>, Stephen Robinson<sup>1</sup>, André Xuereb<sup>5</sup>, Brian Baptie<sup>3</sup>, Davide Calonico<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>National Physical Laboratory, Hampton Road, Teddington, TW11 0LW, UK. <sup>2</sup>I.N.Ri.M., Istituto Nazionale di Ricerca Metrologica, Strada delle Cacce 91, 10135 Turin, Italy.

<sup>3</sup>British Geological Survey, The Lyell Centre, Research Avenue South, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK, EH14 4AP. <sup>4</sup>Politecnico di Torino, Corso Duca degli Abruzzi 24, 10129, Turin, Italy. <sup>5</sup>Department of Physics, University of Malta, Msida MSD 2080, Malta.



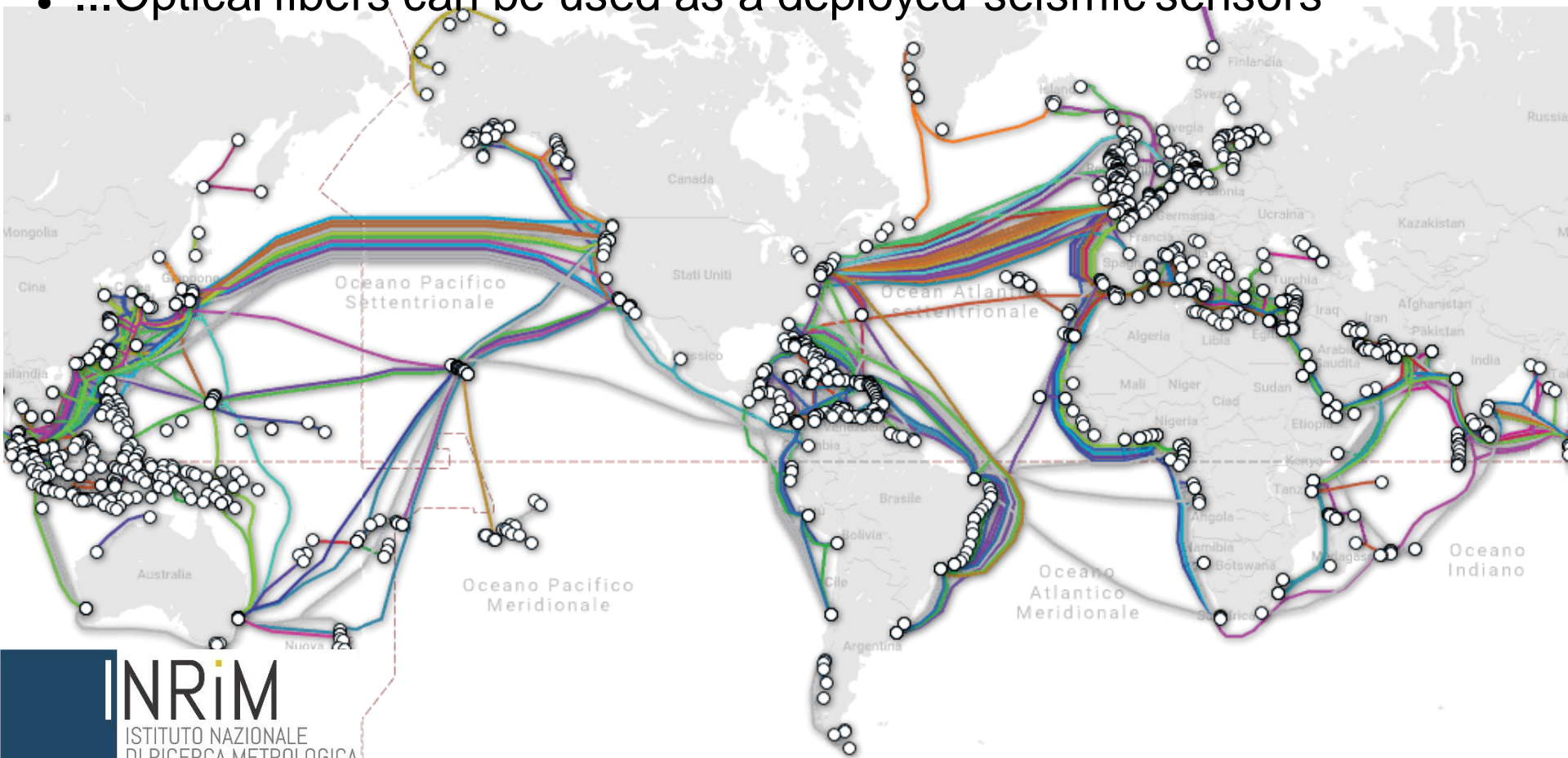
British Geological Survey  
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL



L-Università ta' Malta

# Submarine Earthquakes detection

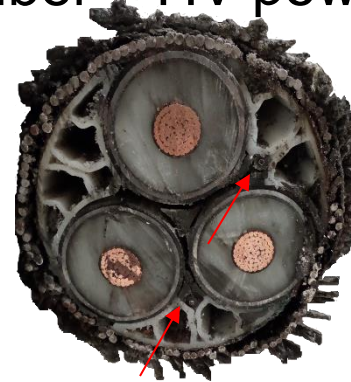
- Almost 70% of Earth covered by waters
- Ocean Bottom Seismometers: few, costly, difficult to operate  
→ most of submarine Earthquakes undetected
- ...Optical fibers can be used as a deployed seismic sensors



# Submarine Earthquakes detection

## Two testbeds available in the Mediterranean Sea, Sicily to Malta:

- A 96.4 km telecom cable (fiber only, buried 1 m below sand)
- A 117 km cable along electrical interconnection (fiber + HV power, 1 m below sand)



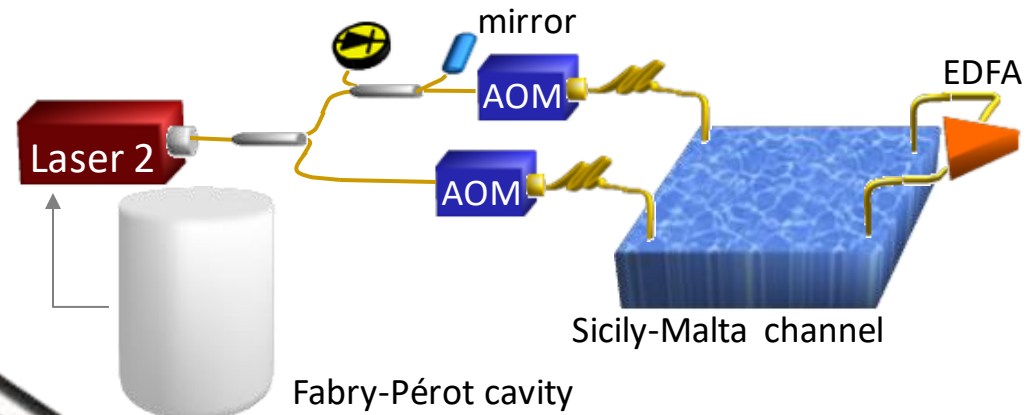
C. Clivati et al., *Optica* **14** (2018)  
G. Marra et al., *Science* **361** (2018)



# Submarine Earthquakes detection

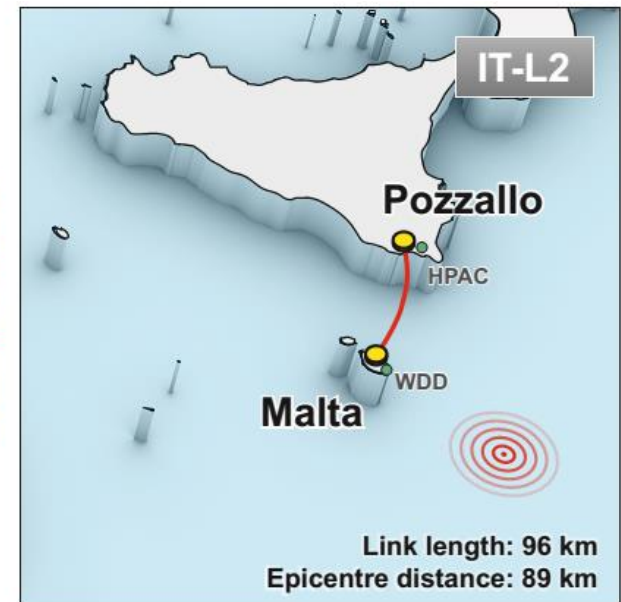
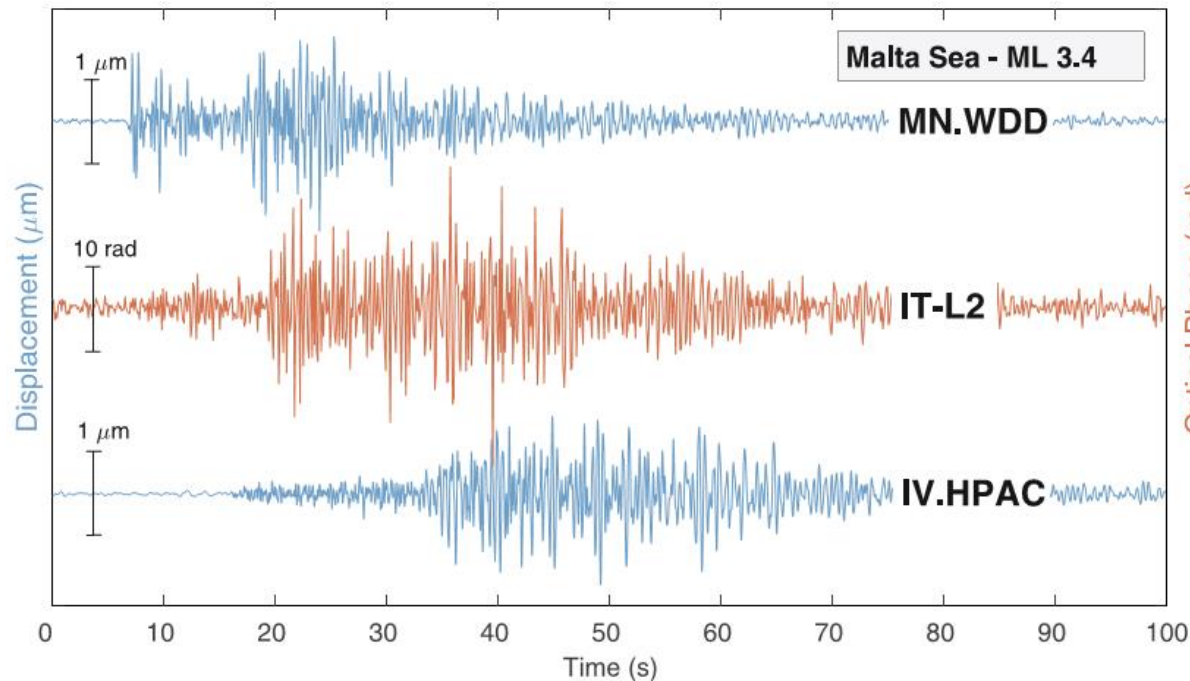
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# Submarine Earthquakes detection

