

PRC:		Primary Reference	Clock
PRTC:		Primary Reference	Time Clock
ePRTC:	enhanced	Primary Reference	Time Clock
cnPRTC:	coherent network	Primary Reference	Time Clock

Deutsche Telekom @ ATIS-NIST WSTS2015

Primary Reference Clocks in Telecommunication Networks

PR(T)C $\Rightarrow$ ePRTC $\Rightarrow$ cnPRTC

Helmut Imlau, March, 11th 2015



LIFE IS FOR SHARING.

Primary Reference Clocks in Telco Networks Agenda

PRC:	Primary Reference Clock
PRTC:	Primary Reference Time Clock
ePRTC:	enhanced Primary Reference Time Clock
cnPRTC:	coherent network Primary Reference Time Clock

① PRC [ITU-T G.811] Primary Reference Clock (1)

Primary Reference Clocks in Telecommunication Networks

① Basis: PRC acc. to G.811 for frequency

Frequency only

PRC acc. to ITU-T G.811 as master for frequency (only) synchronization network

Use cases: → Base station synchronization in FDD mode (Frequency Division Duplex)
→ Business product synchronization and SDH

ITU-T G.811 specifies:
→ Frequency accuracy 1×10^{-11}
→ Wander,

Technology view:
Cs: highest stability
Cs: Not UTC traceable

G.811 "Timing characteristics of primary reference clocks"

② PRTC [ITU-T G.8272] Primary Reference Time Clock (1)

Primary Reference Clocks in Telecommunication Networks

② PRTC acc. to G.8272 for frequency and phase/time

Frequency & Phase

Primary Reference Time Clock (PRTC) acc. to ITU-T G.8272 as master for frequency and phase/time synchronization network

Use cases: Phase synchronization for base stations ...
→ in TDD (Time Division Duplex) mode or
→ LTE-Advanced features like CoMP Joint Processing or
→ eICIC (enhanced Inter-Cell Interference Cancellation) e.g. HetNet

ITU-T G.8272 specifies:
→ max. time error 100ns
→ Wander,

Technology:
GNSS provides UTC traceability
Stability limited by OCXO/CSAC/Rb

G.8272 "Timing characteristics of primary reference time clocks"

Reasons for doing more (2)

Primary Reference Clocks in Telecommunication Networks

Reasons for doing more (1/2)

PRTC acc. to G.8272 depends on GNSS for most solutions

- Dependency on Ionosphere: High diurnal wander over 24 hours going up to ≈ 50 ns, Example with highest values measured by DT: see Measurement 1
- Sun activity impact: During lower diurnal wander single days with much more wander, see Measurement 2. Wander can be high and cannot be foreseen.

Impact to operation:
Synchronization back to UTC after hold-over period may cause traffic impact

Measurement reference clock in the field

Example: 50ns
→ 50% of PRTC noise budget
→ can be 25% of PRTC max. ITEI budget

③ ePRTC [ITU-T G.8272.1] enhanced Primary Reference Time Clock (3)

Primary Reference Clocks in Telecommunication Networks

③ ePRTC acc. to G.8272.1: Cs + GNSS

Frequency & Phase

Combines Cs stability with GNSS UTC traceability.

Enhanced Primary Reference Time Clock (ePRTC) acc. to ITU-T G.8272.1 as master for frequency and phase synchronization network

Use cases: Phase synchronization for base stations ...
→ to overcome diurnal GNSS wander
→ to overcome temporary jamming

ITU-T G.8272.1 specifies:
→ will specify lower max. time error like 30ns
→ lower Wander,

Technology:
GNSS provides UTC traceability
Cs provides stability

G.8272.1 "Timing characteristics of enhanced primary reference time clocks"

④ cnPRTC [ITU-T G.8272.x] coherent network Primary Reference Time Clock (3)

Primary Reference Clocks in Telecommunication Networks

④ The coherent network PRTC (cnPRTC) concept

Frequency & Phase

DT Network View

CORE Level ≈ 10 offices

Aggregation Level $\approx 1,000$ offices

Base station level $n \approx 10,000$ offices

SUMMARY (1)

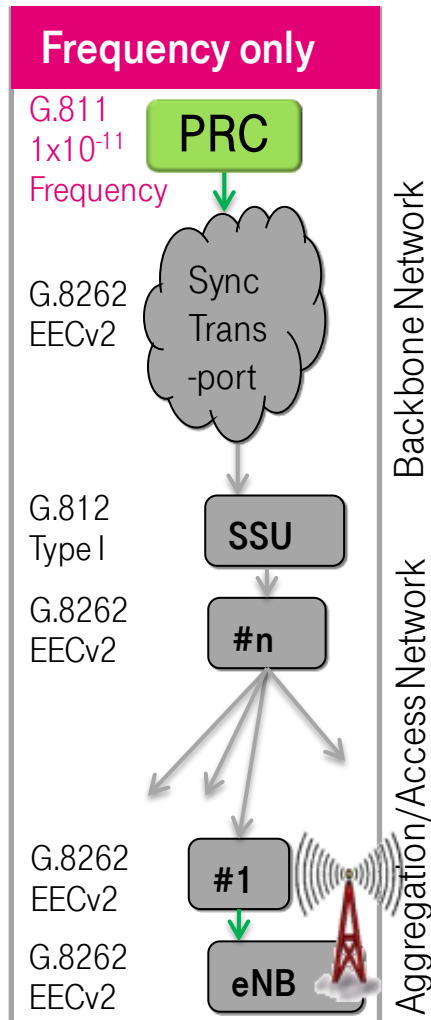
Primary Reference Clocks in Telecommunication Networks Summary

Type	ITU-T Recommendation	Status at ITU-T	Stability Based on	Stability	UTC traceability Based on	Dependency on GNSS
PRC	G.811	Specified 1997	Cs	high	n/a	Not at all
PRTC	G.8272	Specified 2012/14	OCXO/CSAC/Rb	low	GNSS	Very high
ePRTC	G.8272.1	2015: Ongoing	Cs	high	GNSS	Limited
cnPRTC	G.8272.x	2015: Study item	Cs	Very high	Geo redundant GNSS	Low, only during initialization phase

Primary Reference Clocks in Telco Networks

1 Basis: PRC acc. to ITU-T G.811 for frequency

PRC:	PrimaryReference	Clock
PRTC:	PrimaryReference	Time Clock
ePRTC:	enhanced PrimaryReference	Time Clock
cnPRTC:	coherent network PrimaryReference	Time Clock



Primary Reference Clock (PRC) acc. to ITU-T G.811
as master for frequency (only) synchronization network

