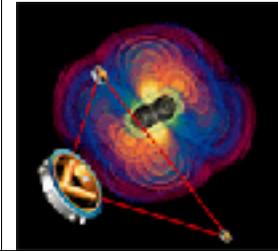


**Advanced Ranging
and
Time & Frequency Transfer Techniques
for LISA**

Noordwijk, The Netherlands, 12 – 15 Jul 2004



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1. Background

SIRIO: Microwave Ranging and Time Transfer Experiment & Laser Ranging, 1979

MITREX: PN-coded Two-Way Time Transfer via Satellite (TWSTFT): since 1981

- USNO, NIST, SYRTE, NPL, PTB, VSL, China, Taiwan: **Accuracy 1ns**

PRARE: Precise Range and Range-Rate Equipment (ERS-2, LEO, 1995)

- Geodetic Mission: **Orbit to 3 cm, Stability: 1cm**

SATRE: Satellite Time and Ranging Equipment, since 1991

- Operates via “Occupied Transponders”: **Jitter 3 cm, Stability: 1cm**
- NO dedicated resources needed at the S/C
- SES-ASTRA: Trilateration System for Co-located Geo Satellites
- INMARSAT

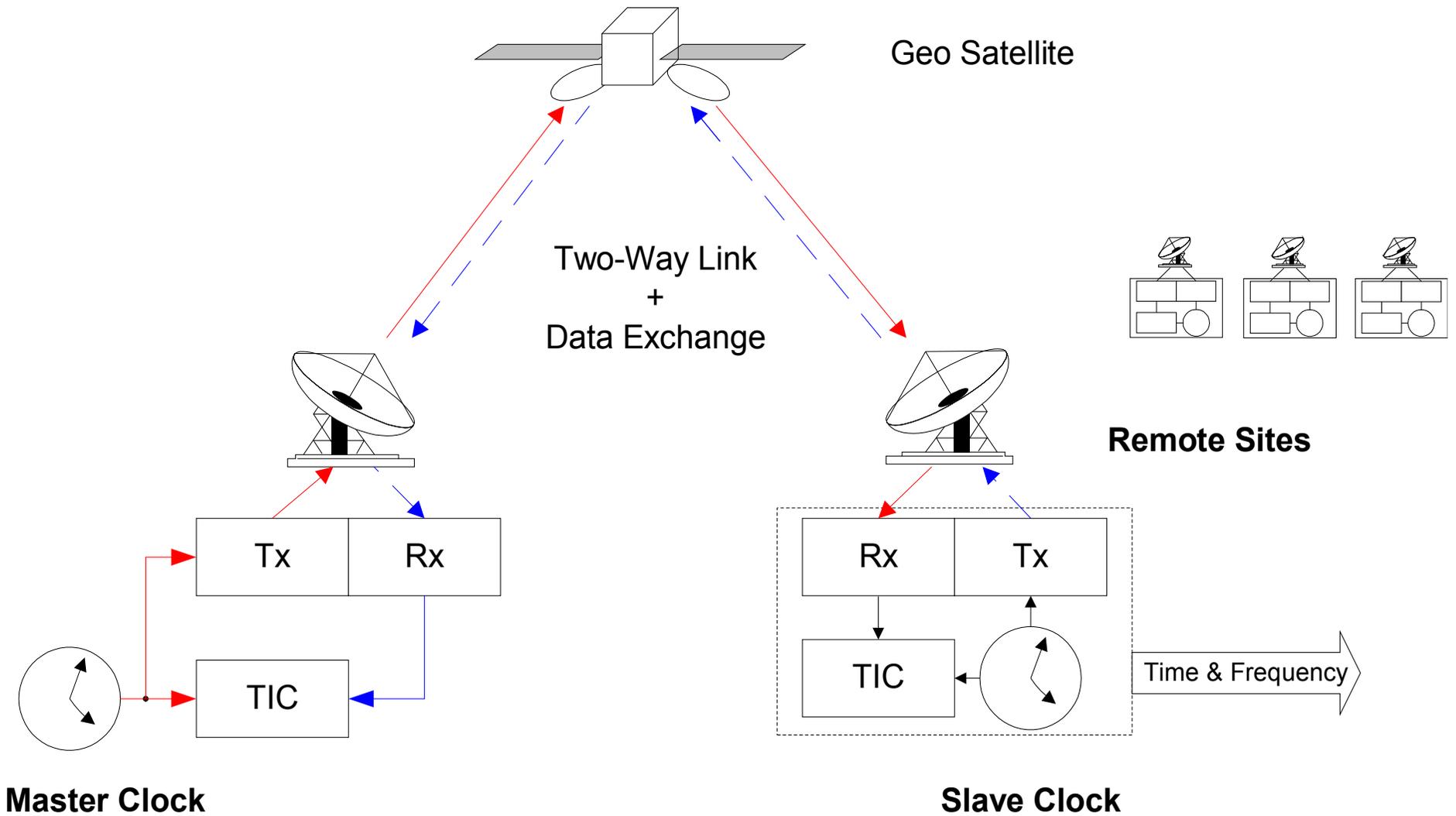
ACES-MWL: Monitor Cs-Fountain (PHARAO) on-board ISS (ongoing): **TDEV: 5.6 ps/d**

2.Key Properties of Pseudo-Noise Coded Signals

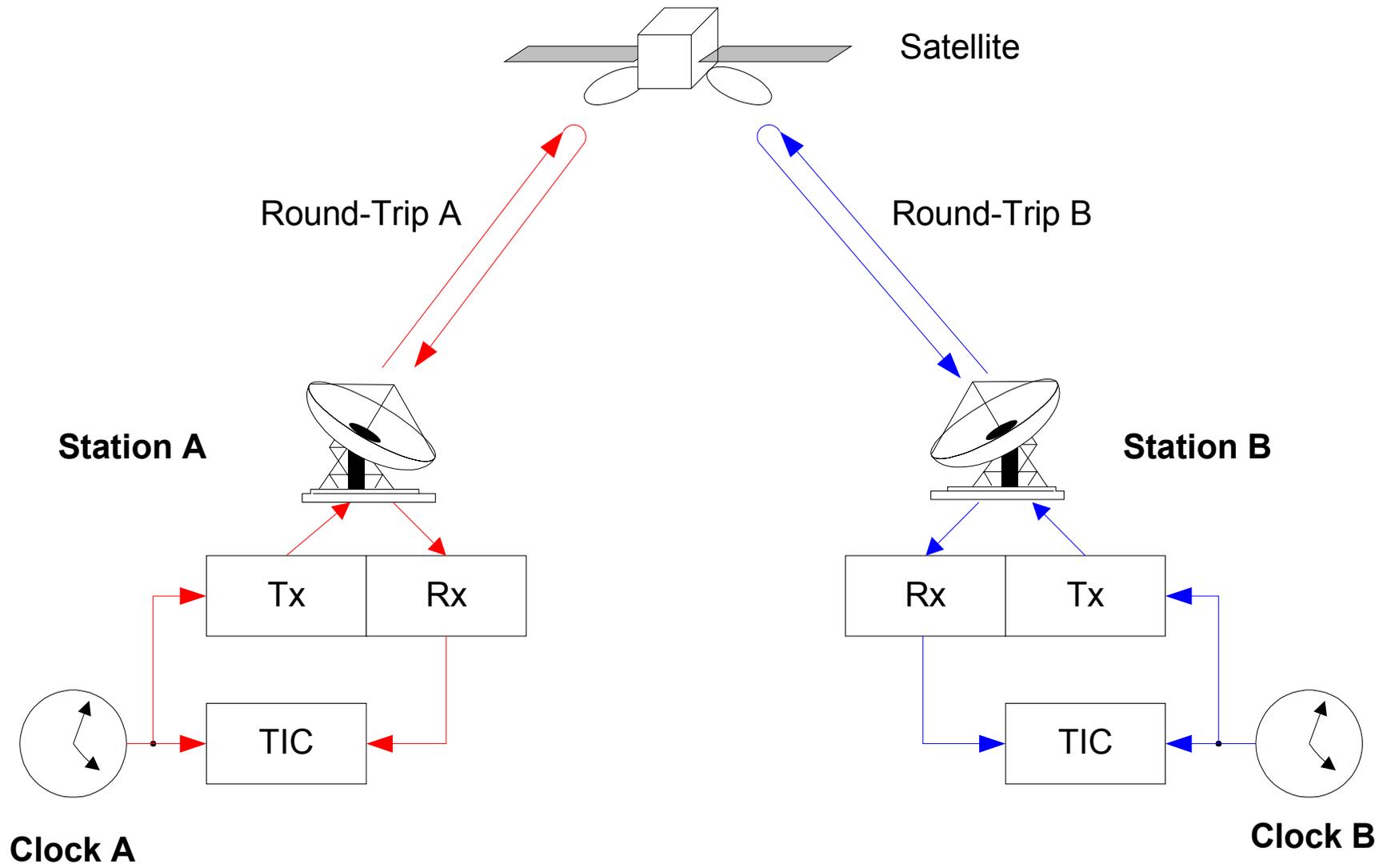
- Coherent communication system, using autocorrelation techniques & matched filter
- Near ideal demodulation process with insignificant implementation loss
- Ranging signal significantly lower than thermal noise in Rx bandwidth
- Highly tolerant against interference, multiple signals on same frequency
- Add data transmission modulated onto PN-code
- Instant ambiguity resolution, even at distances within the solar system
- Suppress Multi-Path signals within correlation length (beyond 1 chip)
- Measure code-phase and carrier phase simultaneously:
 - DRVID capability: **Group vs Phase Delay** in single frequency band
 - Detect Multi-Path and Signal reflections (signal scattering)

