

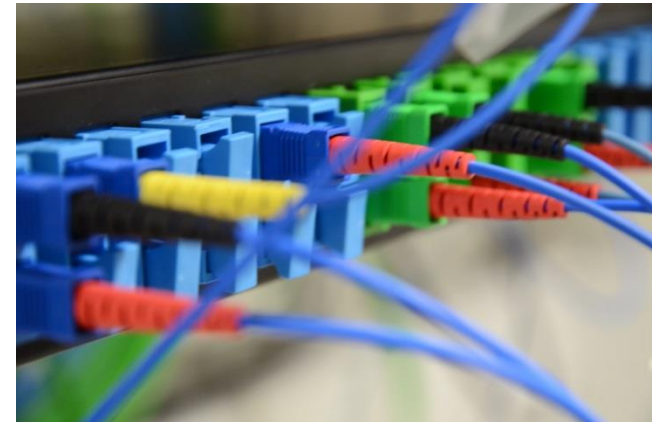
RISE - STRATEGY FOR TIME/FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION IN SWEDEN USING COHERENT TRANSPONDERS FOR WHITE RABBIT

Sven-Christian Ebenhag

Research Institutes of Sweden

Safety and Transport

Measurement Science and Technology



Outline

- RISE the Time and Frequency NMI of Sweden
- Why do we do it?
- What have we done before
- What are we planning to do now
- So far

RISE the Time and Frequency NMI of Sweden

**RI.
SE**

Swedish National Metrology Institute National Laboratory of Standards



- RISE is appointed as the Swedish NMI by the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation
- the NMI is funded from Vinnova Sweden's innovation agency and any decisions made by an advisory board from industry.
 - The level of NMI funding
 - Swedish level of participation in EMRP/EMPIR
- RISE is hosting the National Metrology Institute
 - RISE mission and strategies given by the Ministry of Enterprise. RISE has 2300 employees & the NMI 120.
RISE mission is also the NMI mission.



Time Keeping

- UTC(SP) since 1/4 1996
- Main site in Borås, additional site in Stockholm since 2013
- Also reporting clocks at OSO
- T&F transfer using GNSS CV
- **T&F transfer using fibers**
- TWSTFT station in Borås



Clocks and Scales

- 18 clocks reported to BIPM (September)
 - Typically 4-6 % weight in TAI
 - 7 H-masers
 - SigmaTau 2010
 - Kvarz CH1-95
 - Vremya VCH1003M Opt L
 - 9 (high) +2 (standard) 5071A
- AOG and HROG based UTC time scales
 - 3xBorås, 2x Sthlm, 1xOSO,