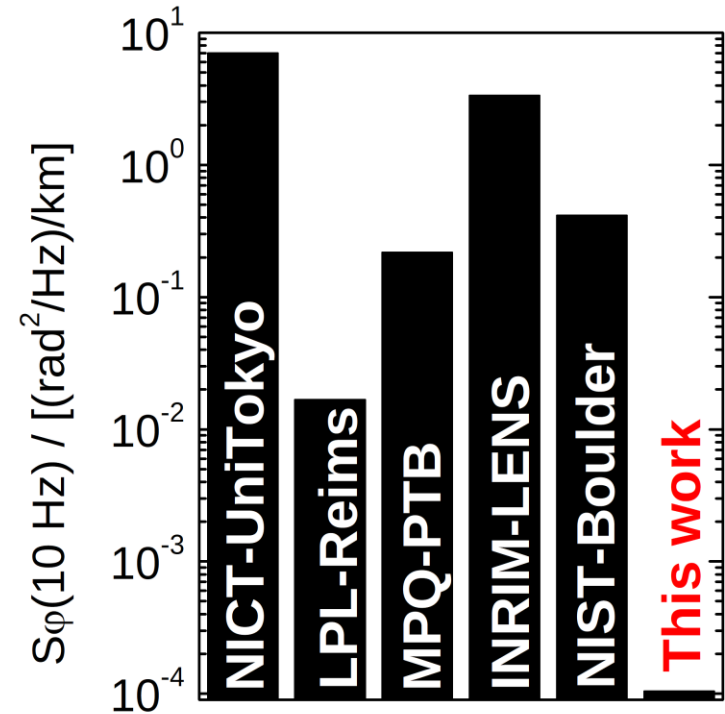
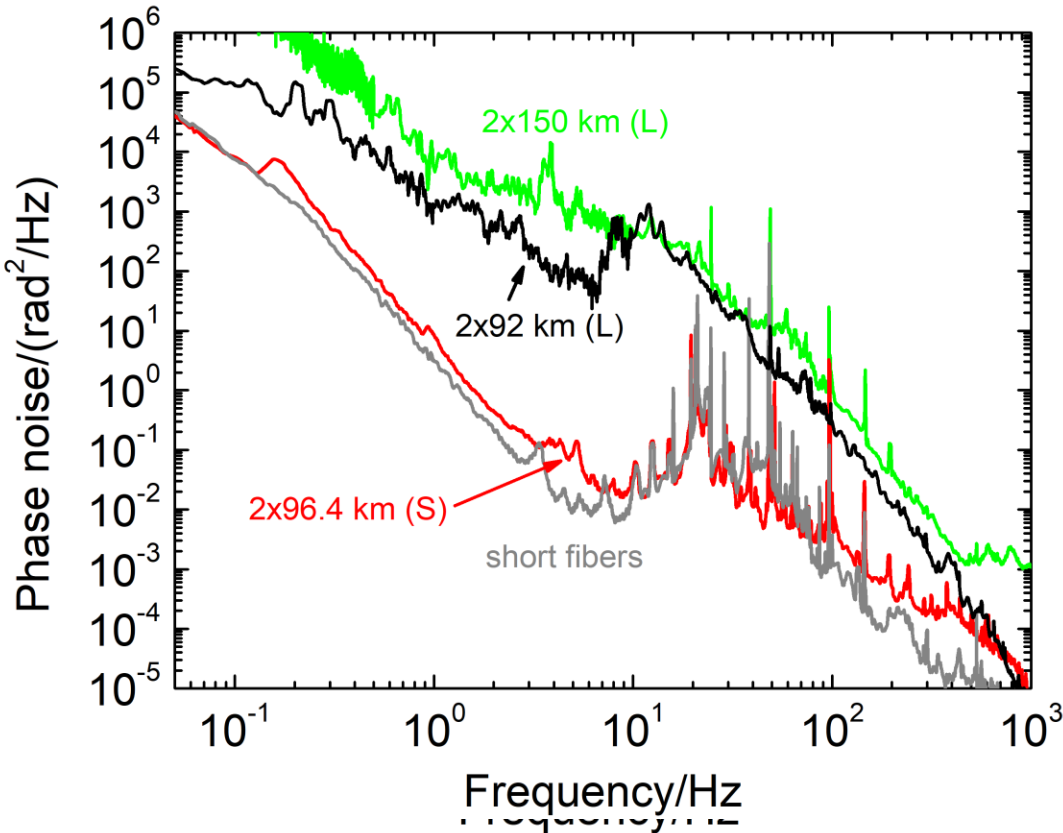
- Two seismic events (ML = 3.4 and Mw = 5.1) detected on submarine fiber



G. Marra et al., Science **361** (2018)

# Submarine Earthquakes detection

Issue 1: Could we detect Earthquakes on transoceanic fibers  
( $L \sim 6000$  km)?



C. Clivati et al., Optica 14 (2018)

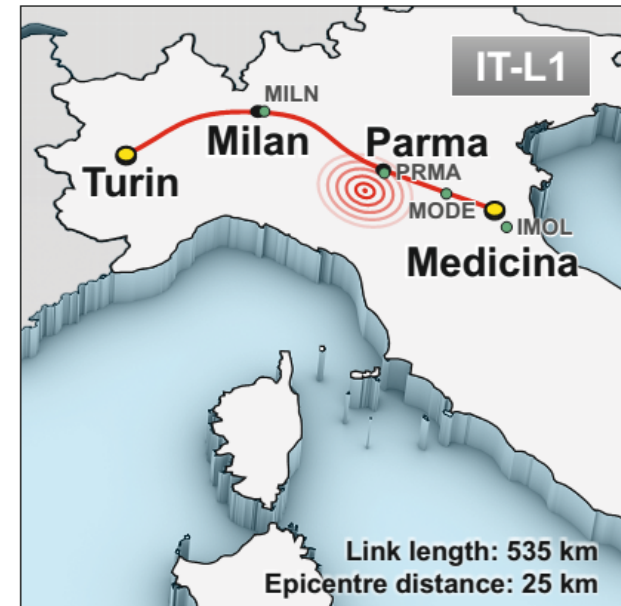
- Submarine fibers have up to 20 dB lower noise than terrestrial fibers
- High SNR achievable even on transoceanic links





# Submarine Earthquakes detection

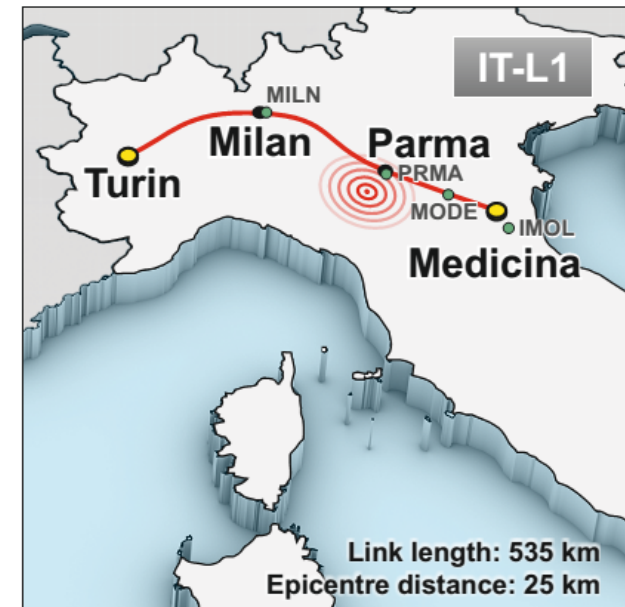
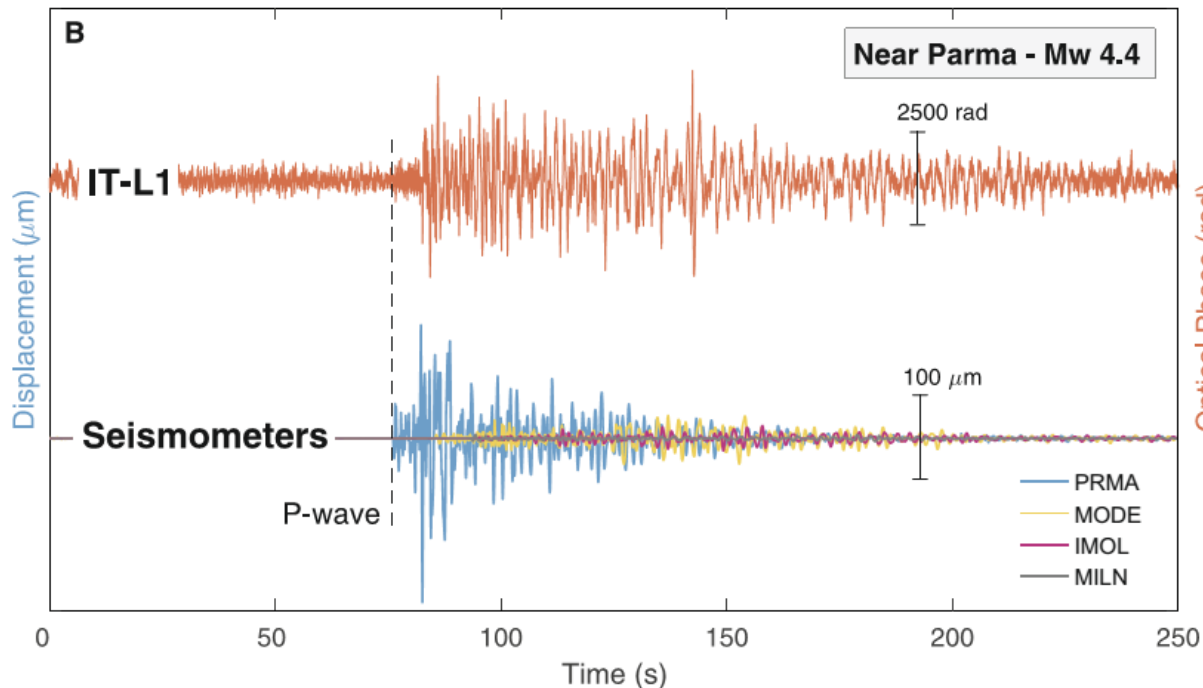
Issue 1: Could we detect Earthquakes on transoceanic fibers  
( $L \sim 6000$  km)?



- Rms noise on this link is 8x that of submarine fiber
- If  $S_{\varphi(f),F} \propto L$ , noise of a 6000 km link is still lower

# Submarine Earthquakes detection

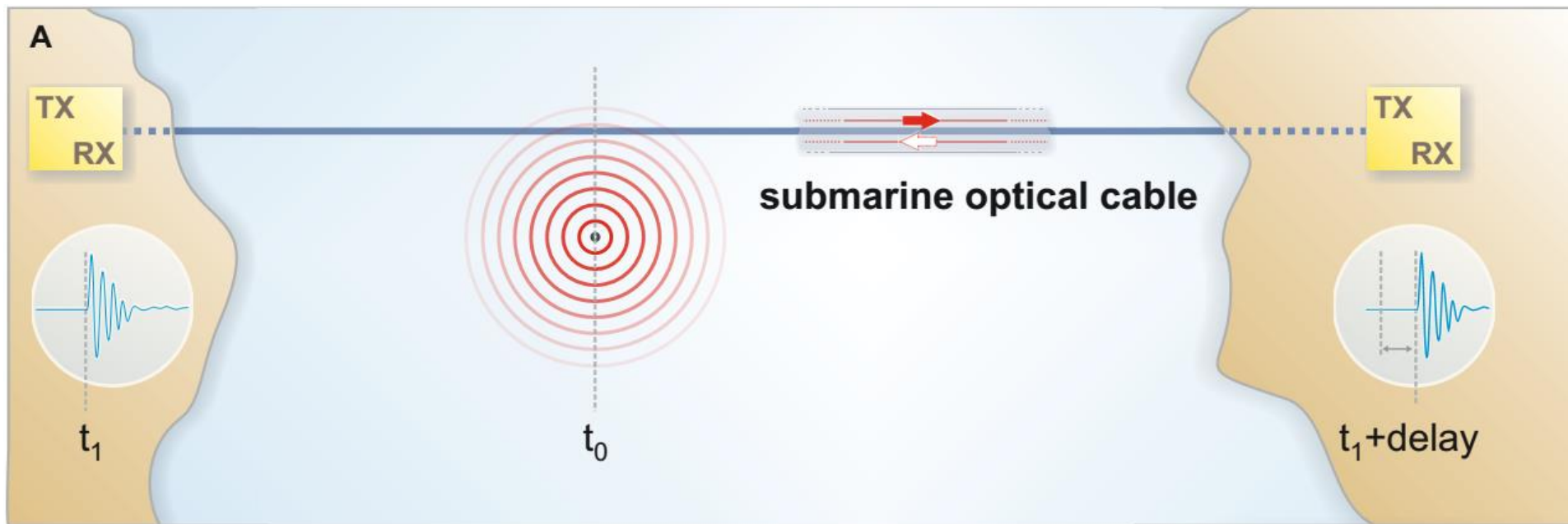
## Issue 2: How to locate epicentre?