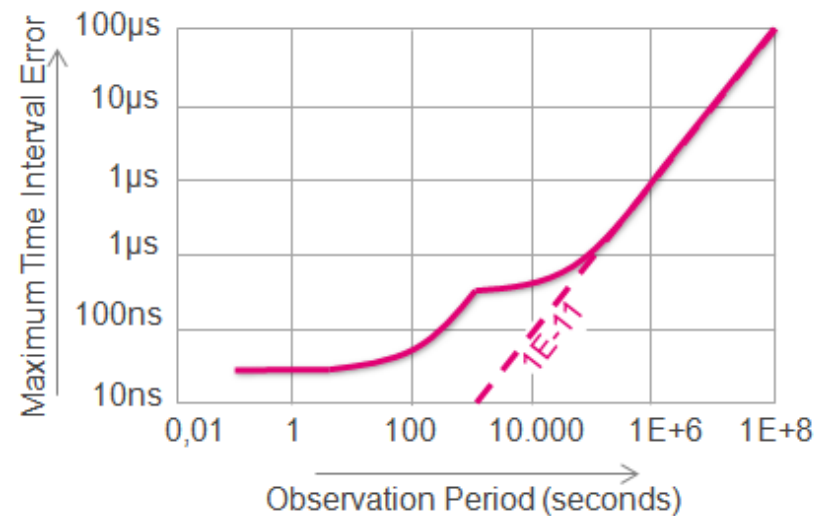
Use cases: → Base station synchronization in FDD mode
(Frequency Division Duplex)
→ Business product synchronization and
→ SDH synchronization

ITU-T G.811 specifies:

- Frequency accuracy 1×10^{-11}
- Wander,

Technology view:

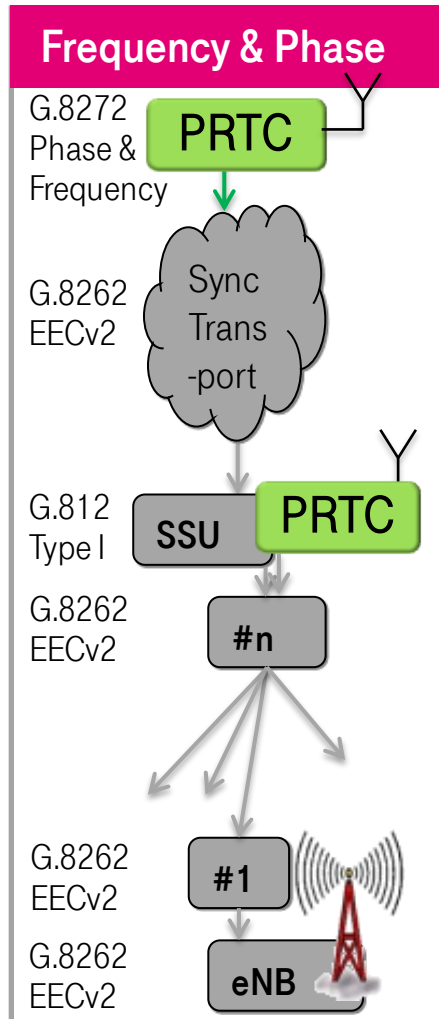
- 😊 Cs: high stability
- ☹ Cs: Not UTC traceable



Primary Reference Clocks in Telco Networks

② PRTC acc. to ITU-T G.8272 for frequency and phase/time

PRC:		PrimaryReference	Clock
PRTC:		PrimaryReference	Time Clock
ePRTC:	enhanced	PrimaryReference	Time Clock
cnPRTC:	coherent network	PrimaryReference	Time Clock



Primary Reference Time Clock (PRTC) acc. to ITU-T G.8272
as master for frequency and phase/time synchronization network

Use cases: Phase synchronization for base stations ...

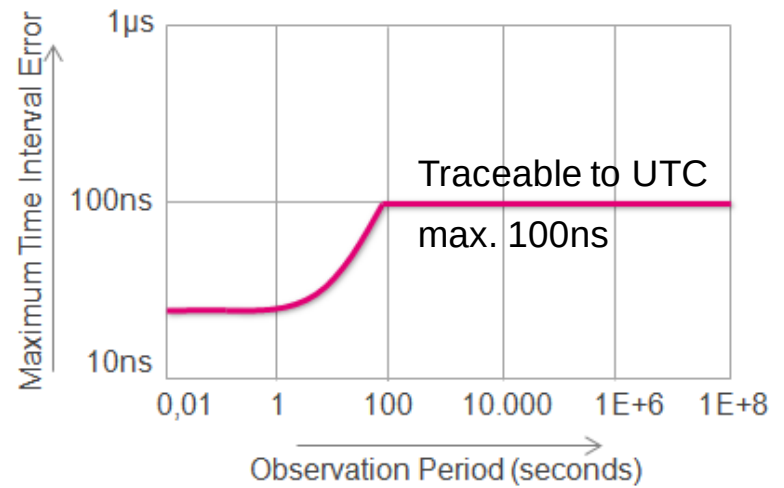
- ➔ in TDD (Time Division Duplex) mode or
- ➔ LTE-Advanced features like CoMP Joint Processing or
- ➔ eICIC (enhanced Inter-Cell Interference Cancellation) e. g. for HetNet

ITU-T G.8272 specifies:

- ➔ max. time error = 100ns
- ➔ Wander as MTIE,

Technology view:

- 😊 GNSS provides UTC traceability
- ☹ Stability limited by OCXO/CSAC/Rb



G.8272 "Timing characteristics of primary reference time clocks"

Primary Reference Clocks in Telco Networks

Reasons for doing more (1/2)

PRC:	PrimaryReference	Clock
PRTC:	PrimaryReference	Time Clock
ePRTC:	enhanced	PrimaryReference
cnPRTC:	coherent network	PrimaryReference

PRTC acc. to G.8272 depends on GNSS
for most solutions

- Dependency on Ionosphere:
High diurnal wander over 24 hours
going up to $\approx 50\text{ns}$, Example measured
by DT: see Measurement 1
- Sun activity impact:
During lower diurnal wander single days with much more wander, as example see Measurement 2

Wander can be high and cannot be foreseen.