- **System Stability:** **300ps / Chiprate [MChip]**

3.Applications: TWSTFT and Time Synchronisation



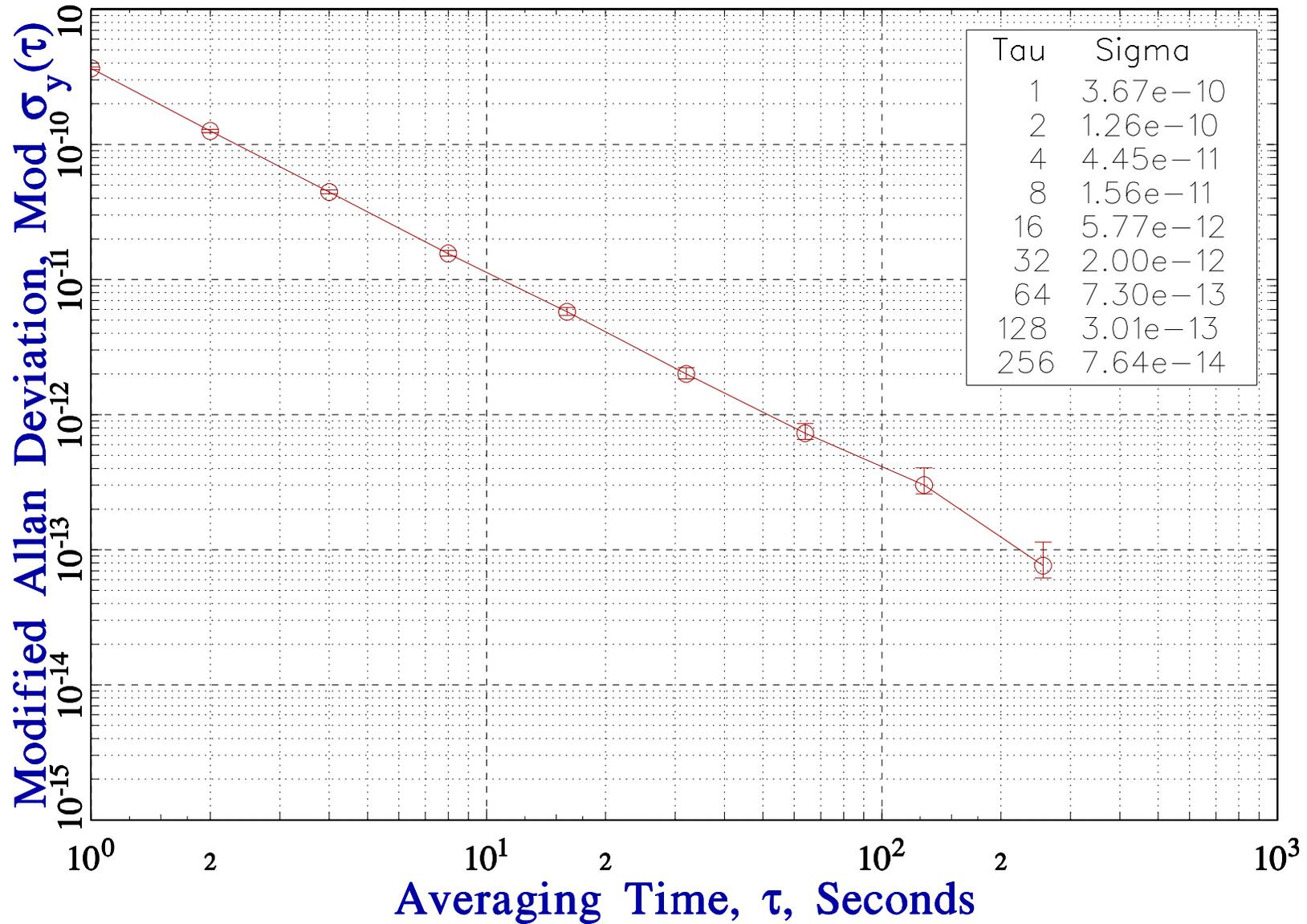
4.Applications: Satellite Ranging -> Trilateration using 3 Sites



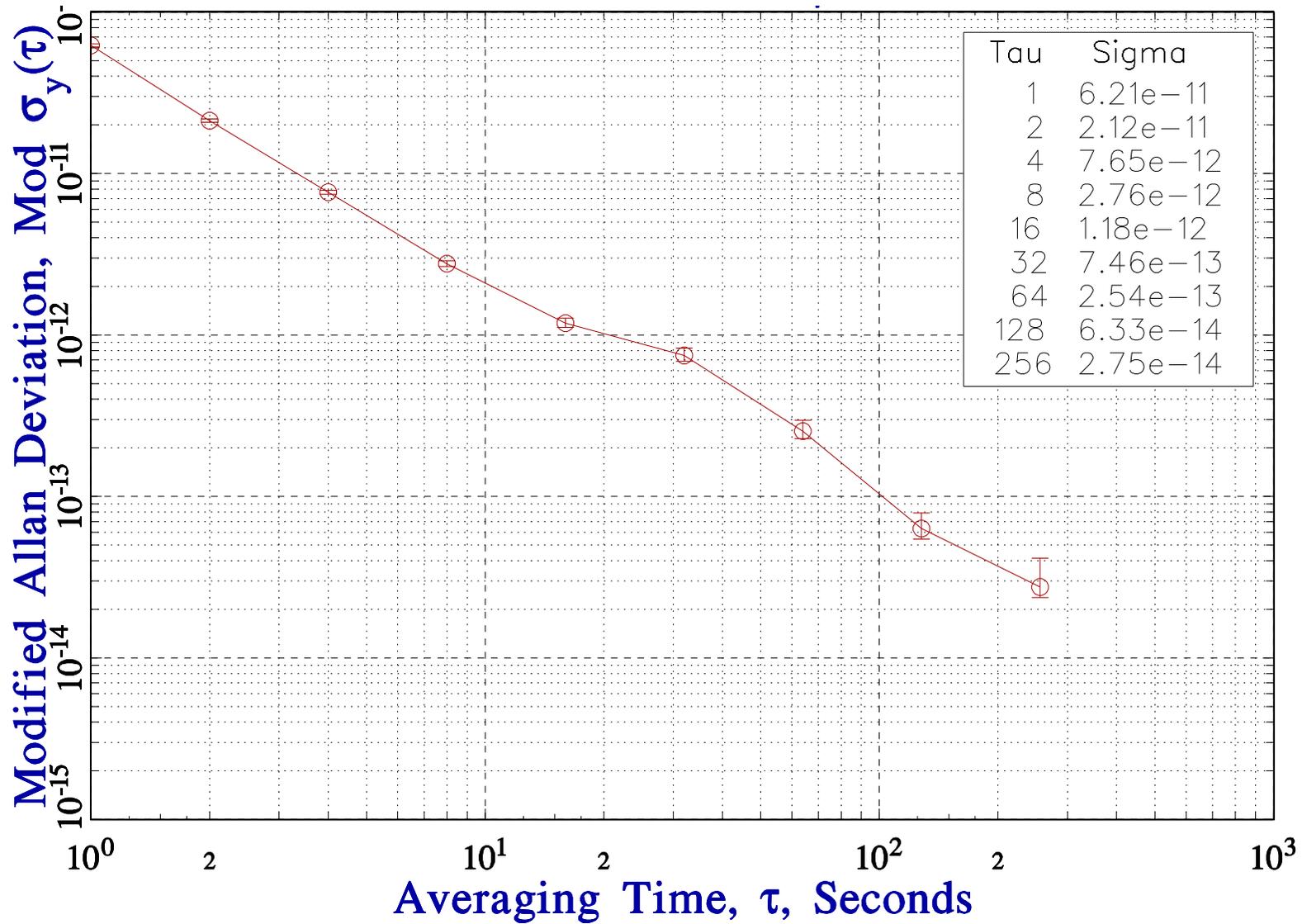
5. Antenna Systems: Very small apertures required