- Only fiber segment closest to epicentre contributes significantly
- P-wave arrival to closest point not affected by other locations

# Submarine Earthquakes detection

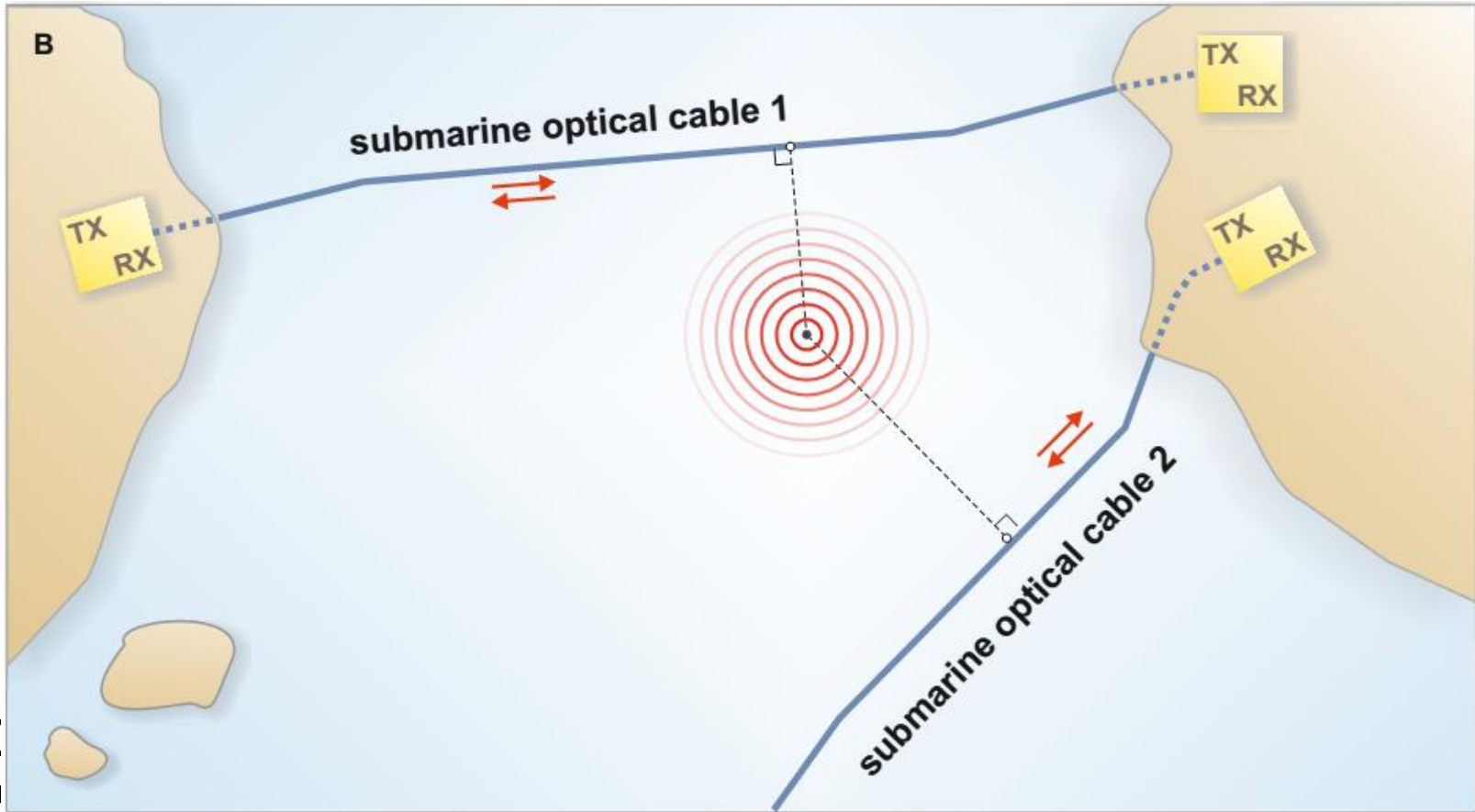
Issue 2: How to locate epicentre?



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- P-wave arrival to closest point not affected by other locations
- Cross-correlation of measurements at opposite ends → direction

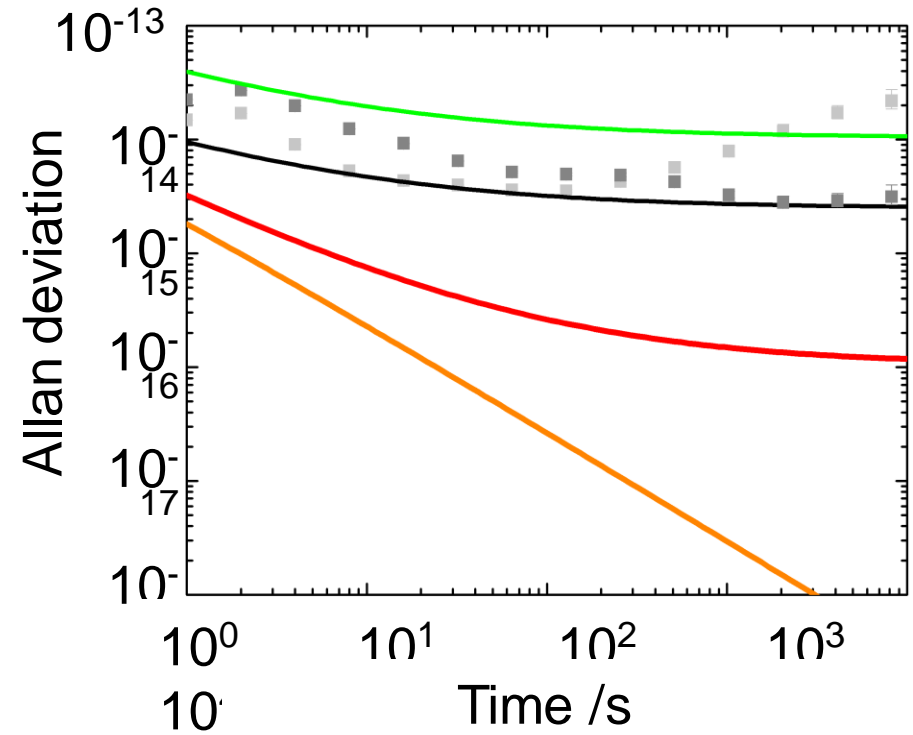
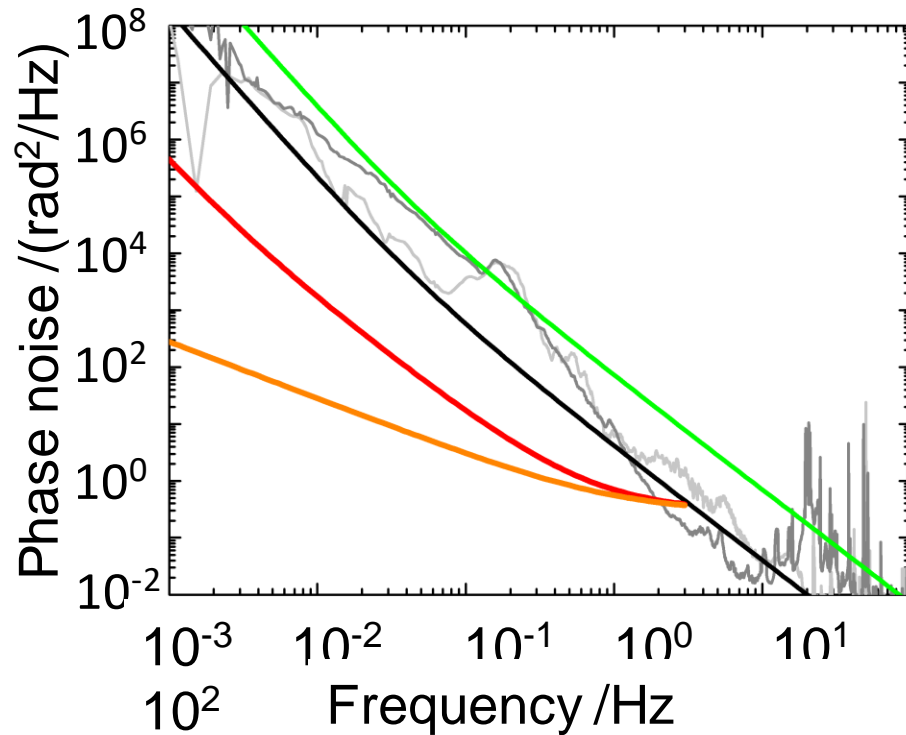
# Submarine Earthquakes detection

Issue 2: How to locate epicentre?



- C
- P
- Cross-correlation of measurements at opposite ends → direction
- From 2 links, exact point can be extracted

# Transoceanic comparisons of atomic clocks over fiber



- Measurement  $\rightarrow$  polynomial model
- Expected noise on free-running transcontinental fiber (7000 km)
- Frequency comparison (bidirectional fiber)
- Frequency comparison (fiber pair)

C. Clivati et al., *Optica* **14** (2018)

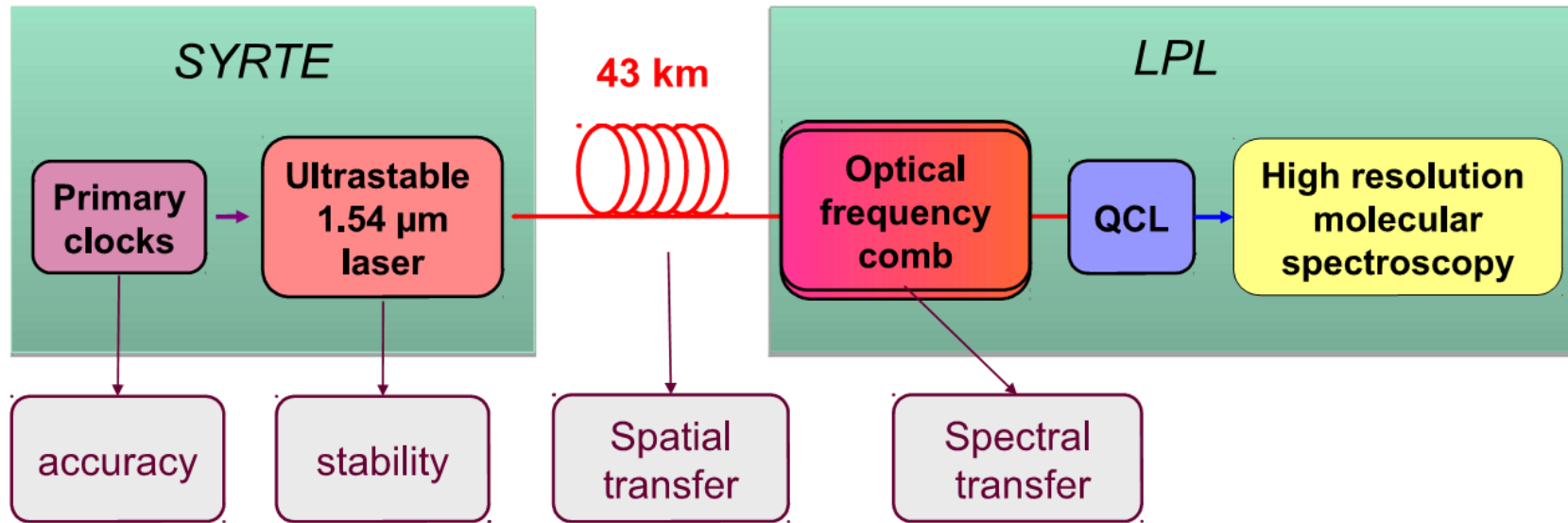


# APPLICATIONS

- Optical Clock Comparisons
- Frequency dissemination for VLBI radioastronomy and geodesy
- Relativistic geodesy with clocks
- Earthquake detection with coherent optical fibers
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# Transfer of the stability/accuracy of a remote frequency reference to a QCL



## Near-IR frequency reference

- ❖ 1s-stability  $\sim 10^{-15}$
- ❖ Accuracy  $\sim 10^{-14}$  (0,3 Hz) at 100 s from H-maser
- ❖ Potentially: Cs fountain accuracy  $\sim 3 \cdot 10^{-16}$