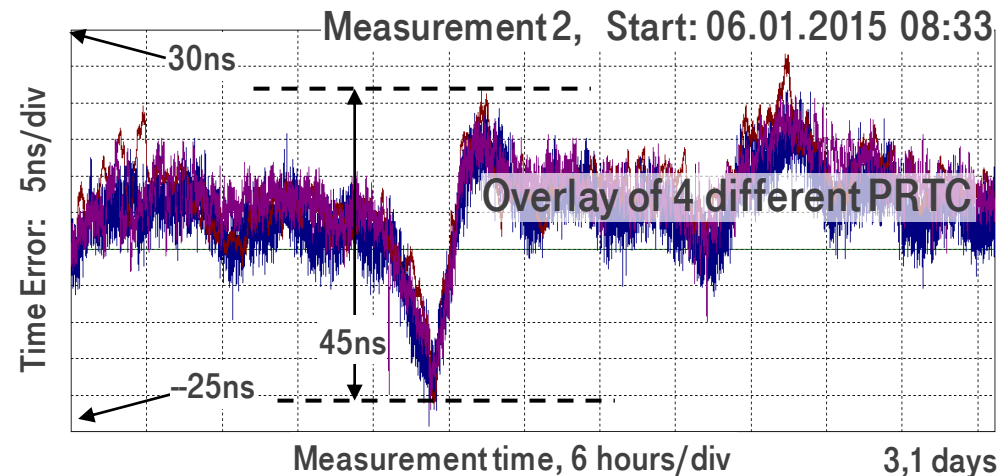
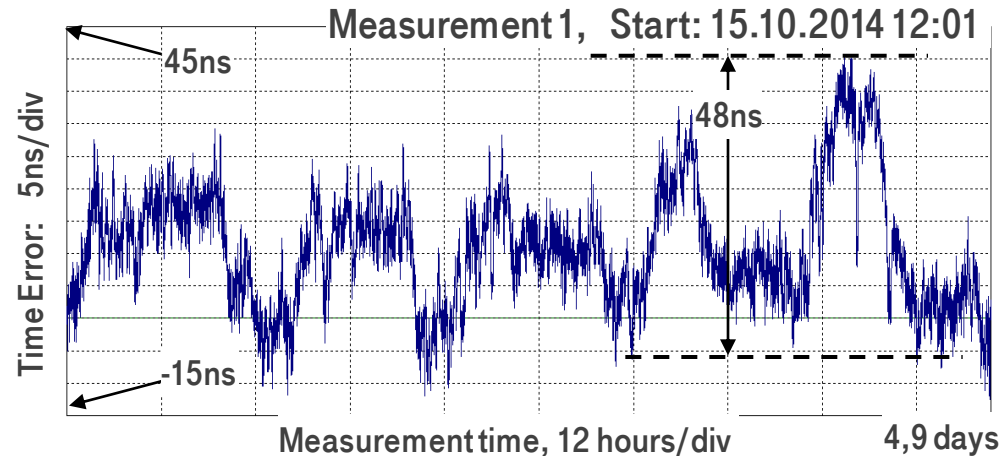
Impact to operation:

- Synchronization back to UTC after hold-over period may cause traffic impact
- Measurement reference clock in the field

Example: 50ns

⇒ 50% of PRTC noise budget

⇒ can be 25% of PRTC max. ITEI budget



Primary Reference Clocks in Telco Networks

Reasons for doing more (2/2)

PRC:	PrimaryReference	Clock
PRTC:	PrimaryReference	Time Clock
ePRTC:	enhanced	PrimaryReference
cnPRTC:	coherent network	PrimaryReference
		Time Clock

GNSS risks

1. GNSS jamming

- is easy, jammers are available, more and more GNSS tracking applications lead to more and more reasons for GNSS jamming
- Risk of unintentional jamming

2. GNSS spoofing

- Get more and more easy

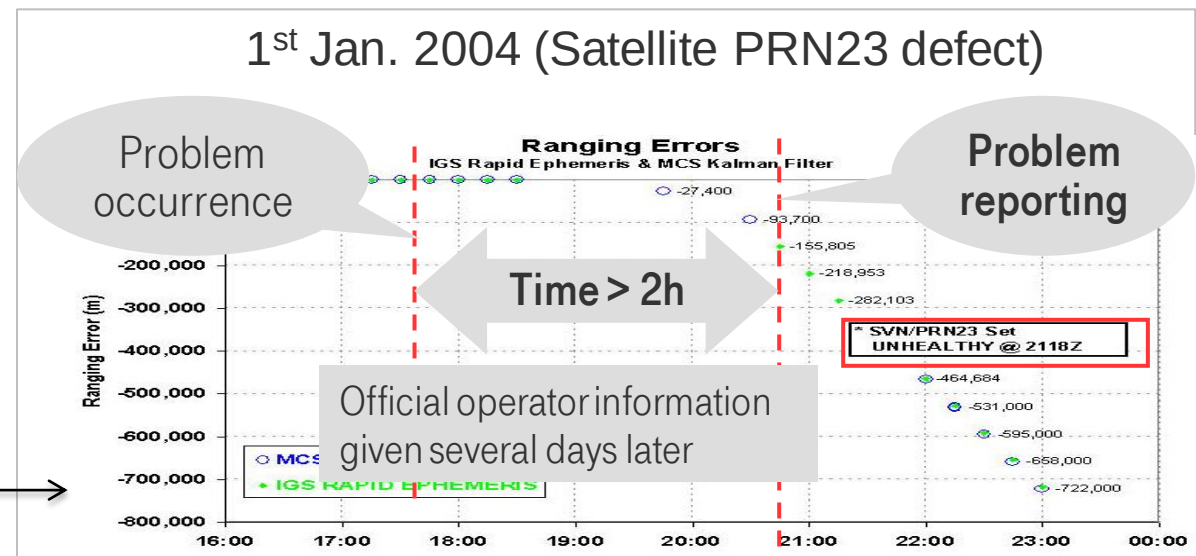
3. Satellite failures (seldom)

- Like 1.1.2004, please refer DT talk @ITSF2004
- In general, GNSS satellites are very reliable, but problems can occur. Therefore, using combined GNSS engines in future, like GPS + Galileo would help.