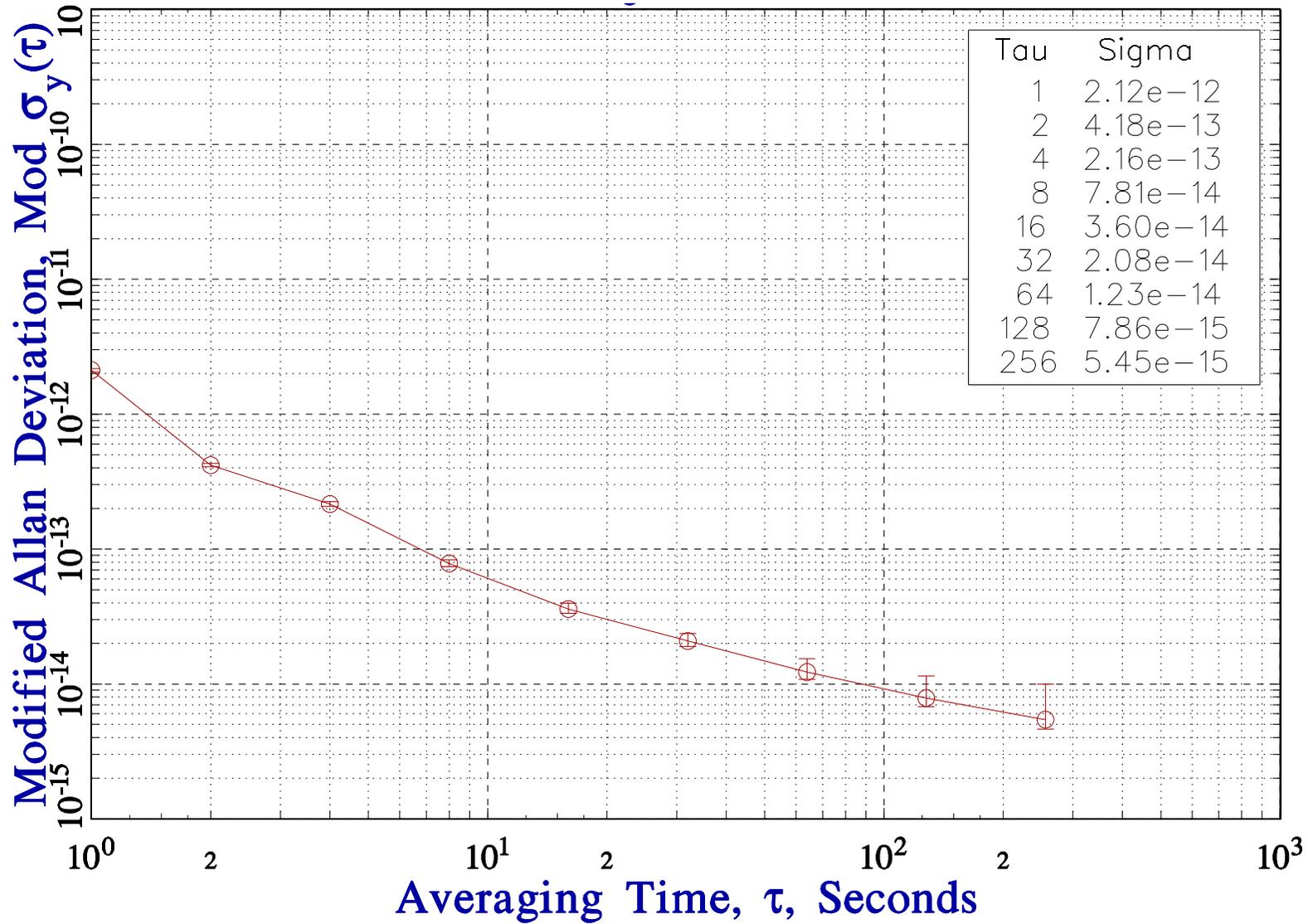
6.Code Phase Performance, 2.5 MChip/s



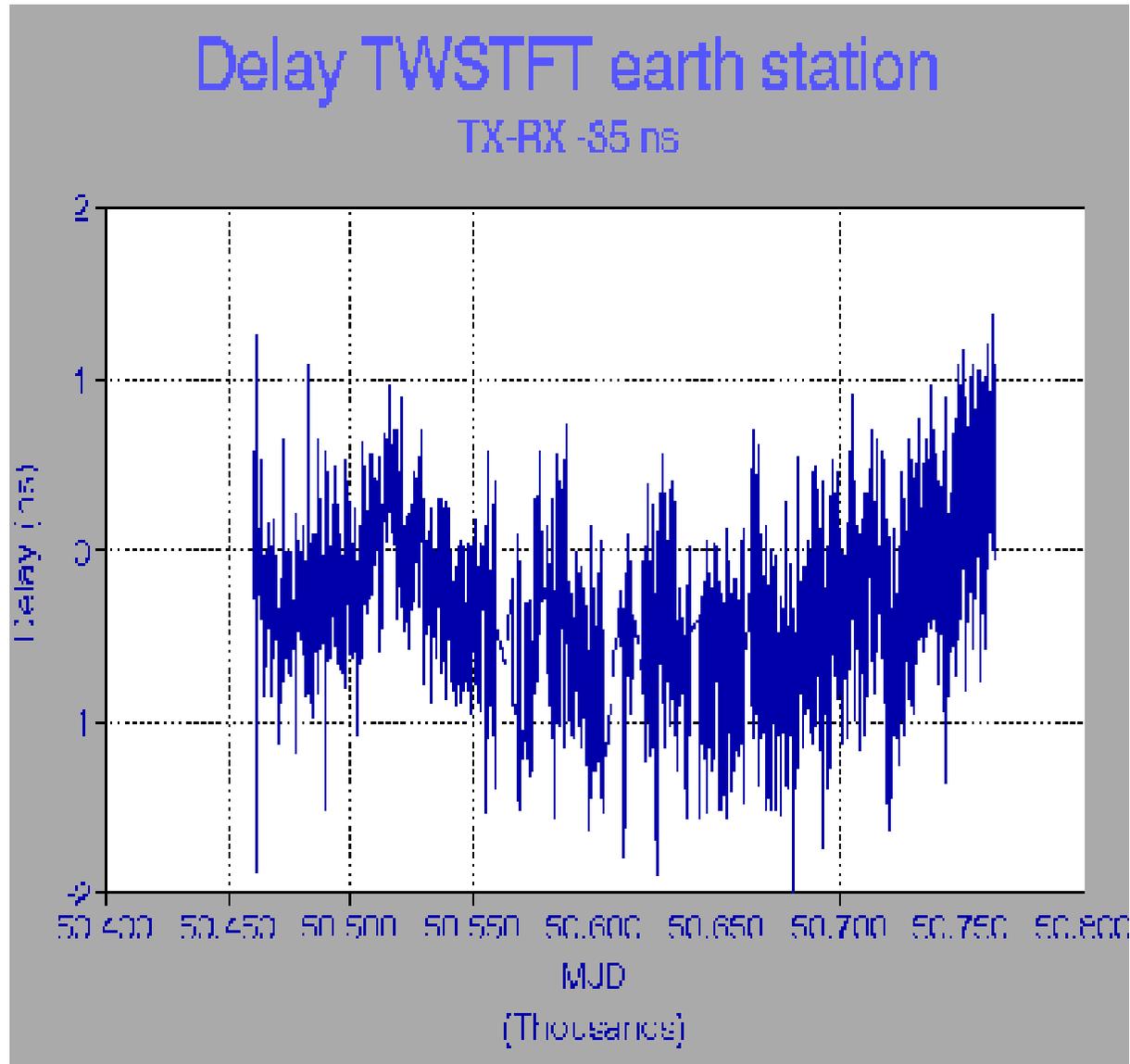
7.Code Phase Performance, 20 MChip/s



8.Carrier Phase Performance, PN+Data modulation, independent of chip rate