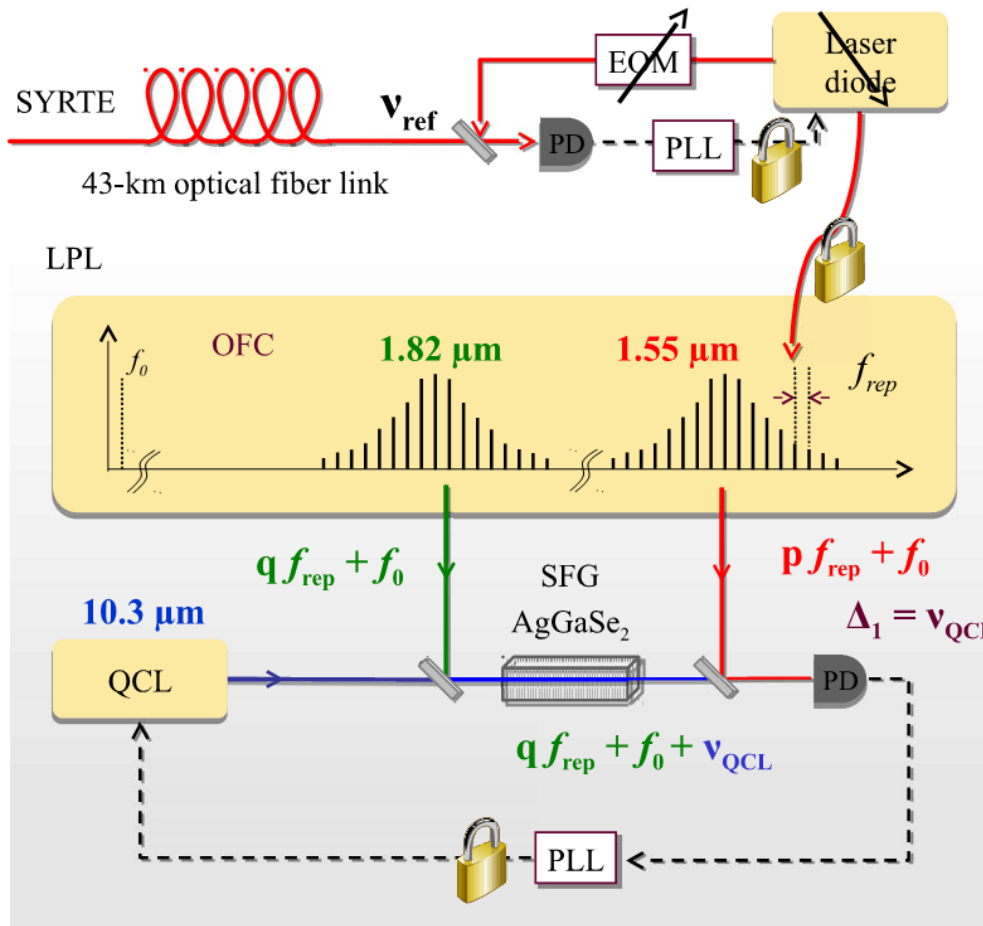
## Optical fiber link

- ❖ Free running stability  $\sim \leq 10^{-14}$
- ❖ Stabilized:  $10^{-15} \tau^{-1}$  from 1 to  $10^4$  s

Courtesy Ann Amy Klein,



# QCL stabilization and frequency tuning



- Regeneration laser locked to the link reference, while being tunable through the EOM driving frequency
- Comb locked to regeneration laser
- QCL locked to comb

Scanning the EOM frequency,  
 → Laser diode scanned  
 → Comb scanned  
 → QCL scanned

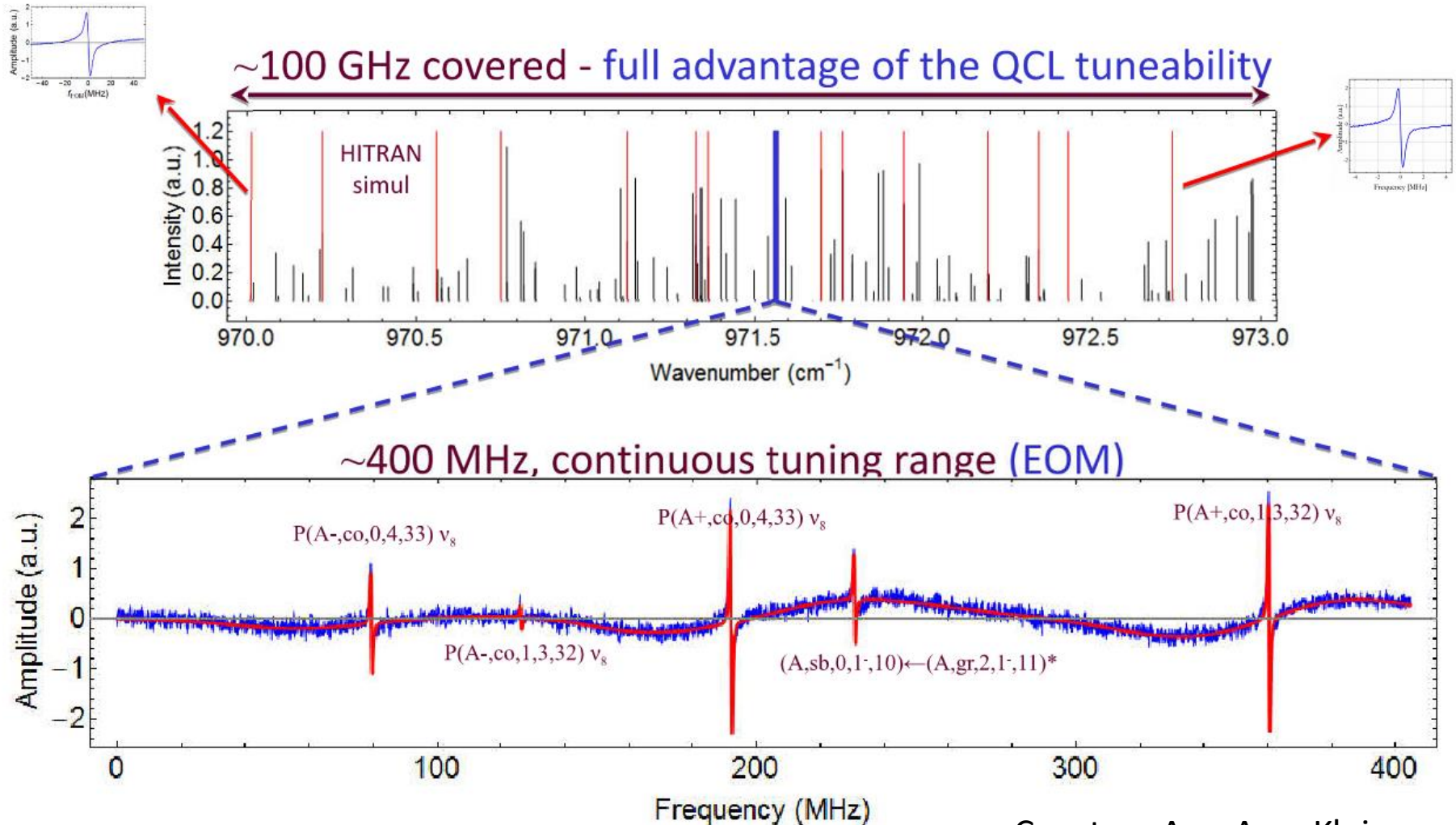
B. Argence, et al., *Quantum cascade laser frequency stabilization at the sub-Hz level*, Nature Photonics (2015)

Courtesy Ann Amy Klein,



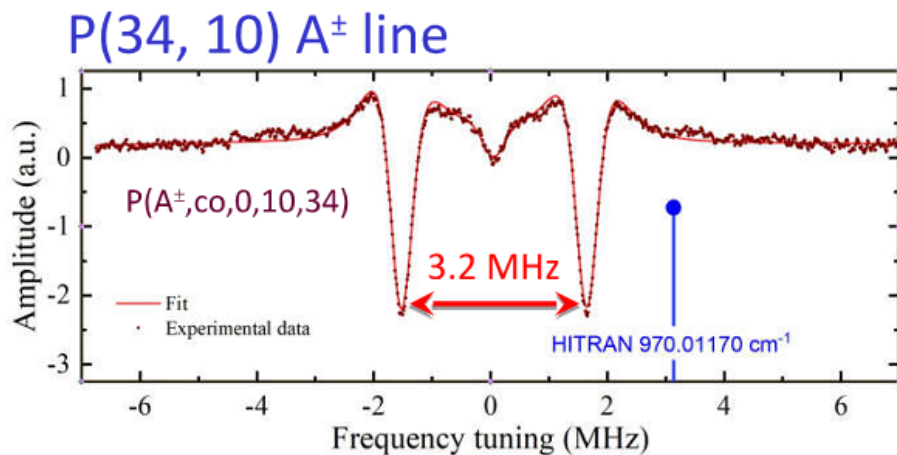


# High-resolution spectroscopy of methanol: wide tuneability



Courtesy Ann Amy Klein,

# High-resolution spectroscopy of methanol: resolution



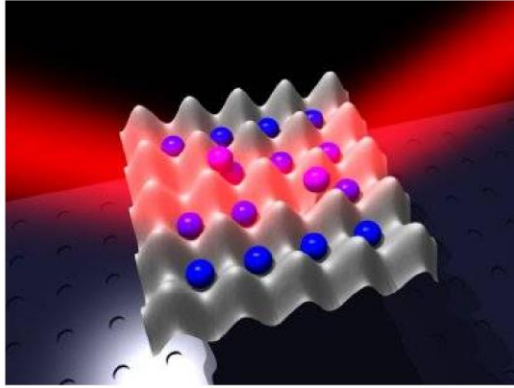
resolved K-doublet for lines of A  
symmetry, C-O stretch

Lines resolved for the first time, to the best of our knowledge

Courtesy Ann Amy Klein,



# Coherent Fibre Link for ultracold gases



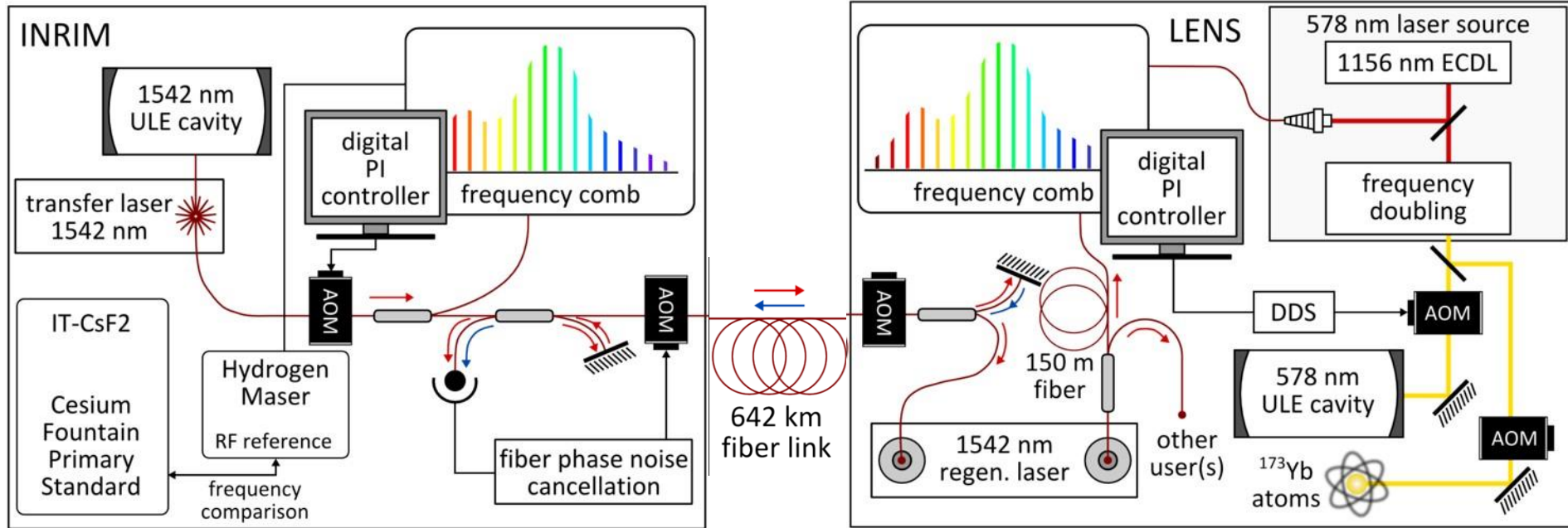
Alkaline atoms are the most promising platforms to develop new quantum technologies, thanks to the possibility to handle their orbital degree of freedom through the forbidden transition  $1S_0-3P_0$ . They can be seen as **quantum simulators of fundamental effects** unattainable in their original physical context (e.g. solid physics)