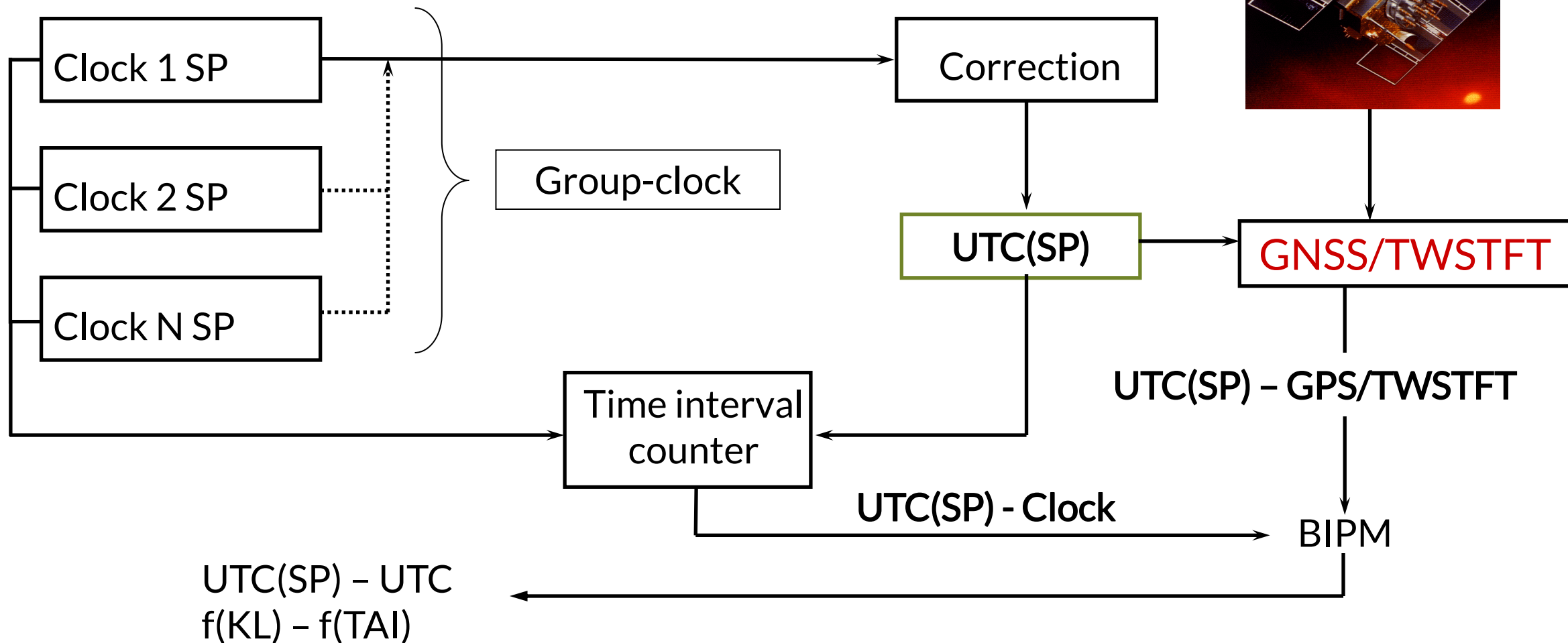


Secure Clock Site Stockholm

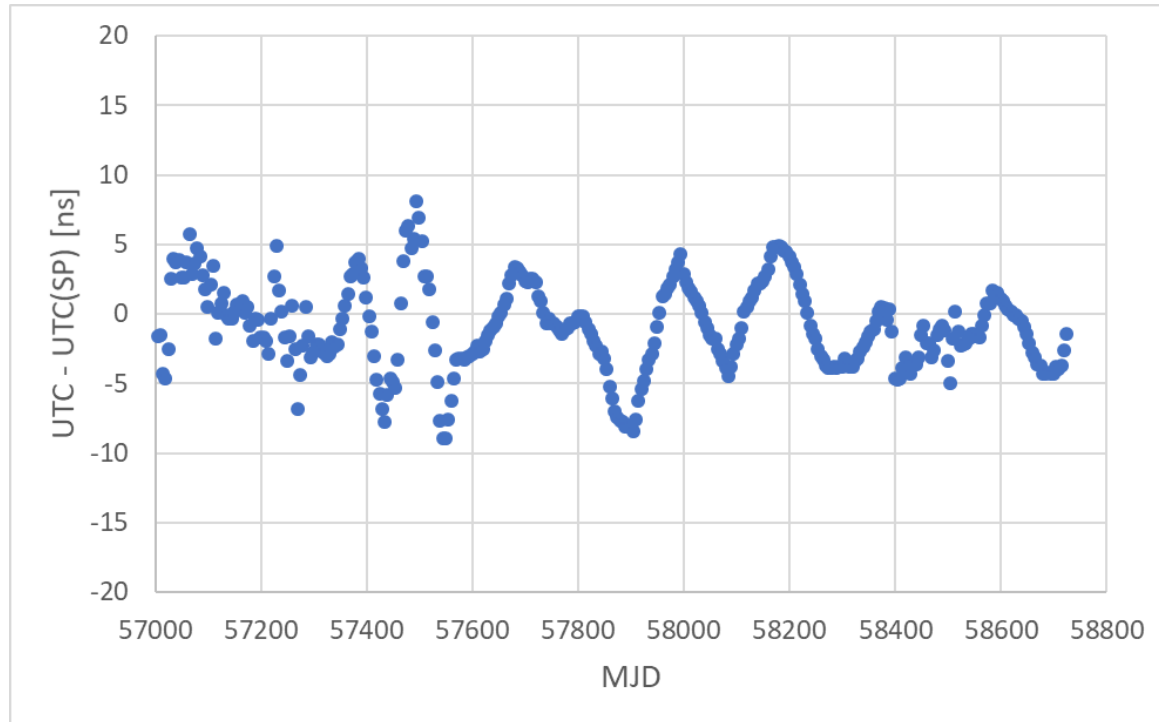
- Stockholm area, > 15 m below surface level
- EM-shielded, vibration absorbers, shock wave protection
- UPS, 24/48VDC backup and 3 diesel generators
- Climate control, with redundancy
- Separate redundant power and cooling supplies
- Locations divided in two separate, identical labs
 - 3 Cs and 1 active HM, UTC time scale
- Identical set of timing and communication equipment in both, separate communication paths
 - NTP, customer in Stockholm area