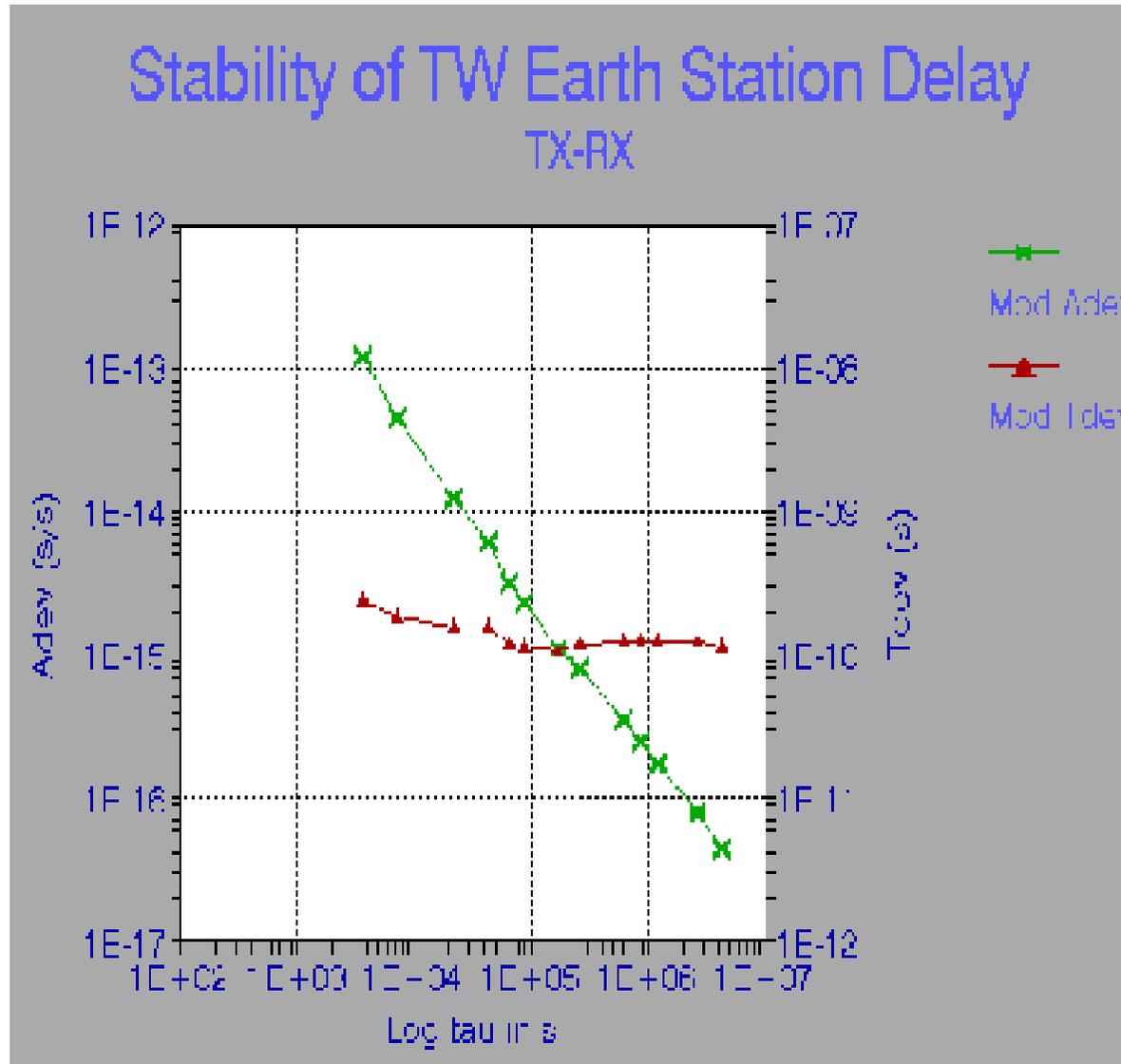


9.TWSTFT Ground Station Stability during 1 years (2.5 MChip/s)



Courtesy VSL, 1ns /div

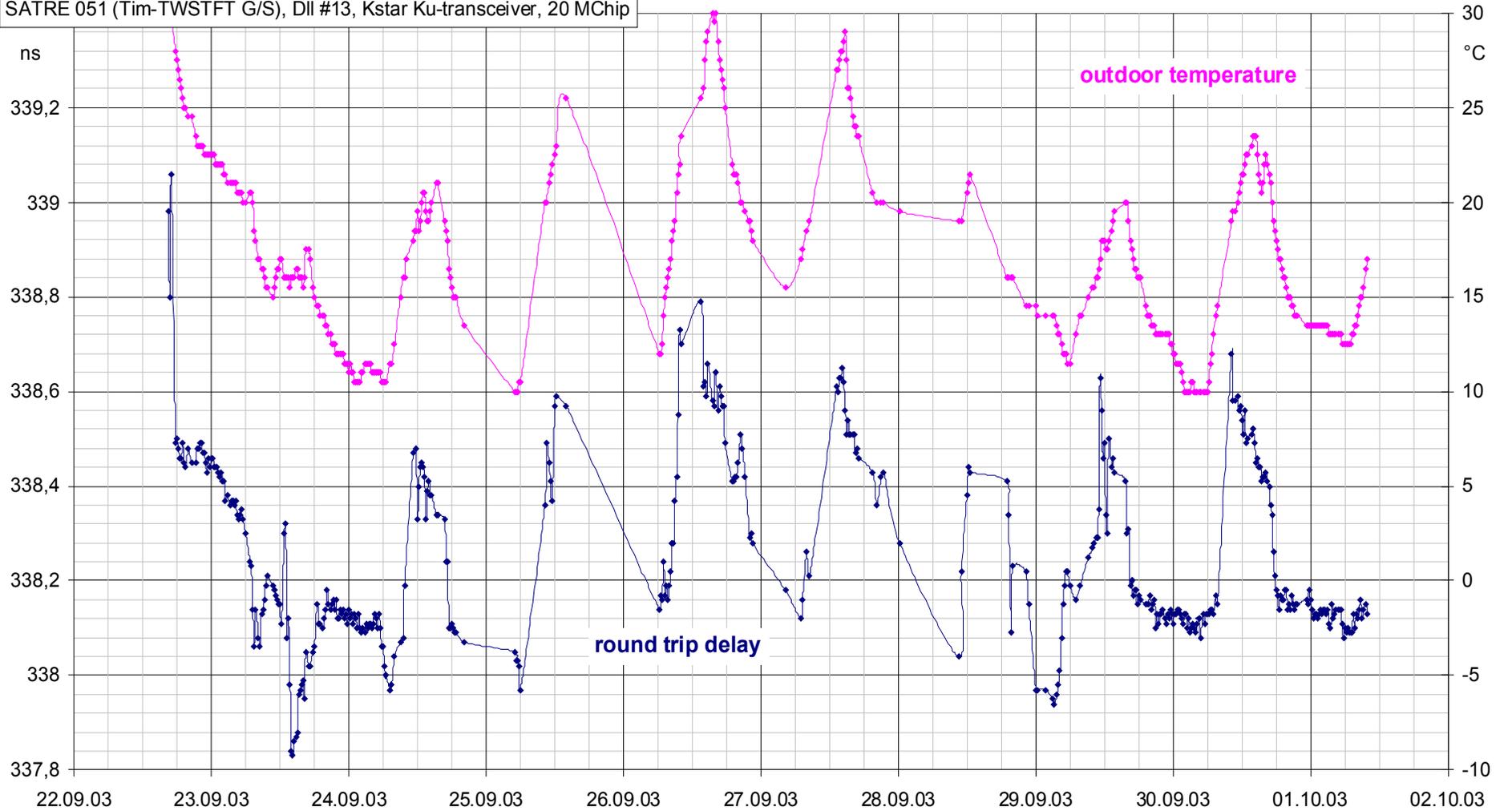
10. Typical ADEV / TDEV of VSAT Ground Station used for TWSTFT