Most experimental schemes rely on cyclical addressing of the clock transition (few Hz FWHM) for several hours: **need for manipulation lasers with narrow linewidth and long-term stability:**

- Short Term stability: Local High-finesse cavity
- Long-term stability: referencing to INRIM atomic clocks via the fibre link

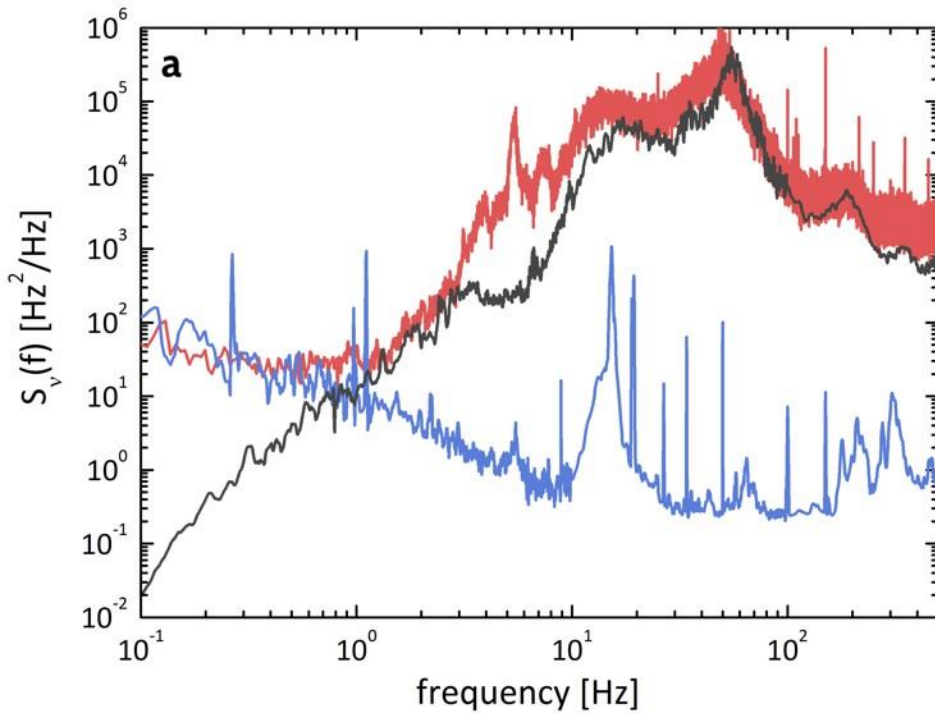


# INRIM- LENS: dissemination for ultracold gases



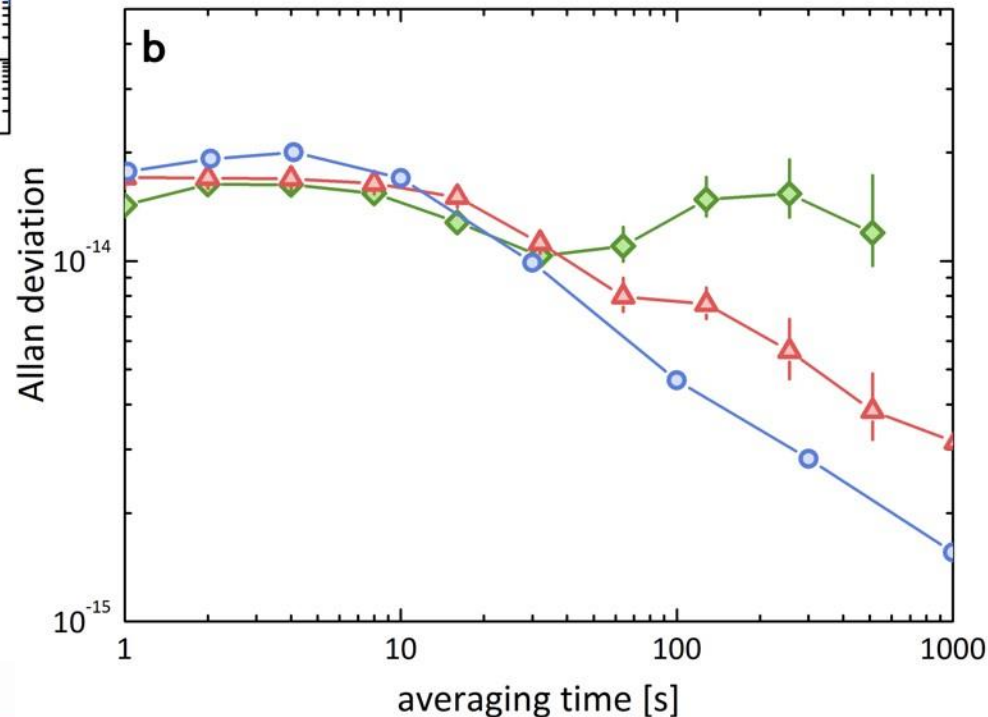
- ❑ At LENS: Ultracold  $^{173}\text{Yb}$  gas for many-body physics and quantum simulation.
- ❑ INRIM provided the ultrastable cavity to use the Yb clock transition to coherently address many-body effects
- ❑ The cavity ensures the short-term stability, then it is locked on the fibre link signal for long-term stability (and accuracy when needed)

# INRIM- LENS: dissemination for ultracold gases



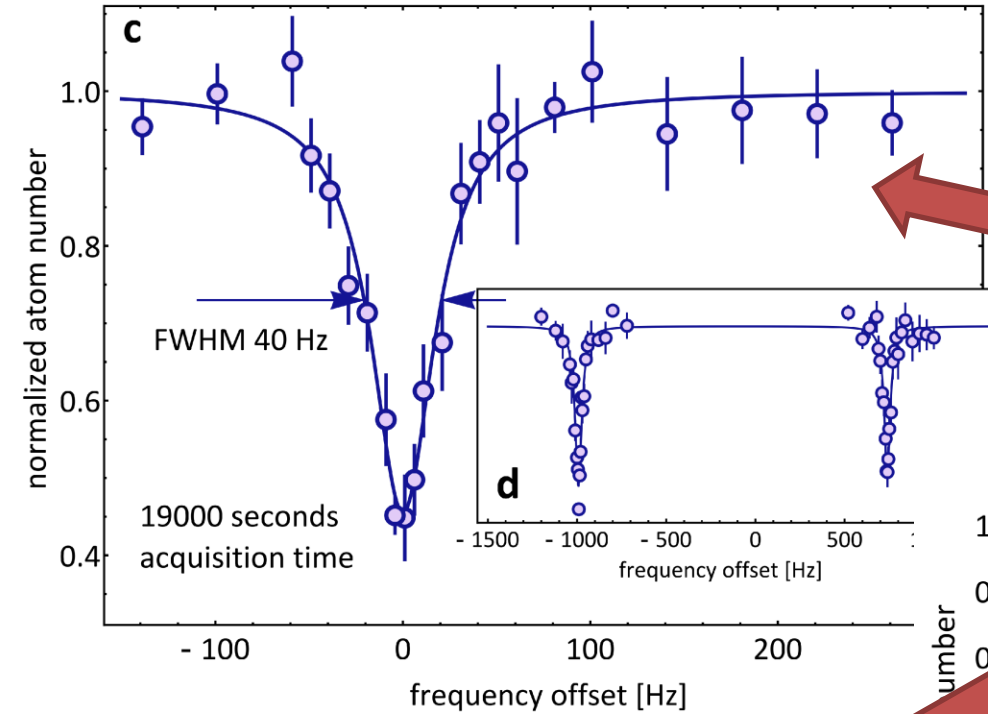
- Red triangles:** Adev link at 1542 nm vs the local 1156-nm laser, locked to it;
- green diamonds:** Adev link 1542-nm laser and the local 1156-nm Laser (0.1 Hz/s drift removed).
- Blue circles:** Adev HM-disciplined 1542-nm laser as measured at INRIM;

**Red:** local laser at 1156 nm vs link at 1542 nm;  
**Blue:** noise of the H-maser-disciplined 1542-nm laser as measured at INRIM;  
**Black:** expected contribution of the optical link.



# INRIM- LENS: 173 Yb clock transition apectroscopy

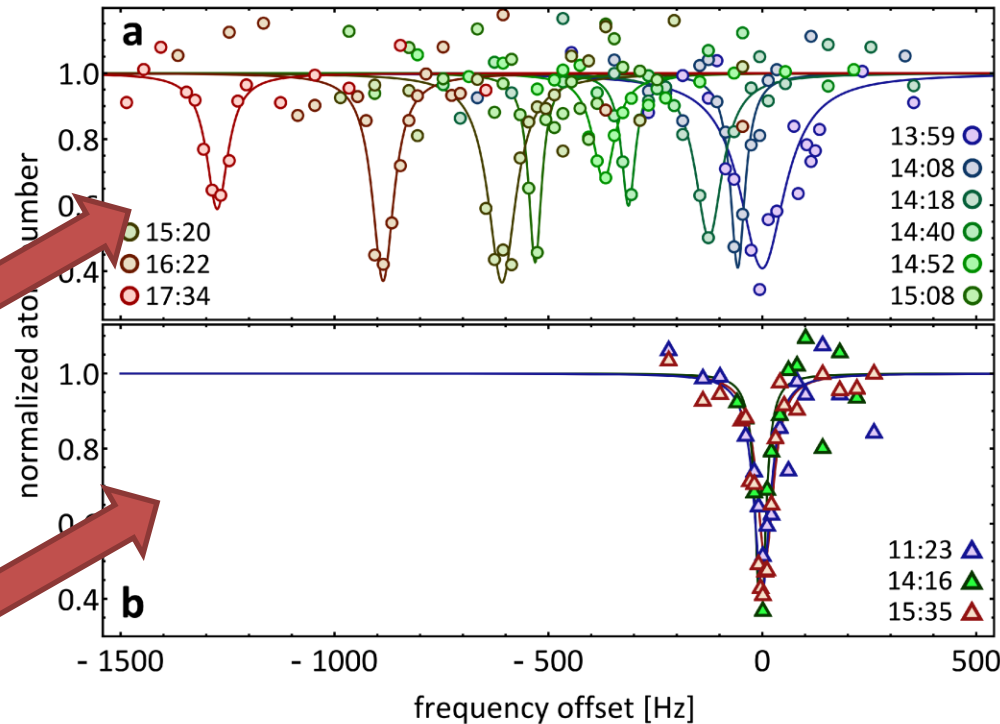
C. Clivati et al., Opt. Exp., 24, 11866 (2016)



The ultrastable cavity at LENS allows to have narrow spectroscopy on the short term (seconds to minutes)

Quantum manibody experiments needs longer time scale: a Rb GPSDO is not enough.

Locking the 578 nm laser to the link enables the quantum manybody set-up



# INRIM- LENS: 173 Yb clock transition spectroscopy

- 6 independent measurements, over three months, total time 40000 s (11 hours).

- Absolute frequency of the 173Yb 1S0-3P0 transition:

$$\nu(173\text{Yb}) = 518\,294\,576\,845\,268(10)\text{ Hz}$$

- A factor 400 improved accuracy over the previous value

- Improved knowledge of the isotope shifts of the 1S0-3P0 transition:

$$\nu(171\text{Yb}) - \nu(173\text{Yb}) = 1\,259\,745\,597(10)\text{ Hz}$$

$$\nu(173\text{Yb}) - \nu(174\text{Yb}) = 551\,536\,050(10)\text{ Hz.}$$

- Such accuracy would not be reachable through a GPS-based reference

TABLE I. Uncertainty budget of the  $^{173}\text{Yb } 1\text{S}_0\text{—}3\text{P}_0$  absolute frequency, expressed in Hz at 578 nm.

