# DATA SIMULATION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE ACES/PHARAO MISSION



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- A time scale in space of **high stability**...
  - better than  $\sigma_y = 10^{-13} \cdot \tau^{-1/2}$  (in frequency)
  - better than  $\sigma_x = 2.1 \cdot 10^{-14} \cdot \tau^{+1/2}$  (in time)
- ...and **accuracy** ~ 10<sup>-16</sup>
- International cooperation of more than 150 people
  - Science: LKB/ENS, SYRTE, PTB, Neuchâtel, UWA, ...
  - Space agencies: ESA, CNES
  - Industrial: EADS/Astrium, EADS/Sodern, TimeTech, ...
- Main scientific objectives
  - Atomic clock and microwave link performances in a space environment
  - Distant clock comparisons
  - Equivalence principle tests
  - Relativistic geodesy











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High performance Micro-Wave Link (MWL)

- What is a time transfer ? Compare distant clocks to determine their desynchronisation
- The MWL :
  - **Three signals** of different frequency (1 up, 2 down)
  - One signal = carrier + code
  - Asynchronous link → choice of the configuration by interpolating
- ST (Syrte Team) observables (six):
  - Time difference between the locally generated code/carrier and the received one

$${}^{s}(t_{2}^{0}) - \tau^{g}(t_{2}^{0}) = \left[ -\Delta \tau^{s} - \left[ T_{12} + \left[ \Delta_{\mathrm{Tx}} + \Delta_{\mathrm{Rx}} \right]^{t} \right]^{s} \right]$$

ST observable

 $f_3 = 2.24 \text{ GHz}$ 

 $\simeq$ 

 $\simeq$ 

Time of flight (from orbitography)

 $t_3$ 

 $f_2$ 

.f1

delays

 $t_5$ 

 $f_3$ 

 $\tau$ 

Desynchronization

ISS trajectory

Ground station

trajectory

13.5 GHz

14.7 GHz

## • Lambda configuration :

- Interpolate data so that  $t_2 = t_3$
- Minimize error due to ISS orbitography (Duchayne et al., A&A 504, 2009)
- Different from « standard » 2-way configuration

$$\tau^{s}(t_{2}) - \tau^{g}(t_{2}) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \Delta \tau^{g} - \Delta \tau^{s} + [T_{34} - T_{12}]^{g} \right) + \text{delays}$$

## Atmospheric electronic content

- Ionospheric delay depends on signal frequency and STEC
- Data from downlinks  $\rightarrow$  STEC



Pre-processing: from TT to ST observables



**ST observables :** time difference between the locally generated code/carrier (= local time of emission) and the received one (in receiver time)  $\rightarrow$  pseudorange

 $2\ methods$  for recovering ST observables from TT observable : iterative and direct

• Accuracy of ST observables during one passage (for frequency transfer) :



## Resolve code ambiguity

- Iterative method : initial term found by averaging on all PPS
- Direct method : ambiguity found by fitting the code phase to one PPS
- code to resolve carrier ambiguity

• Measurement uncertainty can be further decreased by using "accumulated phase latch",  $T_{acc}$ . But in the end S/N dominated by received power





- ISS orbitography + station coordinates in Terrestrial Reference Frame → transform to Celestial Reference Frame (inertial)
- clock modelization for ISS & GS (e.g. noise)
- Solve time transfer between the two terminals
- Generate TimeTech observables & theoretical values
- Test of preprocessing code (from TT 2 ST observables)



### Time transfer model





- Data analysis : file naming, data classifying, file formats, conventions...
- Inputs and outputs :



TIMETECH - Zero doppler Test



## Scientific analysis: T2L2



Collaboration with Geoscience Azur (UNS, CNRS-OCA)

Test of Lorentz invariance in the Robertson-Mansouri-SexI formalism

Real data == PROBLEMS  $\rightarrow$  T2L2 is a good occasion to test parts of our ACES analysis code

Jason satellite



MEO laser Station @ OCA

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#### Conclusion



- Link between TimeTech observables and Syrte Team observables understood
- Simulation to generate TimeTech observables and theoretical observables
- Software for pre-processing of data finished and tested (+implementation of a new pre-processing method for robustness)
- Data analysis software : design done, writing in progress, first (simple) tests successful
- MWL end to end test in progress (TimeTech)
- Analysis of T2L2 data for science (Lorentz Invariance) and as "test case" in progress

#### Orbit errors



Fig. 7. Modified Allan deviations of the redshift error for X = 14, 16, 18, 20 m.

Duchayne et al., A&A 504 (2009)

- « Naive » estimate give 1m for 10<sup>-16</sup> relative accuracy
- Relativistic frequency shift : grav. Redshift + 2nd order
  Doppler effect → errors partly cancel
- Hill and white noise model give :
  - 8 m for radial errors
  - 16 m for tangential errors
  - 1,4 km for normal errors
  - Plus constraints on the Lambda configuration and calibration delays