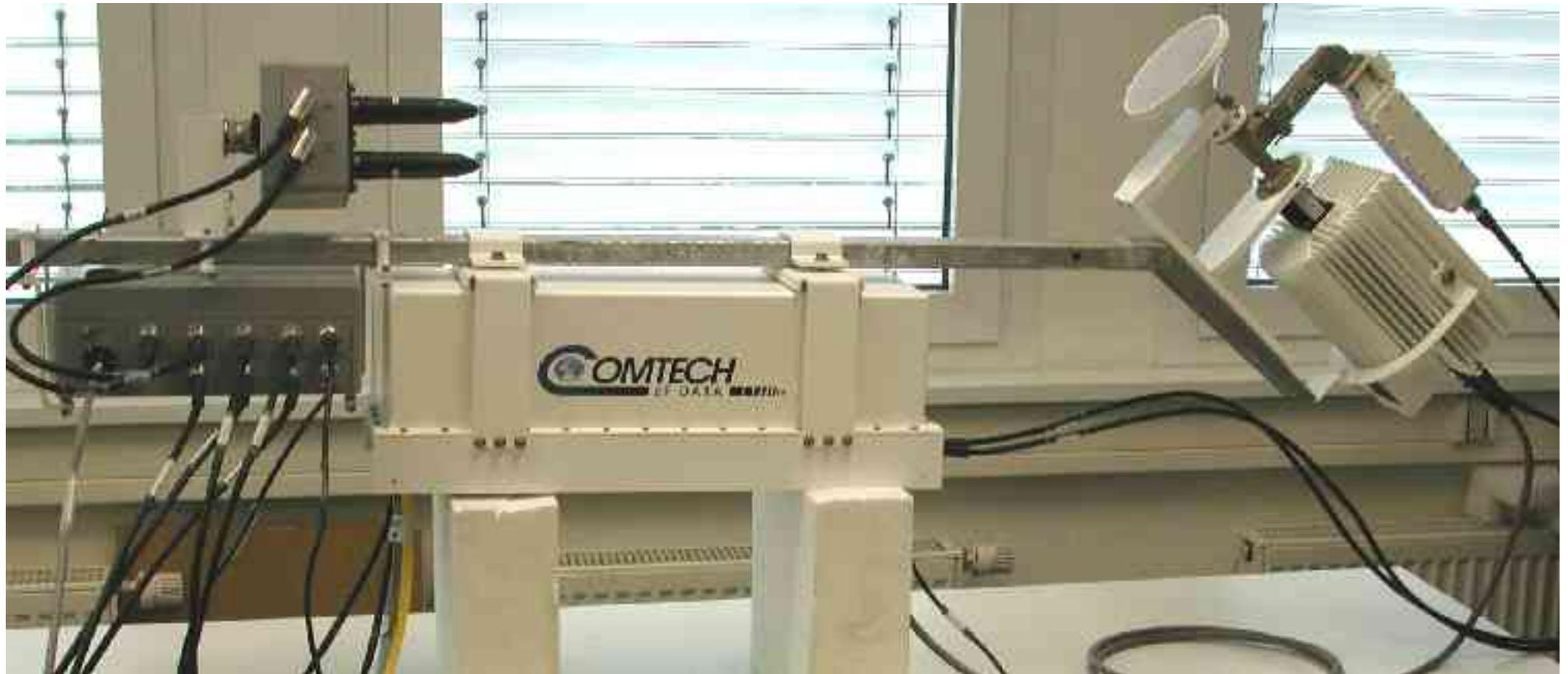
Courtesy VSL, TDEV 120ps

11. Station Round Trip Delay correlates well with Temperature

Round trip delay and outdoor temperature
SATRE 051 (Tim-TWSTFT G/S), DII #13, Kstar Ku-transceiver, 20 MChip



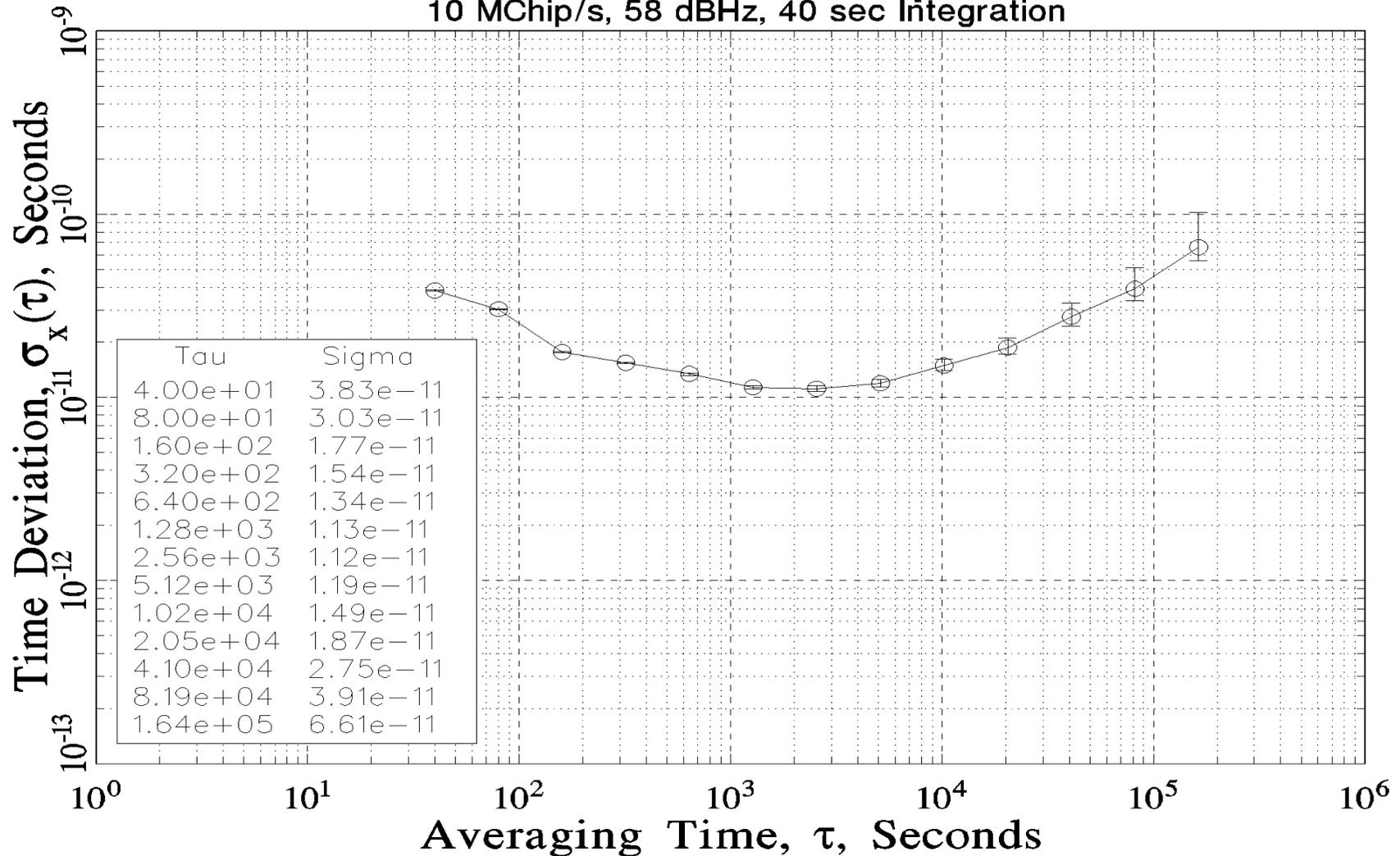
12.G/S Delay Monitoring Equipment



13.PRARE Instrumental Delay (TDEV)