Contribution	Bias (Hz)	Uncertainty (Hz)
Lorentzian fit (*)	—	0.8—5
Cs fountain statistical (*)	—	0.9—2
Comb INRIM statistical (*)	—	0.4—1.2
Comb LENS statistical (*)	—	1—3
<b>Total Type A (**)</b>		<b>1.9</b>
Cs fountain standard accuracy	—	0.1
Fiber link phase slips (***)	—	0.1—5
Quadratic Zeeman	−0.59	0.03
Lattice Stark	—	8
Blackbody radiation	−1.24	0.05
Probe laser intensity	—	0.00015
Gravitational redshift	2.277	0.005
<b>Total Type B (***)</b>		<b>9</b>
<b>Total (***)</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>10</b>

(\*) Depending on the measurement run.

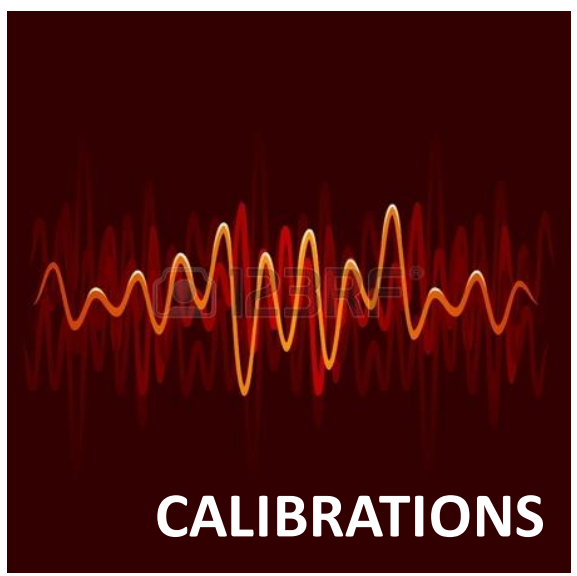
(\*\*) Weighted uncertainty of all measurements with Student 90% confidence level.

(\*\*\*) Typically 0.1 Hz; in some measurements the phase-slips uncertainty was 5 Hz for technical problems; in the total type B we considered the worst-case scenario.



# Time over Fiber: Industry

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS**





SKIP TO CONCLUSIONS!



# ESMA MiFID II Regulatory Technical Standard 25

Start January 2018

- ❑ Financial trades time stamping traced to UTC
- ❑ Most demanding requirement:  
Accuracy 100  $\mu$ s and «granularity» 1  $\mu$ s
- ❑ Certified Traceability
- ❑ Robustness



# Time over Fibre for the Financial Market



- 160 km Fibre link dedicated to financial users
- Under operation since 2016
- Validation within H2020-Demetra now available as a service
- Cooperation with Consortium TOP-IX (telco consortium)
- White Rabbit / IEEE1588 Time dissemination
- Co-existence with data Traffic (DWDM architecture)



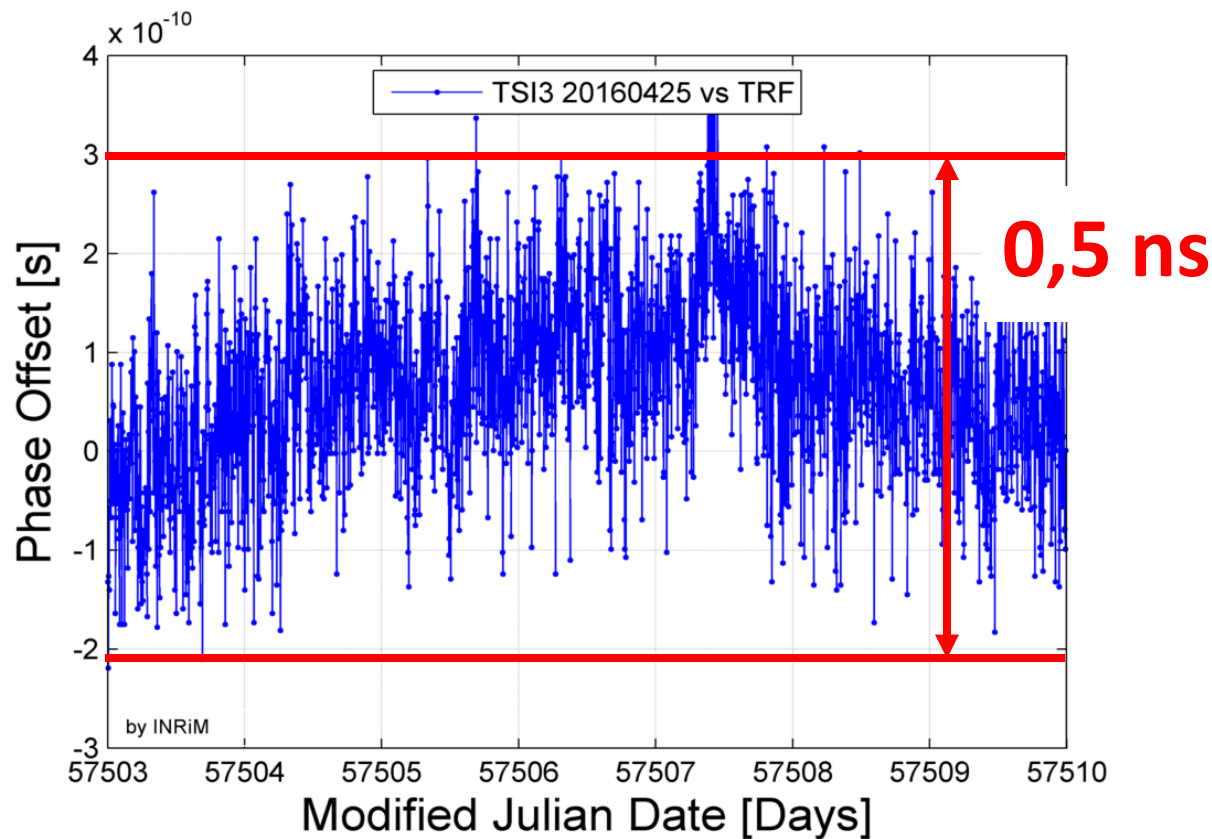
UTC(IT) @INRIM



Colocation Italian Stock Exchange in Milano



# Time over Fibre for Finance: performances



160 km real link with  
WR-PTP

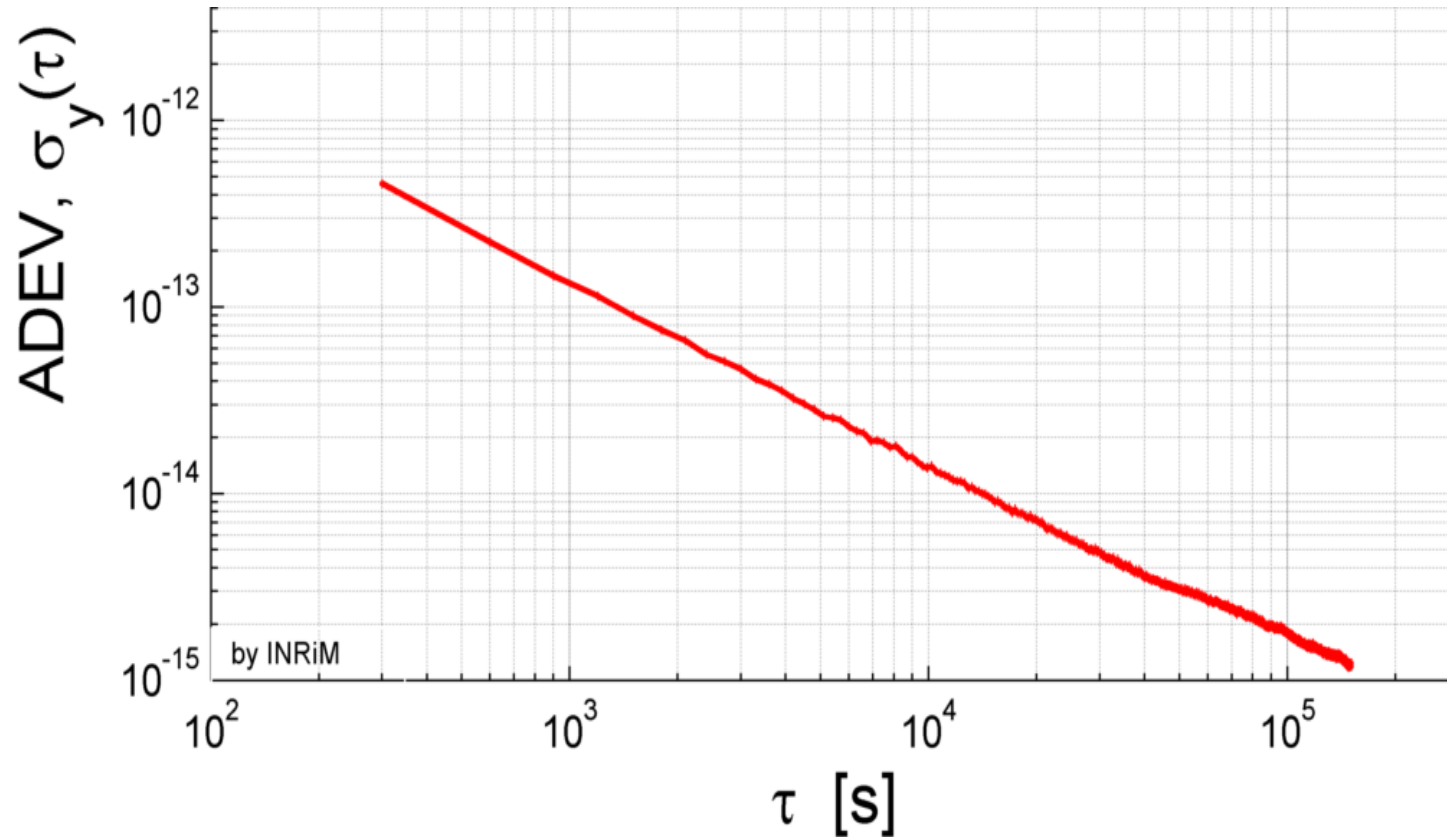
In collaboration with  
Time Laboratory  
@INRiM

## Validation:

- First in closed loop (equivalent haul, start/end at INRiM, no offset at  $<1$  ns level .
- Validation: comparison vs GPS-PPP technique, accuracy  $<5$  ns within GPS accuracy
- Lesson learned: calibration issues on the devices; interoperability; remote control and monitor