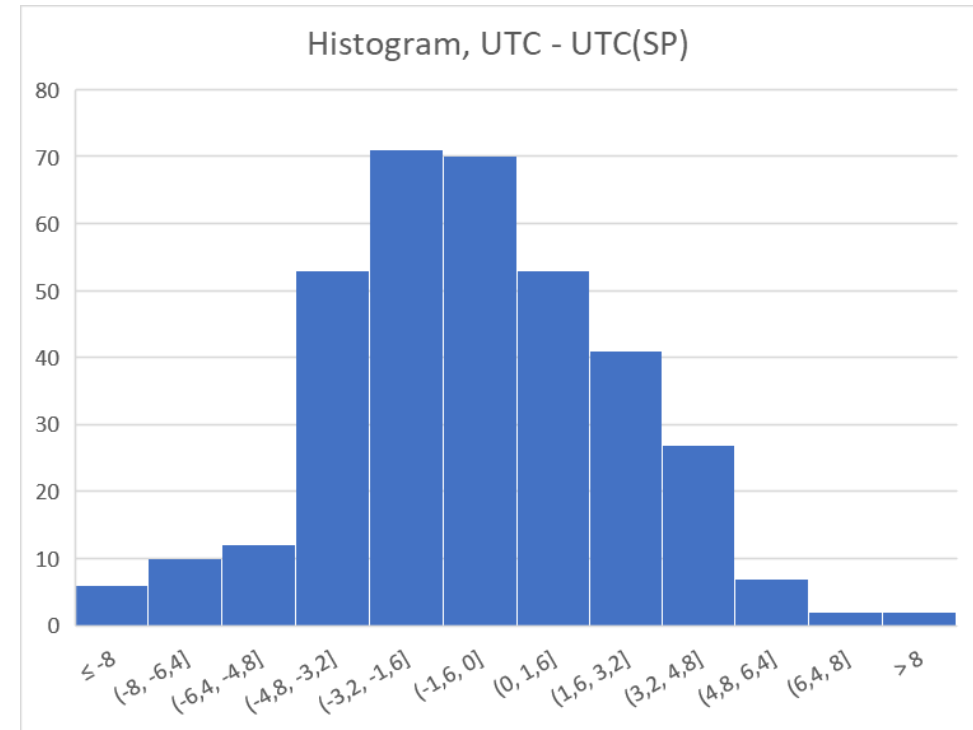
Swedish National Timescale UTC(SP)



Historical Deviation from UTC



Last 5 years within ± 10 ns from UTC
typically ± 5 ns



Standard Deviation = 3.5 ns
typical frequency $\pm 5e-15$

Why do we do it?

Why UTC(SP)? Who needs it? Why does it have to be secured T&F?