Hint: On high level mentioned only, please refer

Charles Curry:

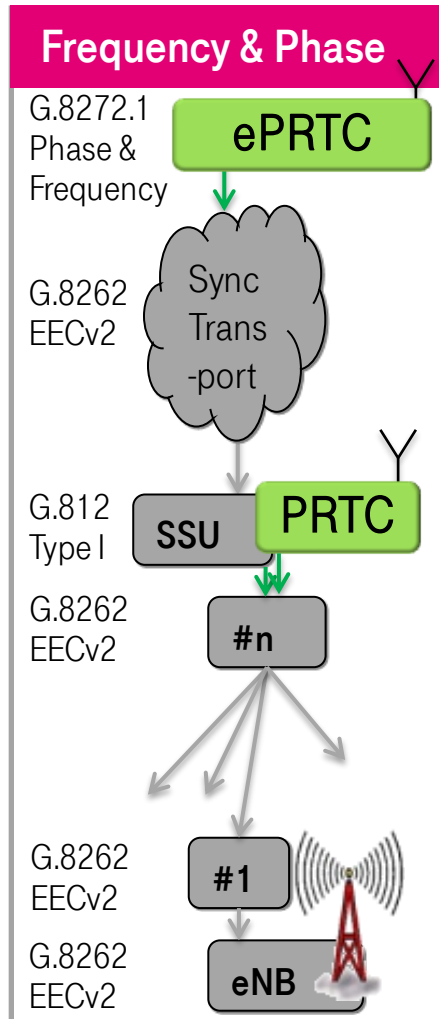
Report on GPS Jamming Trials and Criminal Use of Jammers
WSTS2015 (10.3.2015)



Primary Reference Clocks in Telco Networks

③ ePRTC acc. to ITU-T G.8272.1: Cs + GNSS

PRC:		PrimaryReference	Clock
PRTC:		PrimaryReference	Time Clock
ePRTC:	enhanced	PrimaryReference	Time Clock
cnPRTC:	coherent network	PrimaryReference	Time Clock



Enhanced PRTC combines Cs stability with GNSS UTC traceability:

Use cases:

Master for frequency and phase

→ no diurnal GNSS wander

→ to overcome temporary GNSS problems like jamming

ITU-T G.8272.1 will specify:

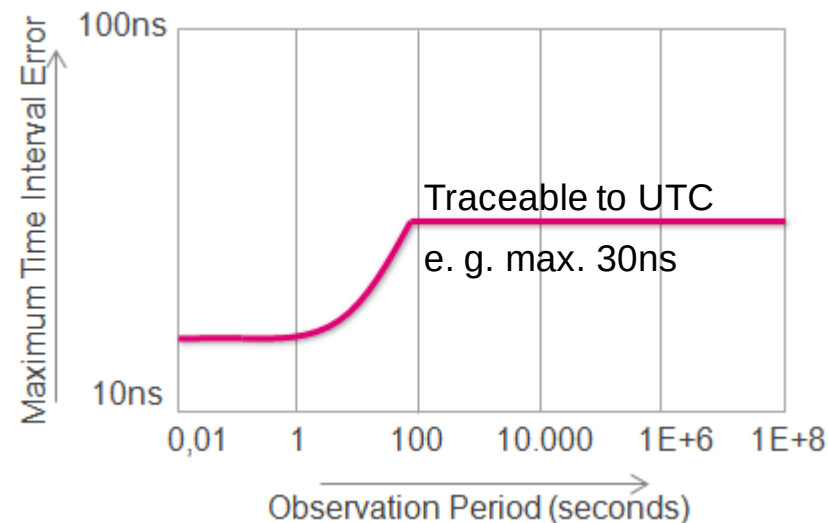
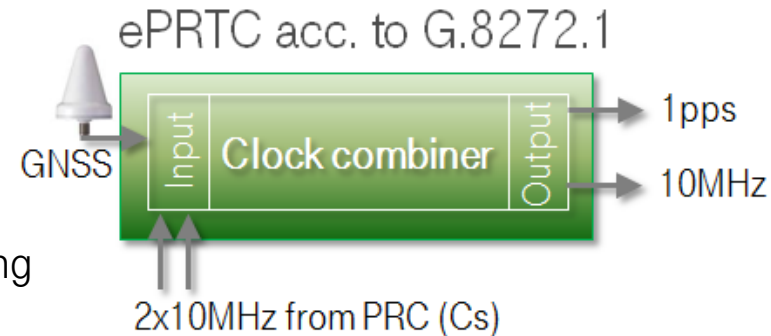
→ lower max. time error like 30ns

→ lower Wander,

Technology view:

😊 GNSS provides UTC traceability

😊 Cs provides stability

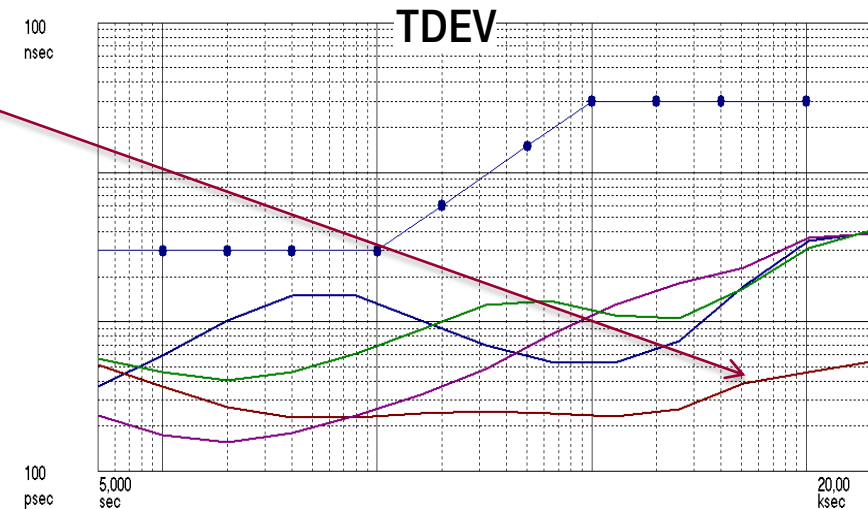
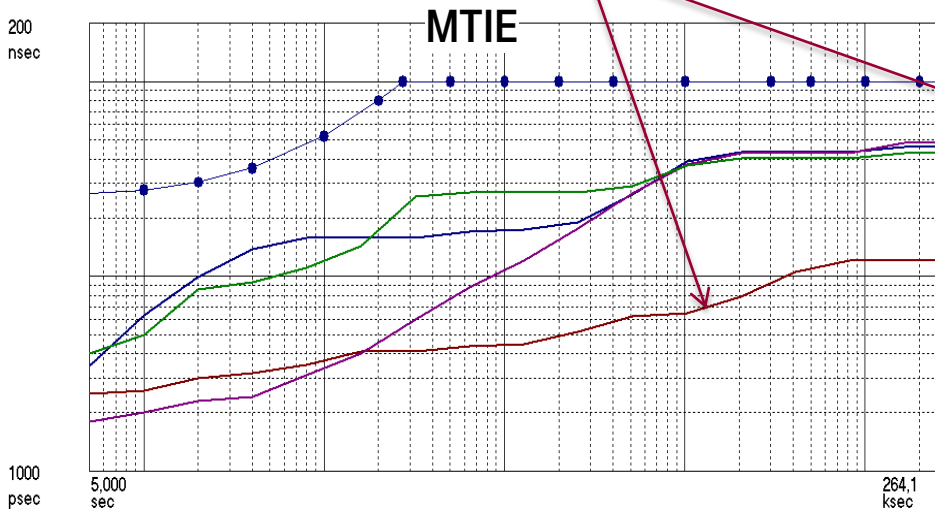
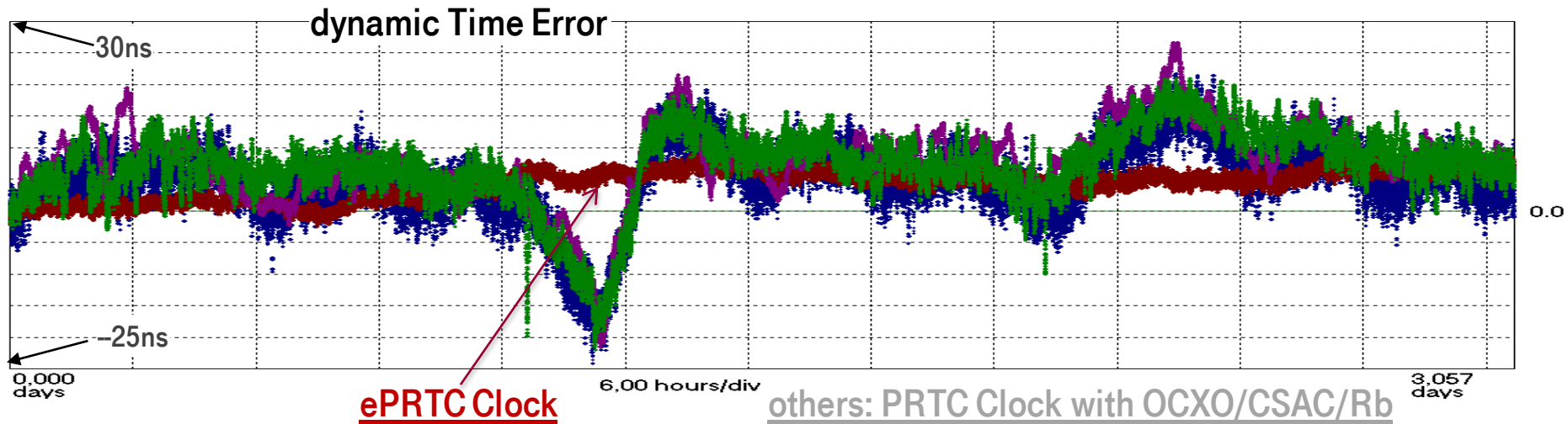