# Time over Fibre for Finance: performances



Adev:  $1e-10$ @ 1s;  $2e-15$  @  $1e5$  s

GPS-PPP  
compatible



# **A Sagnac gyroscope and LIFT**

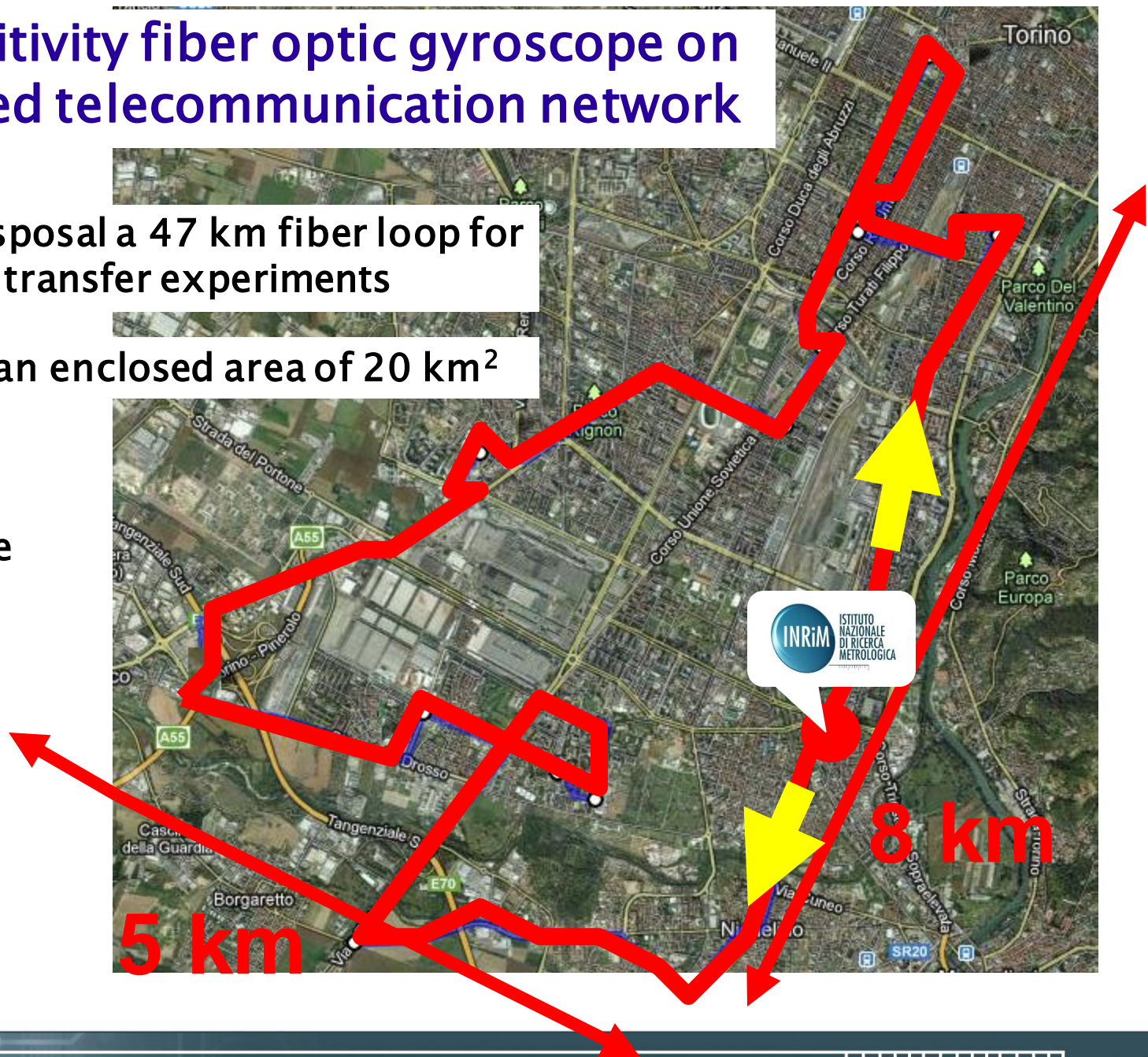


# A high sensitivity fiber optic gyroscope on a multiplexed telecommunication network

INRiM has at disposal a 47 km fiber loop for coherent phase transfer experiments

Fiber ring with an enclosed area of 20 km<sup>2</sup>

Expected phase shift due to Earth rotation  
~55 rad



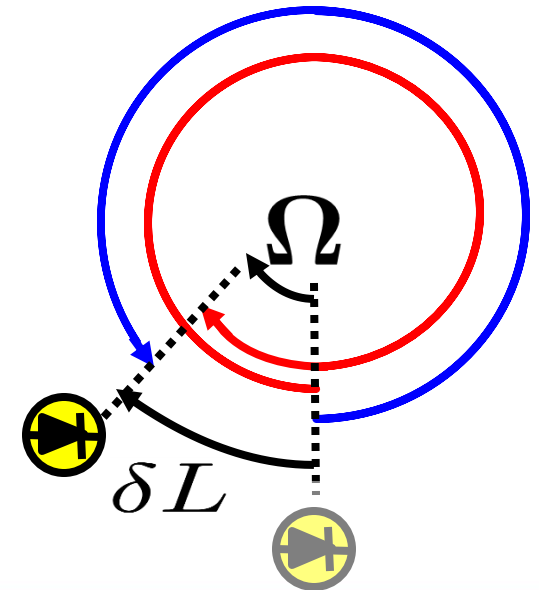
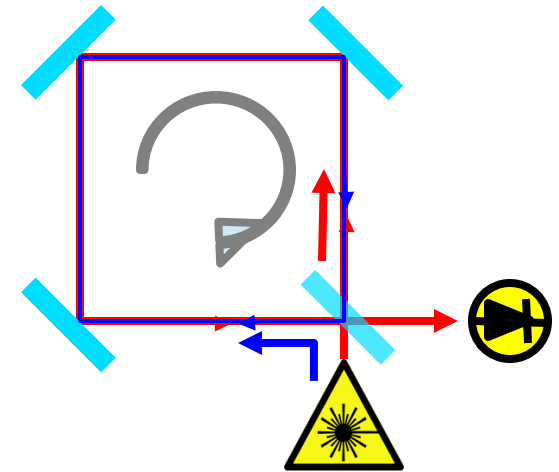
# What is a laser gyroscope

- Two beams follow the same path but in opposite directions
- The optical path must enclose an area
- The platform rotates

- The two beams accumulate a phase shift

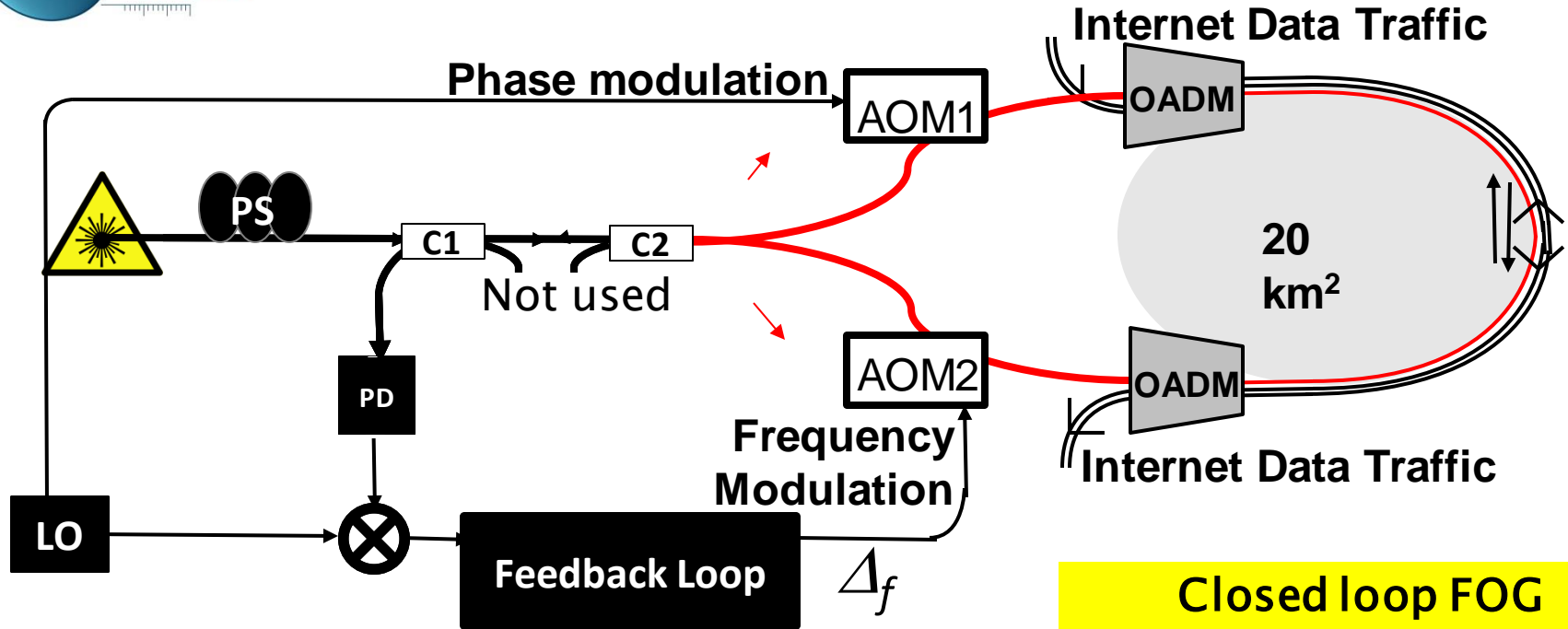
$$\varphi_S = \frac{8\pi\nu}{c^2} \mathbf{A} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Omega}$$

- The sensitivity depends on: – enclosed area  
– orientation





# Our experiment



- ✓ Dedicated DWDM ITU 44 channel
- ✓ Non synchronous phase modulation
- ✓ Mixer output depends on  $\sin\varphi_s$
- ✓ Feedback loop: frequency offset  $\Delta_f$  to compensate the Sagnac phase