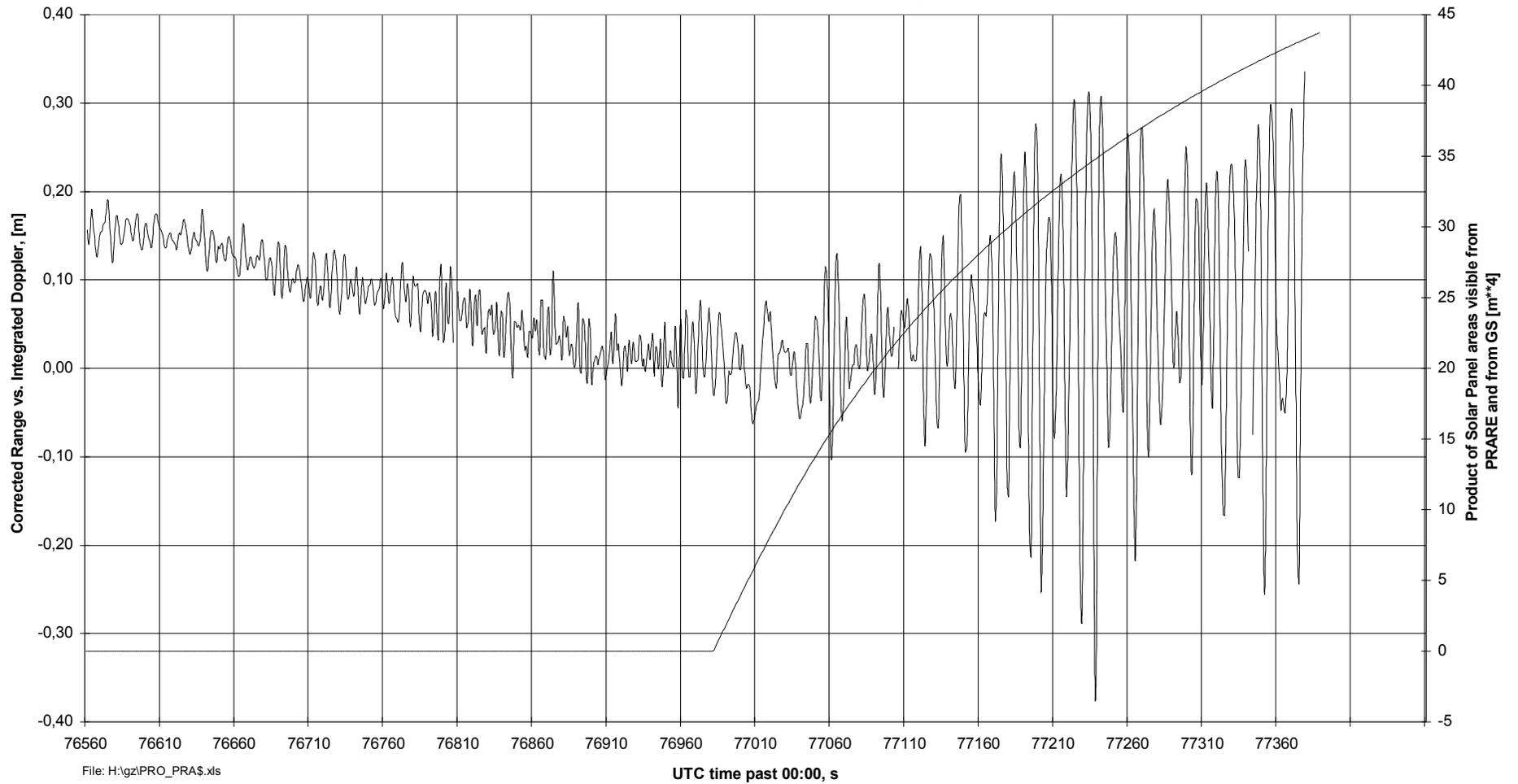
Prare Test-Transponder

10 MChip/s, 58 dBHz, 40 sec Integration



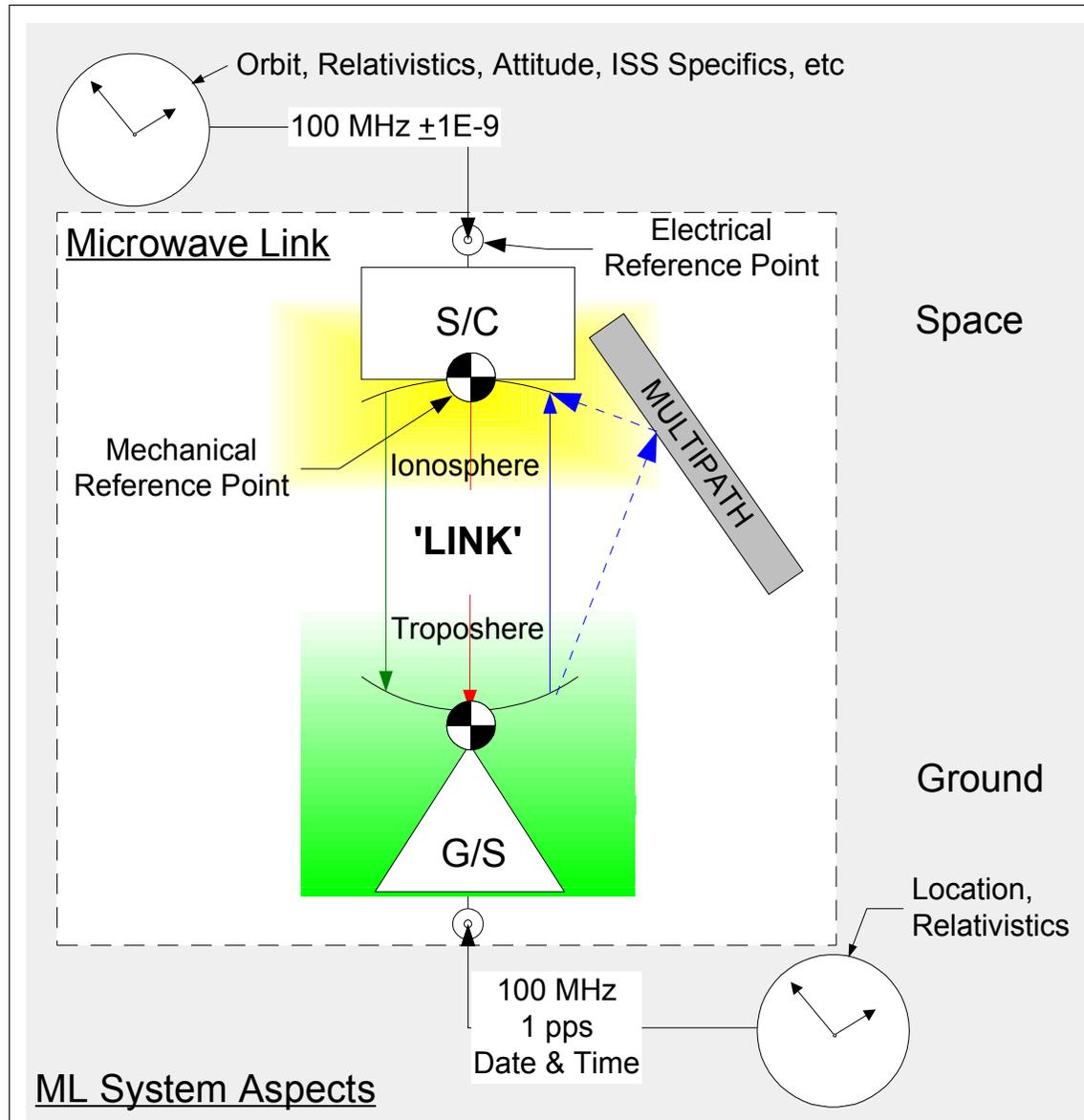
14. Use of DRVID to Detect Ionosphere & Multipath (PRARE on ERS-2)

**Correlation between DRVID-noise and
Solar Panel multipath coefficient
PRARE ERS-2, X-band, 10 MChip/s**



15.DS Tracking Stations augmented by TWSTFT + Delay Monitoring (proposal)

16.Candidate Technology for LISA: ACES Microwave Link (LEO / ISS)



- Accept Clocks “AS IS”
- Orbit Induced Effects
 - Distance
 - Velocity
 - Acceleration
- Link-Induced Effects
 - Ionosphere
 - Troposphere
 - Multipath
- Environment
 - Temperature
 - Micro-Vibration
 - Relativistics