G.8272.1 "Timing characteristics of enhanced primary reference time clocks"

Primary Reference Clocks in Telco Networks

③ ePRTC Clock combiner acc. to ITU-T G.8272.1: Results

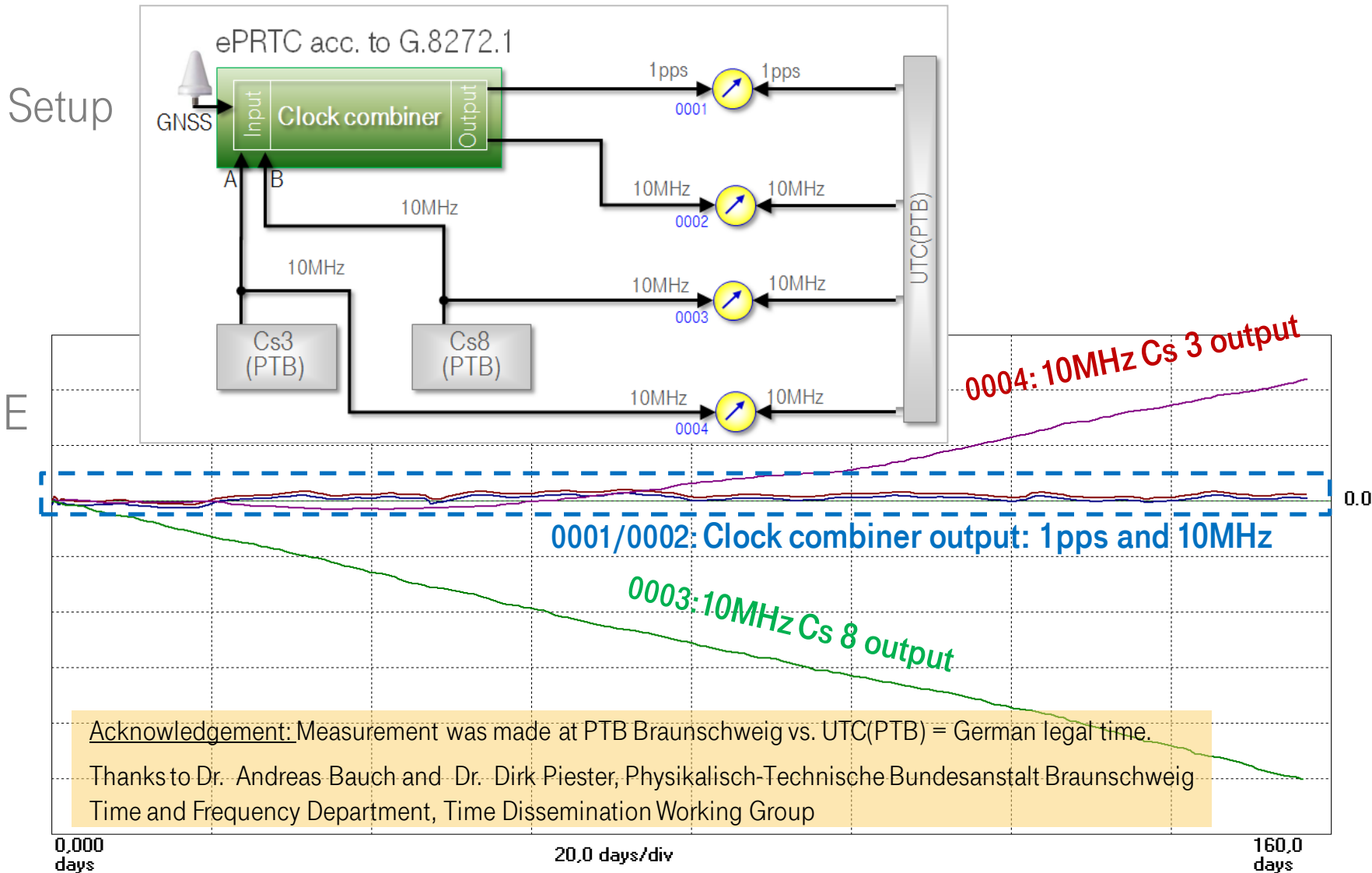
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Primary Reference Clocks in Telco Networks