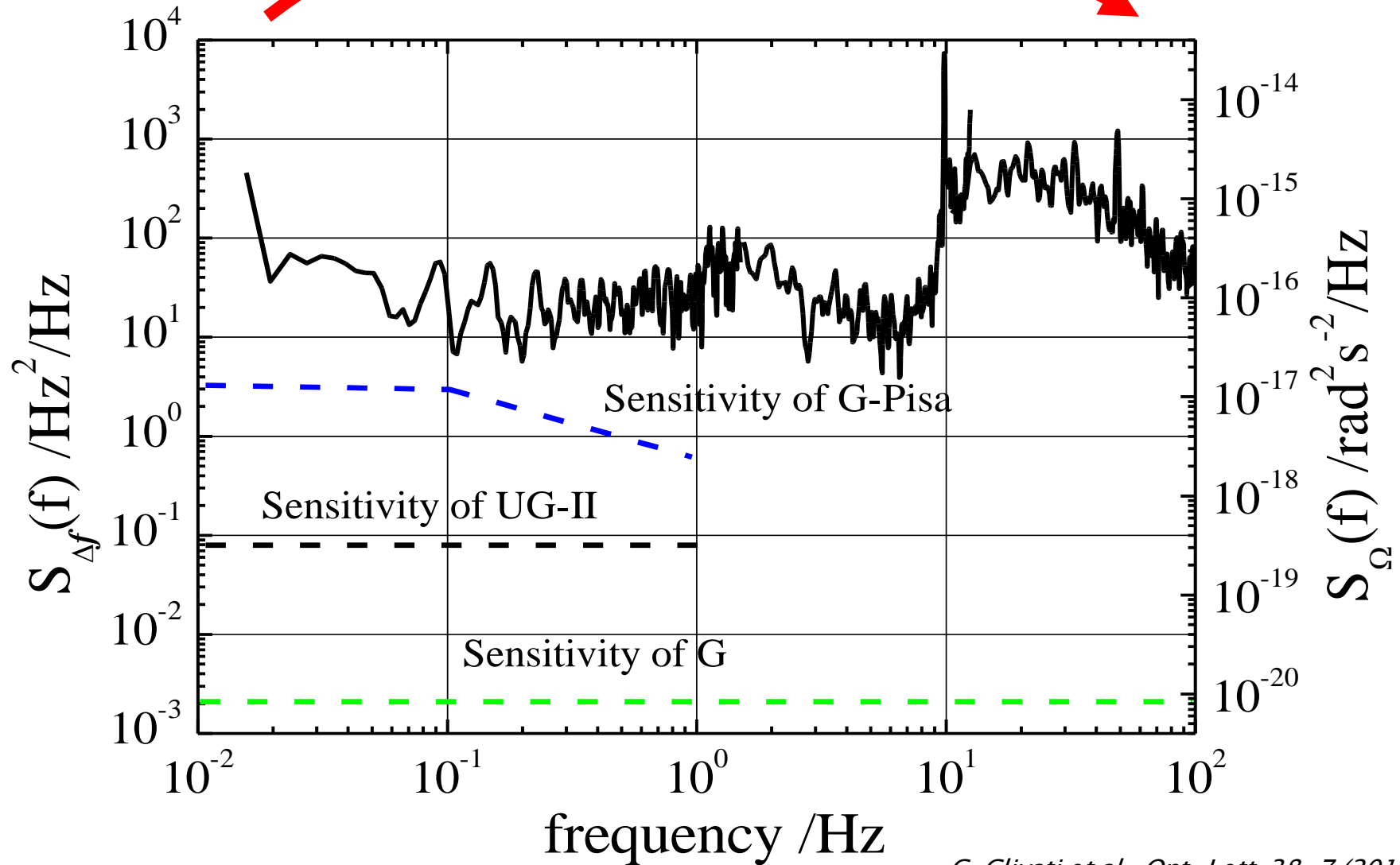
Closed loop FOG

$$\varphi = 2\pi \frac{L}{c} \Delta_f \pm 2\pi k$$

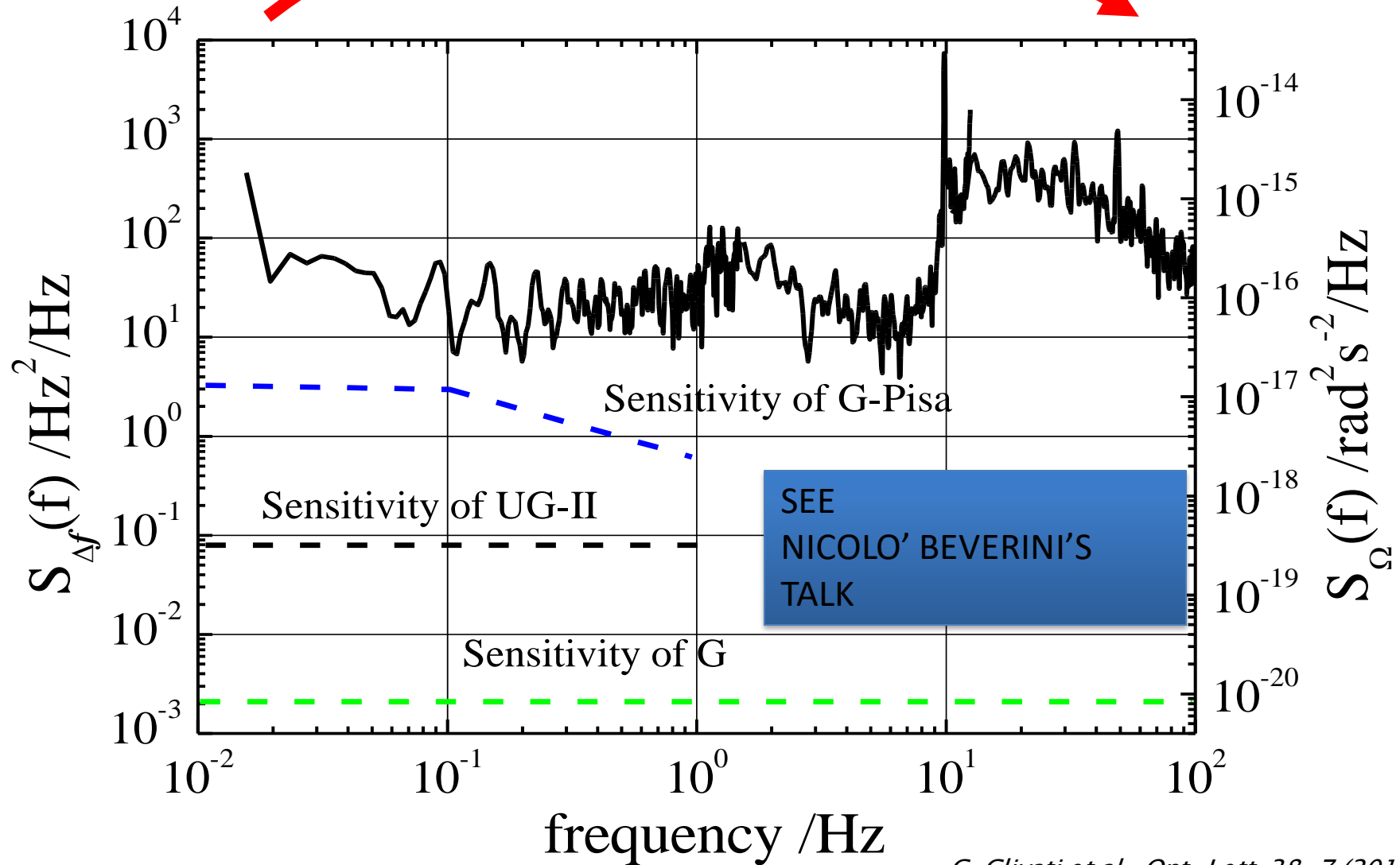
$$\Delta_f = \frac{4\nu}{nLc} \mathbf{A} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Omega}$$

*J. L. Davis et al., Opt. Lett. 6, 10, (1981)*  
*C. Clivati et al., Opt. Lett. 38, 7 (2013)*

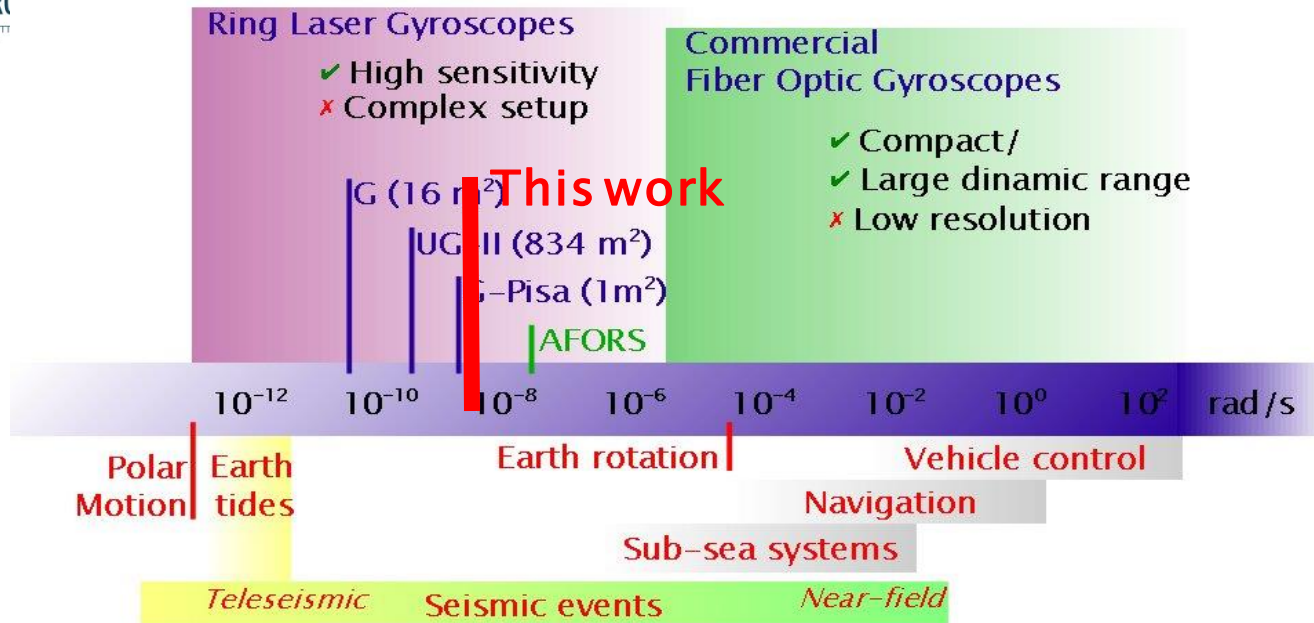
$$\Delta f = \frac{4\nu}{nLc} \mathbf{A} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Omega}$$



$$\Delta f = \frac{4\nu}{nLc} \mathbf{A} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Omega}$$



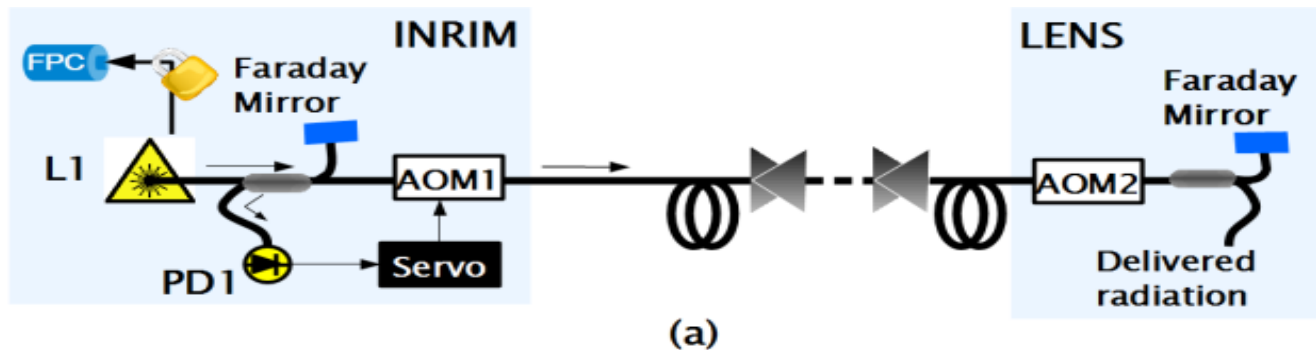
# Applications and perspectives



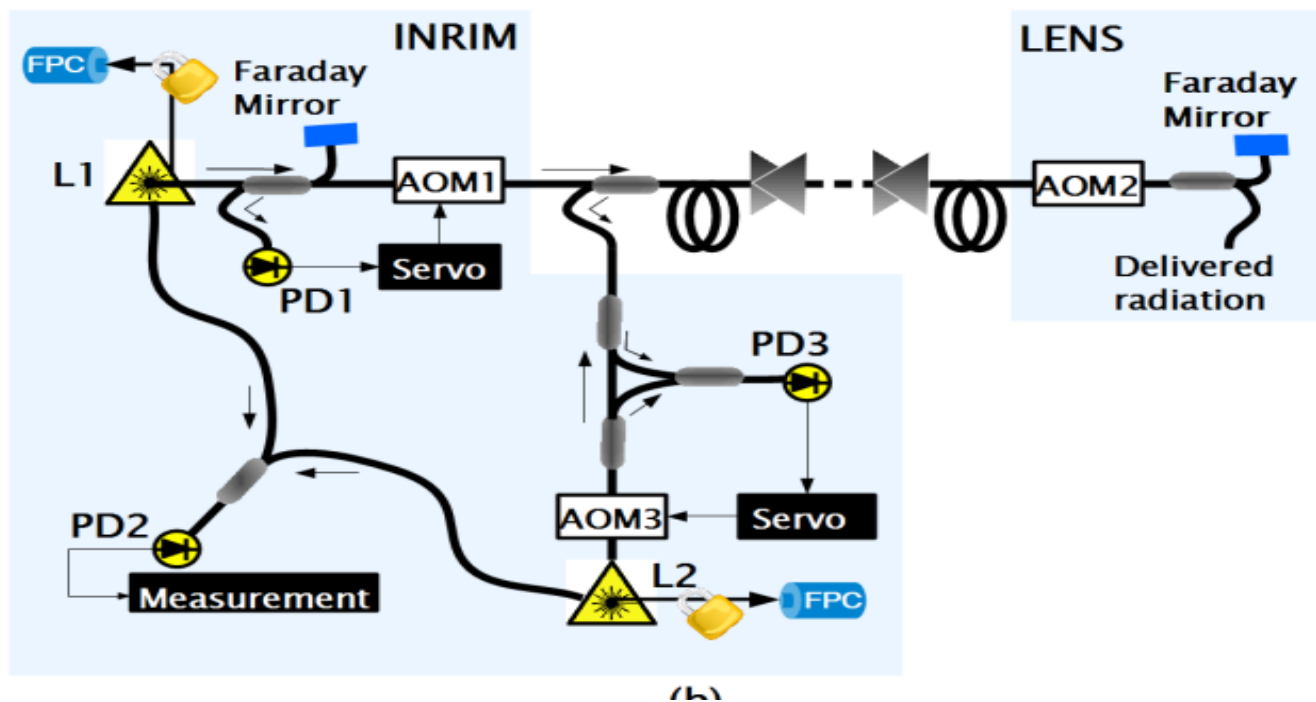
- Present sensitivity  $3 \times 10^{-9} \text{ rad/s}$  ( $10^{-8} \text{ (rad/s)}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$ )
- Investigation on ground motions seen by a large sensor could open new opportunities for geophysical research

# LIFT SET-UP : Link and Double Link

Single Link  
642 km



Double Link  
1284 km



# Conclusions

- ❑ Coherent Fibre Links allow to compare optical clocks without limiting the uncertainty
- ❑ There are still not intercontinental link, but they are feasible with submarine cables (that are available)
- ❑ Coherent Fibre links offer a broad range of applications, in particular their scientific impact has been discussed
- ❑ Here we have not talk about Time over Fibre, in particular PTP High Accuracy (White Rabbit) and Electronic Stabilized Link (ELSTAB)
- ❑ There are increasing efforts to build a T/F fibre network in Europe link by 2019.