17.ACES MWL Performance Objectives

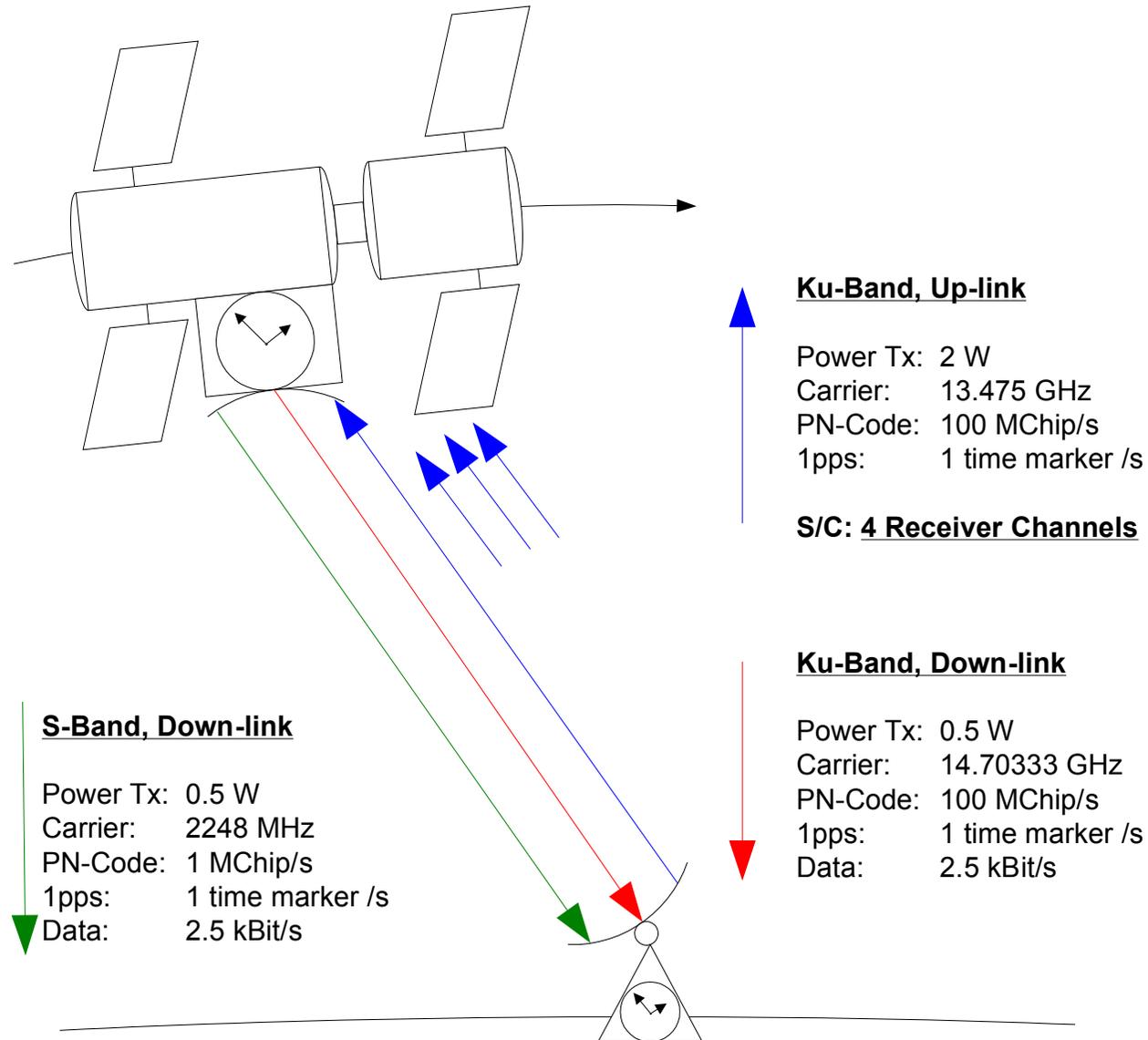
Time Transfer Performance

- Short Term 230 fs /pass (300 s)
- 1 day 5.6 ps
- 10 days 16 ps

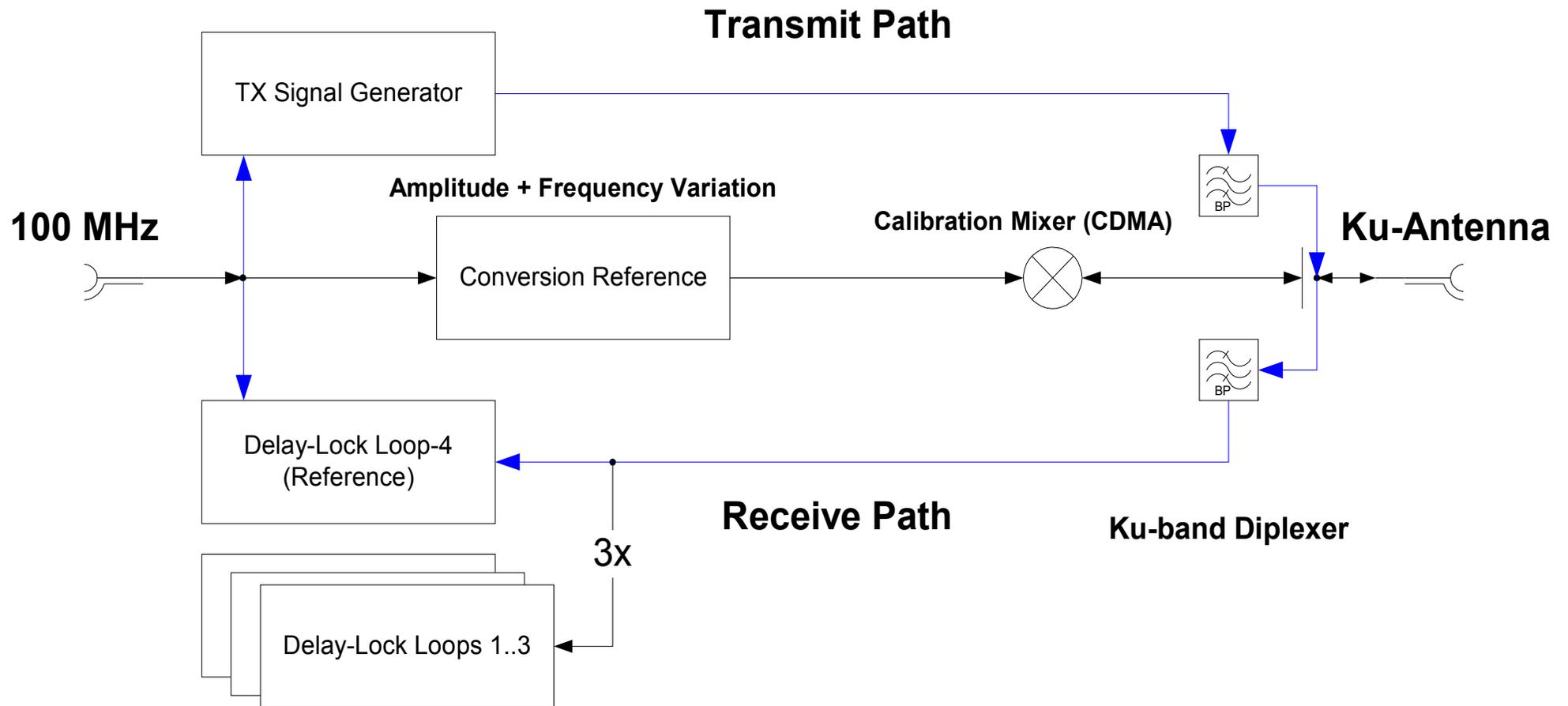
Ranging Performance (estimated)

- Accuracy: 3 .. 10 cm (with / without optical calibration)
- Stability: 1 cm
- Instrumentation significantly better than PRARE (up to 10 times improvement)
- Orbit reconstitution limited by LEO effects (drag, geo-potential etc)