③ ePRTC Clock combiner acc. to ITU-T G.8272.1: Results

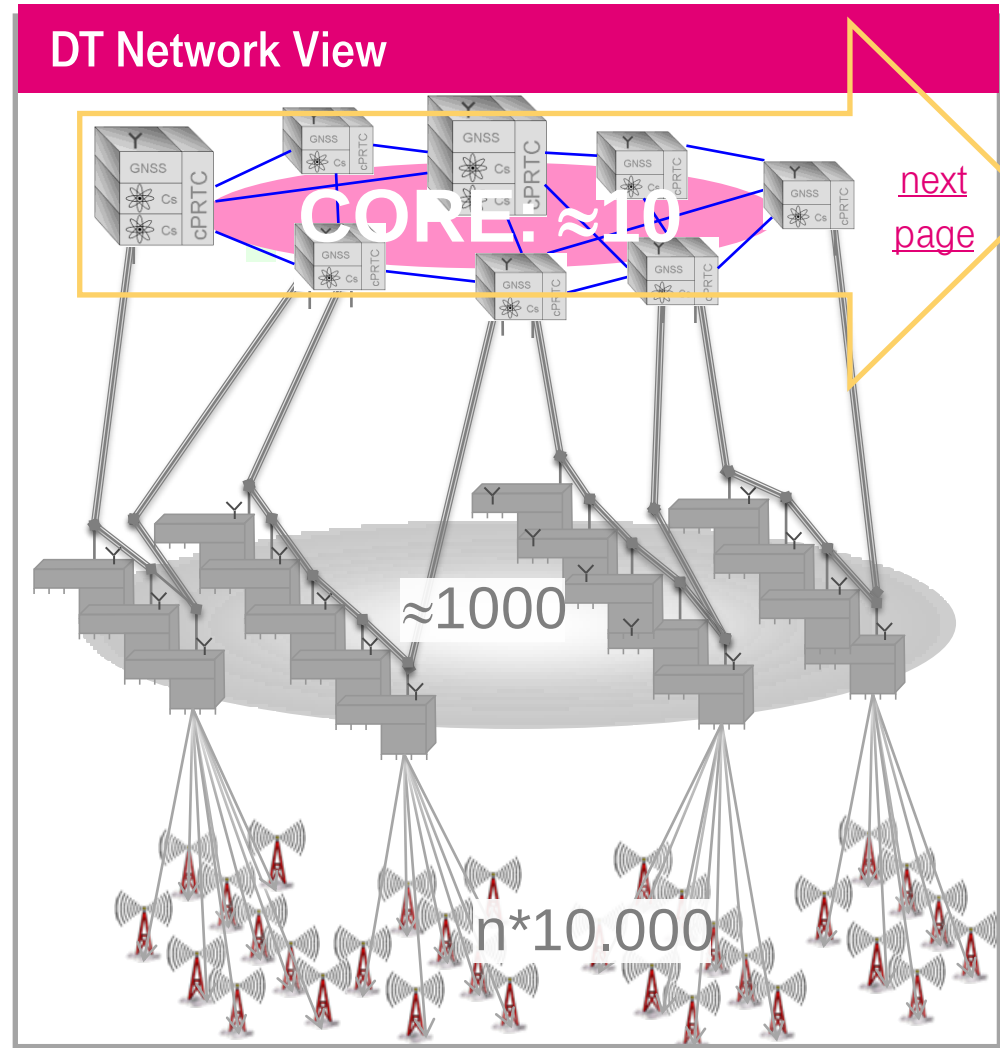
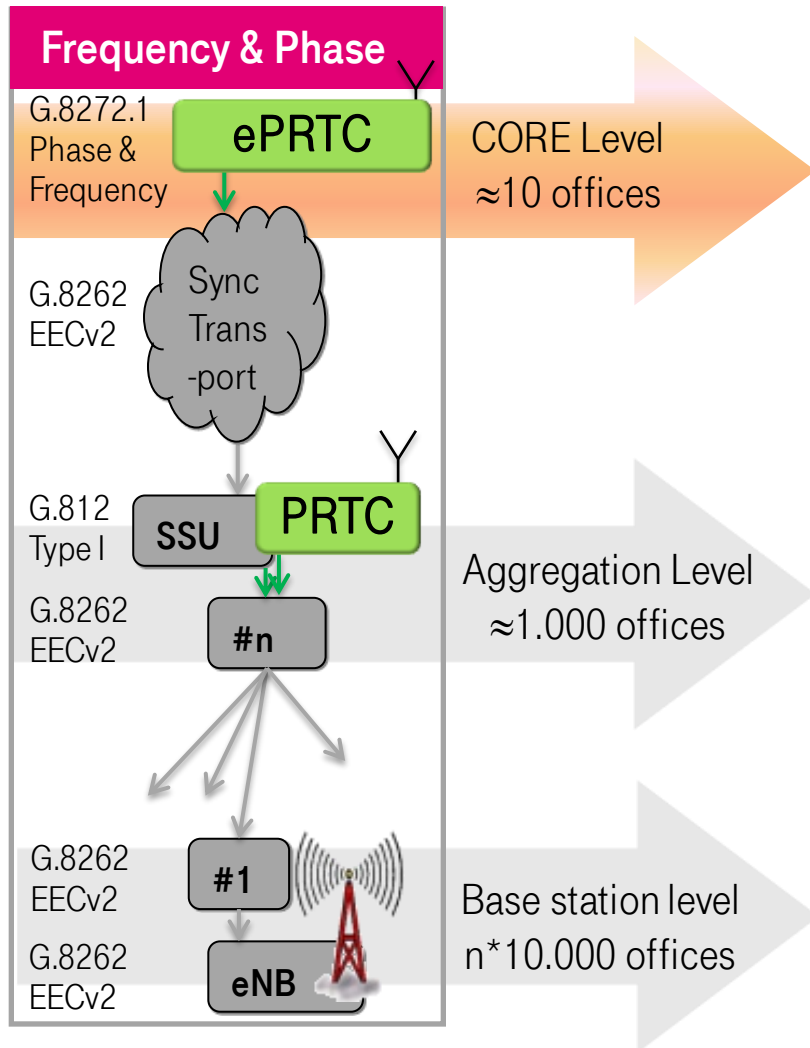
PRC:	PrimaryReference	Clock
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Primary Reference Clocks in Telco Networks