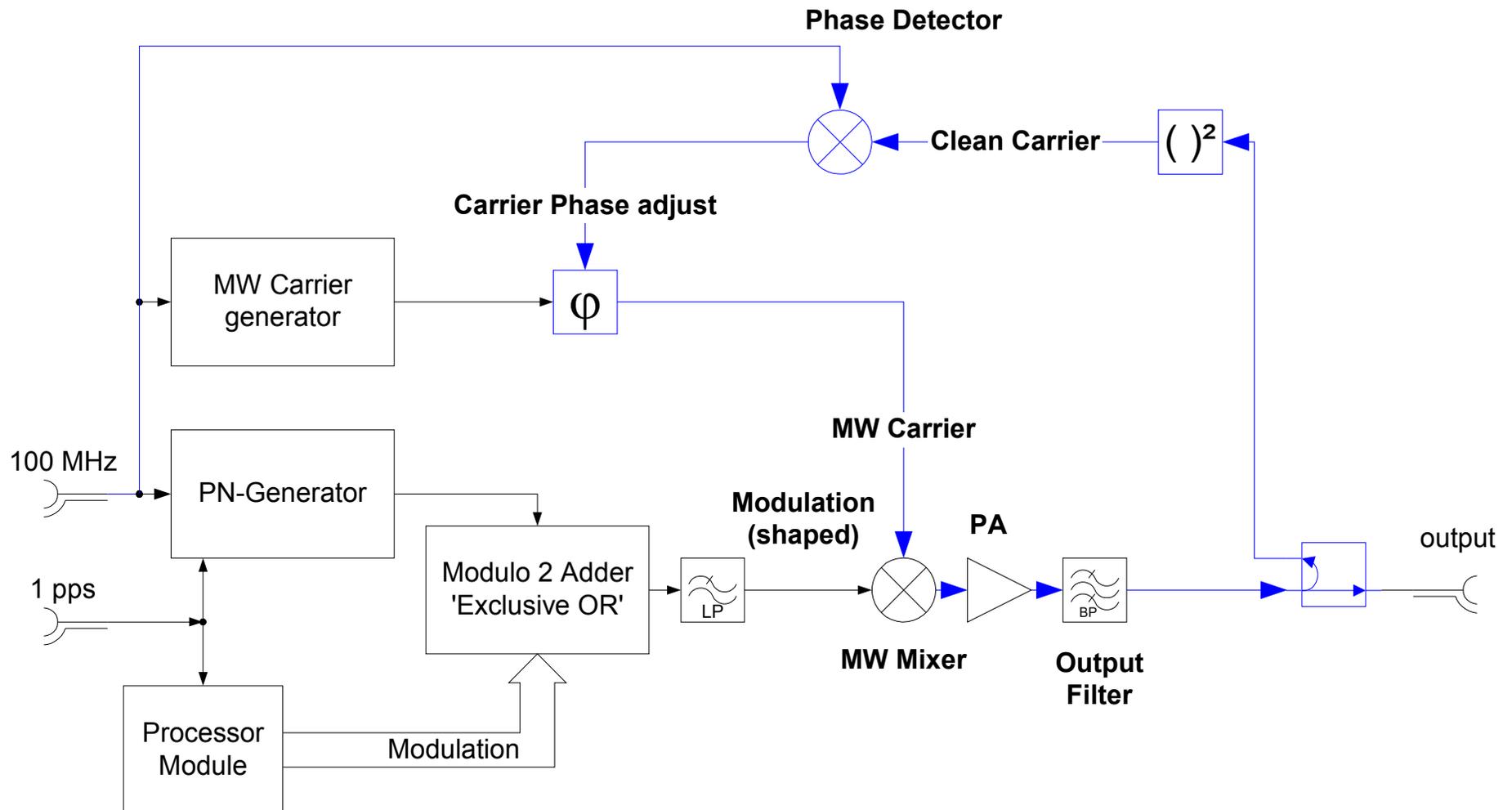
18.ACES MWL: Signal Links



19. Real-Time Transponder & G/S Delay Monitoring



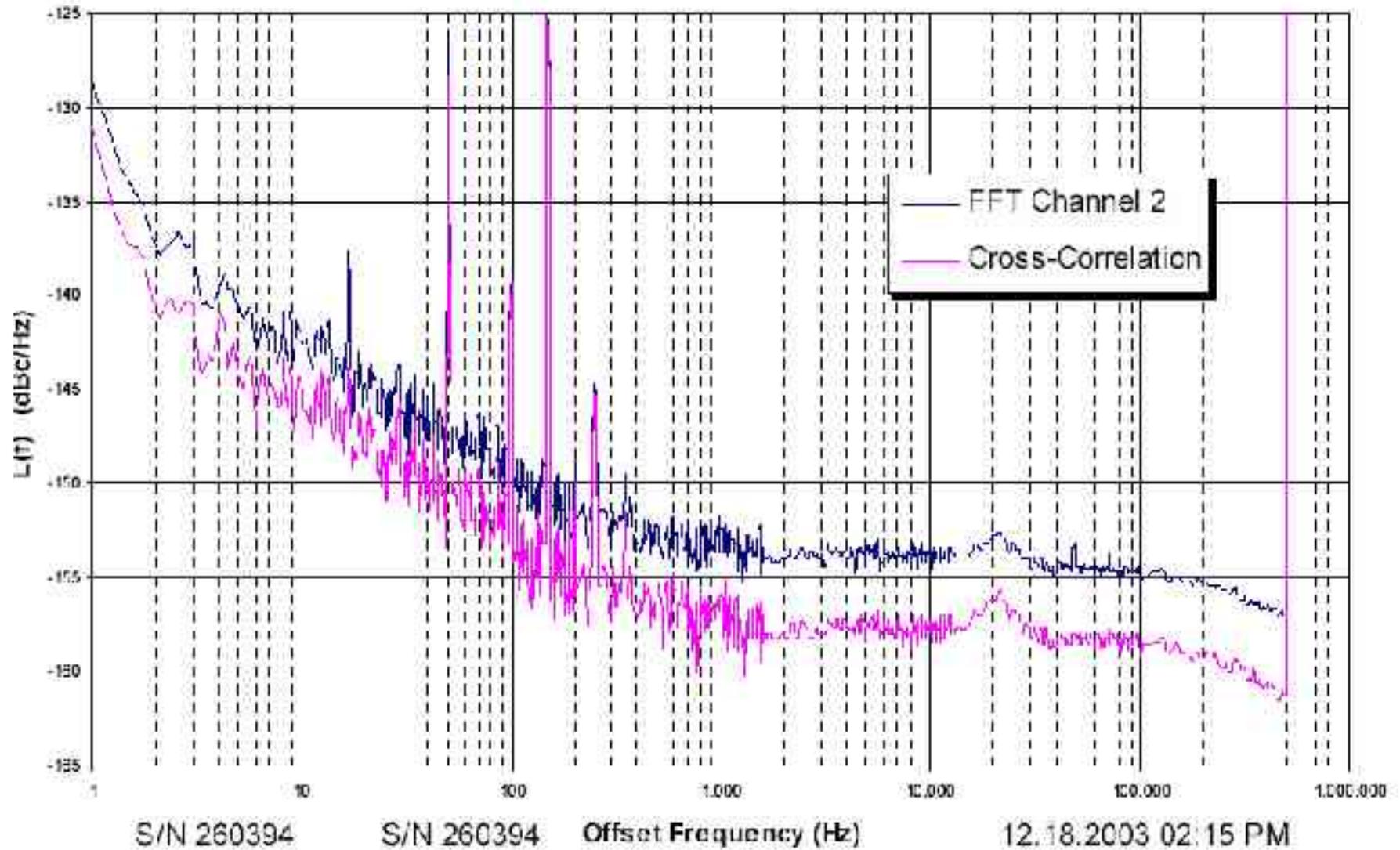
20.Coherent Signal Generation, PN & Data Modulation, Phase Stabilisation



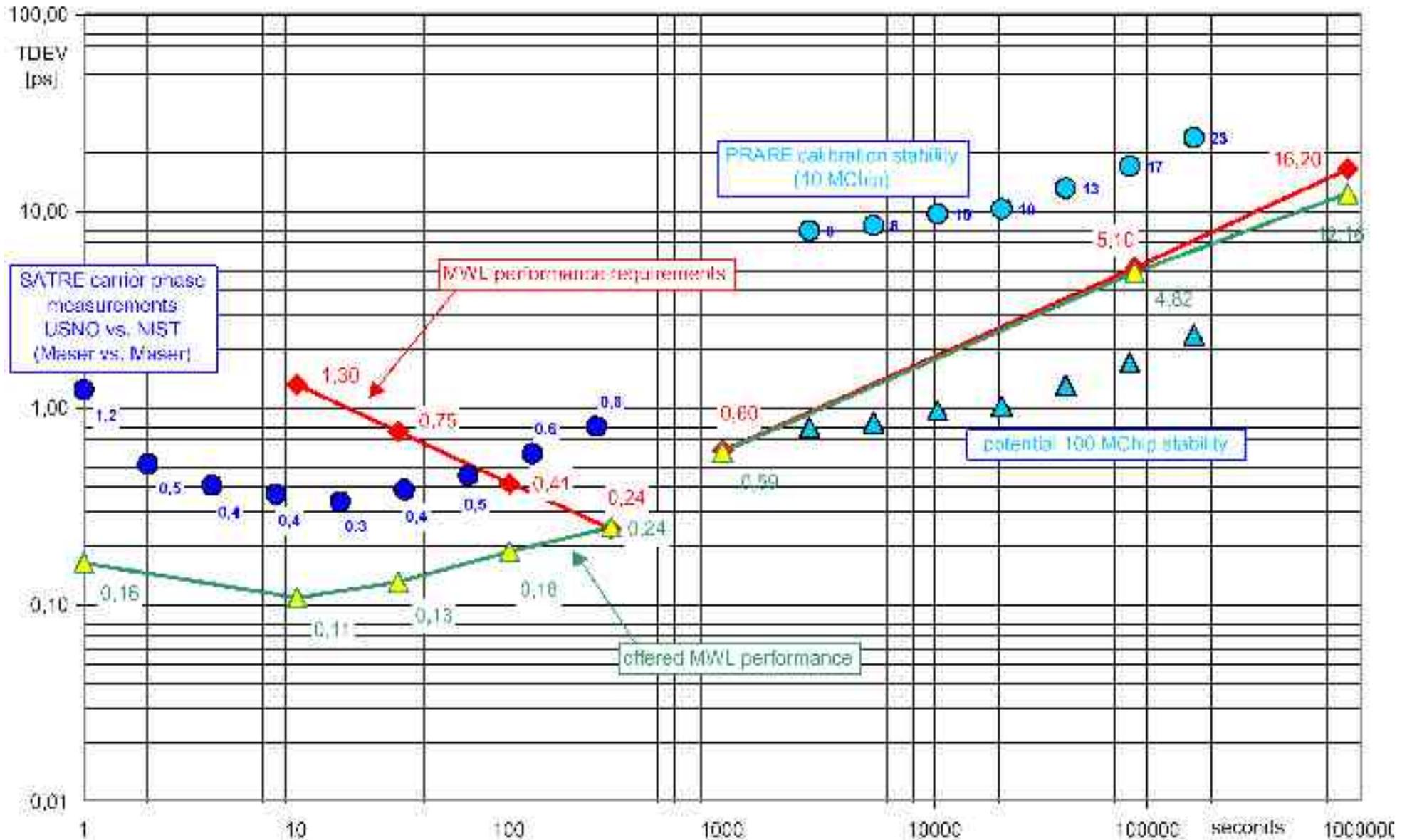
← 200 MHz →

21. On-Board Ultra Stable Oscillators for one-way ranging





22. Performance Perspective (TDEV [ps])



23. Conclusions

- Use Coherent PN-Coded RF Signals, rather than ranging tones
- Use **highest possible** Chip Rate (up to 100 MChip/s): -> Precision & Accuracy
- Perform code- and carrier phase measurements (group vs phase delay)
- Add (real-time) delay monitoring to G/S and S/C, correlate with temperature
- Perform TT&C & Ranging (round-trip) and Time-Transfer (two-way) **simultaneously**
- Multi-Path is deemed the most significant error source within G/S and S/C
- PN-coded signals suppress multi-path, carriers / tones DO NOT
 - Signal suppression is for distances beyond chip-length (**100 MChip/s: > 3m**)
 - Signal suppression is equally well for code-phase and for the carrier signal
- **Good RF links outperform the best clocks presently available**