4 The coherent network PRTC (cnPRTC) concept

PRC:		PrimaryReference	Clock
PRTC:		PrimaryReference	Time Clock
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cnPRTC:	coherent network	PrimaryReference	Time Clock

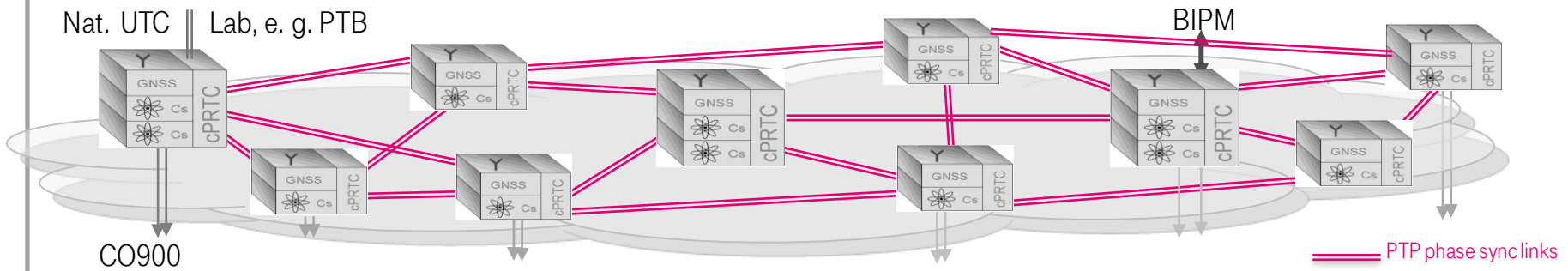


Primary Reference Clocks in Telco Networks

4 The coherent network PRTC (cnPRTC) concept

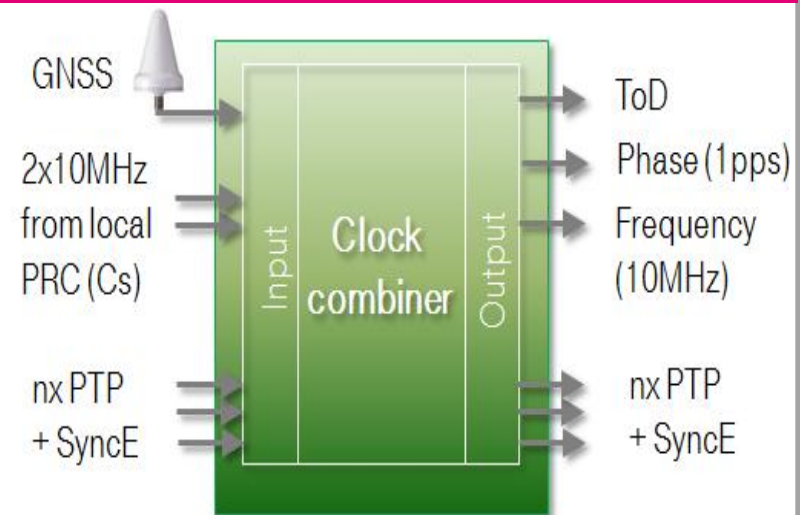
PRC:		PrimaryReference	Clock
PRTC:		PrimaryReference	Time Clock
ePRTC:	enhanced	PrimaryReference	Time Clock
cnPRTC:	coherent network	PrimaryReference	Time Clock

Network View: All CORE location with cnPRTC functions, mashed with SyncE + PTP



System view: One cnPRTC function consists of

- one ePRTC Clock combiner acc. to G.8272.1
- + additional SyncE + PTP links providing time, phase and frequency from and to neighborhood CORE locations
- For PTP links:
GNSS based asymmetry compensation can be used
- Adequate calculation and steering algorithm to generate frequency, phase and time
- Optional: UTC/BIPM monitor system using UTC(DTAG)



BIPM = Bureau International des Poids et Mesures

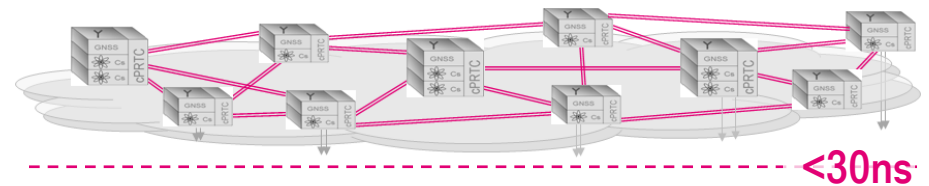
Primary Reference Clocks in Telco Networks

④ The coherent network PRTC (cnPRTC) concept

PRC:		PrimaryReference	Clock
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cnPRTC advantage:

- Uniform UTC traceable network sync quality @ CORE level
 - as basis for all services with frequency, phase and/or ToD supply
- Per design:
 - $\max|TE| < 30\text{ns}$, very stable $\Rightarrow$ at entire CORE network
 - no noise impact from GNSS
- Failure tolerance:
 - After initial synchronization fully GNSS independent, if needed
 - Jamming, spoofing and GNSS shutdown would not be a risk anymore (Definition of the second is based on Cs)
- Performance Management:
 - Monitored acc. to BIPM procedures with UTC(DTAG)
 - may be combined with optical fiber based UTC lab connections



Primary Reference Clocks in Telco Networks Summary

PRC:		PrimaryReference	Clock
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Type	To be used for	ITU-T Reference		Stability		UTC traceability	
		No.	Status	Based on	Quality	Based on	Risk
PRC	Frequency only	G.811	Specified 1988/97	local Cs	high	n/a	n/a
PRTC	Frequency and phase	G.8272	Specified 2012/14	in-build OCXO/CSAC/Rb	lower	local GNSS receiver	high
ePRTC	Frequency and phase	G.8272.1	2015: Ongoing	local Cs	high	local GNSS receiver	limited
cnPRTC	Frequency and phase	G.8272.x	2015: New study item	Geo redundant Cs	very high	Geo redundant GNSS receiver	low, only during initialization

- PRC+PRTC=ePRTC
- mashed geo redundant ePRTC ⇔ cnPRTC

Primary Reference Clocks in Telco Networks Agenda

PRC:		PrimaryReference	Clock
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1 PRC [G.811] Primary Reference Clock

Primary Reference Clocks in Telecommunication Networks

1 Basis: PRC acc. to G.811 for frequency

Frequency only

PRC

G.811
1x10⁻¹¹
Frequency

G.8262
EECv2

Sync Trans-port

ITU-T G.811 specifies:

- Frequency accuracy 1x10⁻¹¹
- Use cases:
 - Base station synchronization in FDD mode (Frequency Division Duplex)
 - Business product synchronization and
 - SDH

Time for questions

2 PRTC [G.8272] Primary Reference Time Clock

Primary Reference Clocks in Telecommunication Networks

2 PRTC acc. to G.8272 for frequency and phase/time

Frequency & Phase

PRTC

G.8272
Phase & Frequency

G.8262
EECv2

Sync Trans-port

ITU-T G.8272 specifies:

- max. time error 100ns
- Wander, ...
- Technology:
 - GNSS provides UTC traceability
 - Stability limited by OCXO/CSAC

Time for questions

Reasons for doing more

Primary Reference Clocks in Telecommunication Networks

Reasons for doing more (1/2)

PRTC acc. to G.8272 depends on GNSS for most solutions

- Dependency on Ionosphere: High diurnal wander over 24 hours going up to ~50ns, Example with highest values measured by DT: see Measurement 1
- Sun activity impact: During lower diurnal wander single days with much more wander, see Measurement 2

Measurement 1, Start: 15.10.2014 12:01

Measurement 2, Start: 06.01.2015 08:33

Time Error: 5ns/div

Measurement time, 12 hours/div

Measurement time, 6 hours/div

Time for questions

3 ePRTC [G.8272.1] enhanced Primary Reference Time Clock

Primary Reference Clocks in Telecommunication Networks

3 ePRTC acc. to G.8272.1: Cs + GNSS

Frequency & Phase

ePRTC

G.8272.1
Phase & Frequency

G.8262
EECv2

Sync Trans-port

ITU-T G.8272.1 specifies:

- Enhanced Primary Reference Time Clock (ePRTC) acc. to ITU-T G.8272.1 as master for frequency and phase synchronization network
- Use cases: Phase synchronization for base stations ...
 - to overcome diurnal GNSS wander
 - to overcome temporary jamming
- ITU-T G.8272.1
 - will specify lower max. time error like 30ns
 - lower Wander, ...
- Technology:
 - GNSS provides UTC traceability
 - Cs provides stability

Traceable to UTC

e.g. max. 30ns

Maximum Time Interval Error

Observation Period (seconds)

G.8272.1 "Timing characteristics of enhanced primary reference time clocks"

Time for questions

4 cnPRTC [G.8272.x] coherent network Primary Reference Time Clock

Primary Reference Clocks in Telecommunication Networks

4 The coherent network PRTC (cnPRTC) concept

Frequency & Phase

ePRTC

G.8272.1
Phase & Frequency

G.8262
EECv2

Sync Trans-port

DT Network View

CORE Level ~10 offices

Aggregation Level ~1,000 offices

Base station level ~10,000 offices

next page

Time for questions

SUMMARY

Primary Reference Clocks in Telecommunication Networks Summary

Type	ITU-T Recommendation	Status at ITU-T	Stability Based on	Stability	UTC traceability Based on	Dependency on GNSS
PRC	G.811	Specified 1997	Cs	high	n/a	Not at all
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ePRTC	G.8272.1	2015: Ongoing	Cs	high	GNSS	Limited
cnPRTC	G.8272.x	2015: Study item	Cs	Very high	Geo redundant GNSS	Low, only during initialization phase

Primary Reference Clocks in Telco Networks Acknowledgment

PRC:		PrimaryReference	Clock
PRTC:		PrimaryReference	Time Clock
ePRTC:	enhanced	PrimaryReference	Time Clock
cnPRTC:	coherent network	PrimaryReference	Time Clock

Acknowledgment

Thank you very much for the good cooperation during of a PRTC ensemble prequalification versus UTC(PTB) locally in Braunschweig

- Dr. Andreas Bauch *)
- Dr. Dirk Piester

Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt Braunschweig
Time and Frequency Department, Time Dissemination Working Group

Tasks of PTB:

**Operation of an atomic clock ensemble, Generation of UTC(PTB)
and legal time for Germany**, Time transfer using TWSTFT and GPS,
Dissemination of legal time (DCF77, telephone service, ntp)

*) Head of Time Dissemination Working Group



Primary Reference Clocks in Telco Networks

Abbreviations

PRC:		PrimaryReference	Clock
PRTC:		PrimaryReference	Time Clock
ePRTC:	enhanced	PrimaryReference	Time Clock
cnPRTC:	coherent network	PrimaryReference	Time Clock

▪ 1 PPS	1Pulse per Second
▪ APSC	Assisted Partial Timing Support Clock
▪ BIPM	Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (Paris)
▪ CoMP	Coordinated Multi-Processing Transmission and Receiving
▪ CSAC	Chip-Scale atomic Clock
▪ cnPRTC	coherent network PRTC
▪ Cs	Cesium atomic clock
▪ DCF77	Radio transmitter station identification code, given by ITU, "D" for Deutschland (long-wave transmitter for dissemination of legal time Germany, 77,5MHz)
▪ eICIC	enhanced Inter-Cell Interference Cancellation
▪ eNB	envolved NodeB (LTE basestation)
▪ EEC	Ethernet Equipment Clock
▪ FDD	Frequency Division Duplex
▪ GNSS	Global Navigation Satellite System
▪ GPS	Global Positioning System
▪ HetNet	Heterogeneous network (macro – small cell overlap)
▪ ITU	International Telecommunication Union
▪ ITU-T	ITU- Telecommunication Standardization Sector
▪ MTIE	Maximum Time Interval Error
▪ NTP	Network Time Protocol
▪ OCXO	Oven-Controlled Crystal Oscillator
▪ OTA	Over-The-Air (Synchronization)
▪ PRC	Primary Reference Clock
▪ PRTC	Primary Reference Time Clock
▪ PRTCe	PRTC ensemble
▪ PTB	Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt Braunschweig
▪ PTP	Precision Time Protocol
▪ Q	Question (ITU-T, Q13 = Timing & Synchronization)
▪ Rb	Rubidium atomic clock
▪ SDH	Synchronous Digital Hierarchy
▪ SG	Study Group (ITU-T)
▪ SSU	Synchronization Supply Unit
▪ SyncE	Ethernet Physical Layer Synchronization
▪ TDD	Time Division Duplex
▪ TWSTFT	Two-Way Satellite Time and Frequency Transfer
▪ UTC	Universal Time Coordinated
▪ UTC(PTB)	Universal Time Coordinated (Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt Braunschweig)
▪ UTC(DTAG)	Universal Time Coordinated (Deutsche Telekom AG)
▪ UTC lab	BIPM registered official time lab contributing UTC
▪ WD	Work Draft (acc. to ITU-T rules)