Autonomy/positioning



Aviation



Defense



Economy



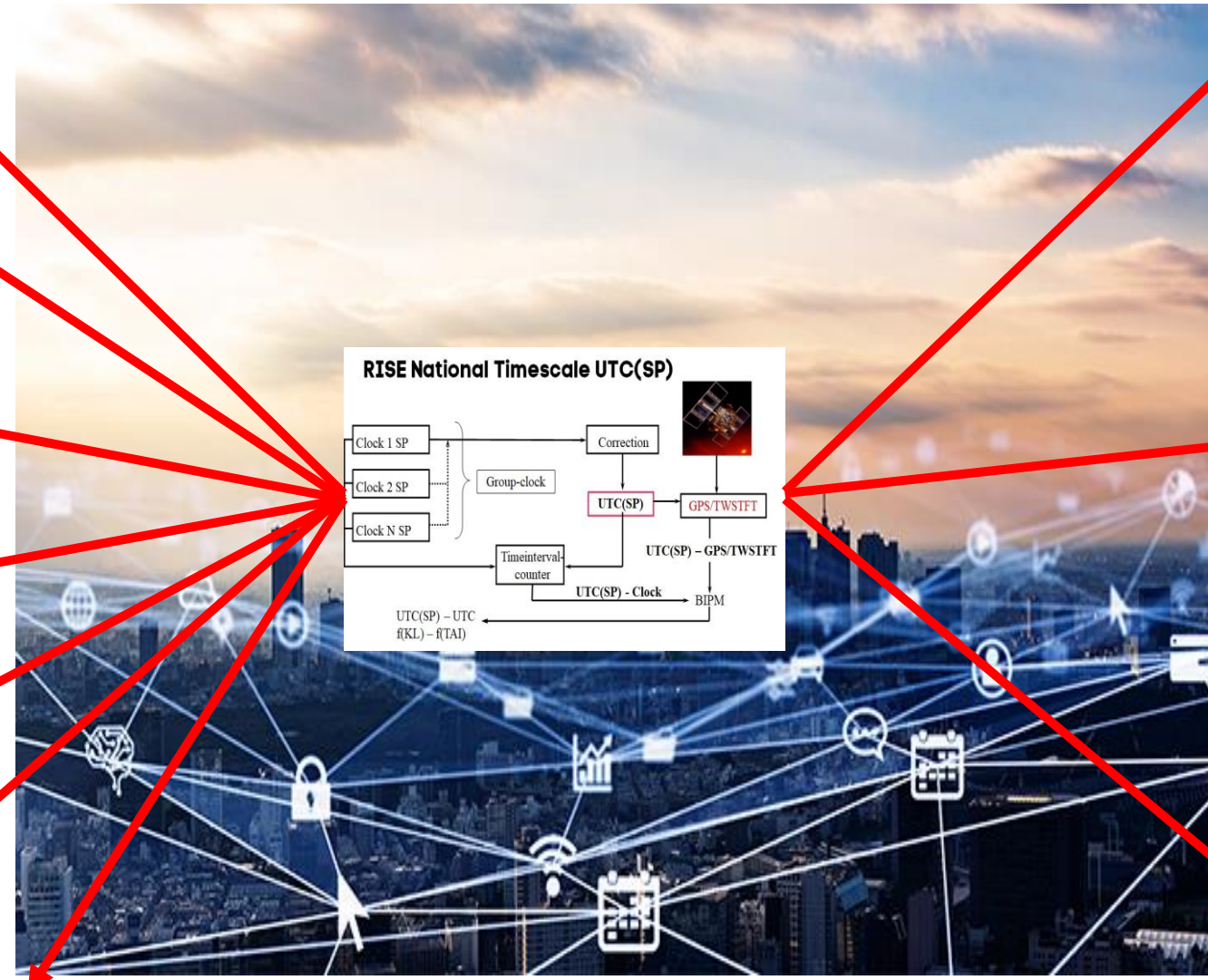
EU-projects Research



HPC/Storage



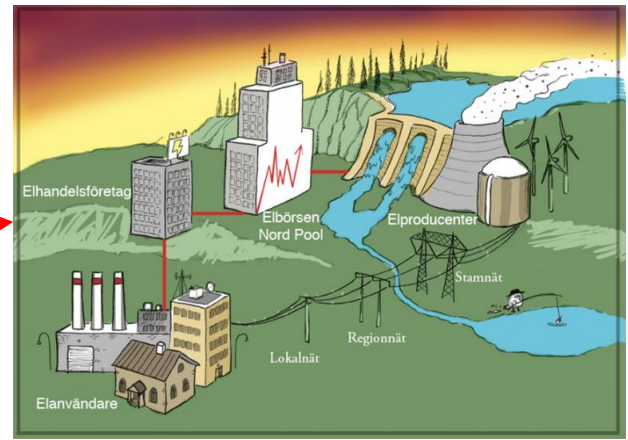
Research



Authorities



The energy sector



Requirements from the authority for social security and preparedness



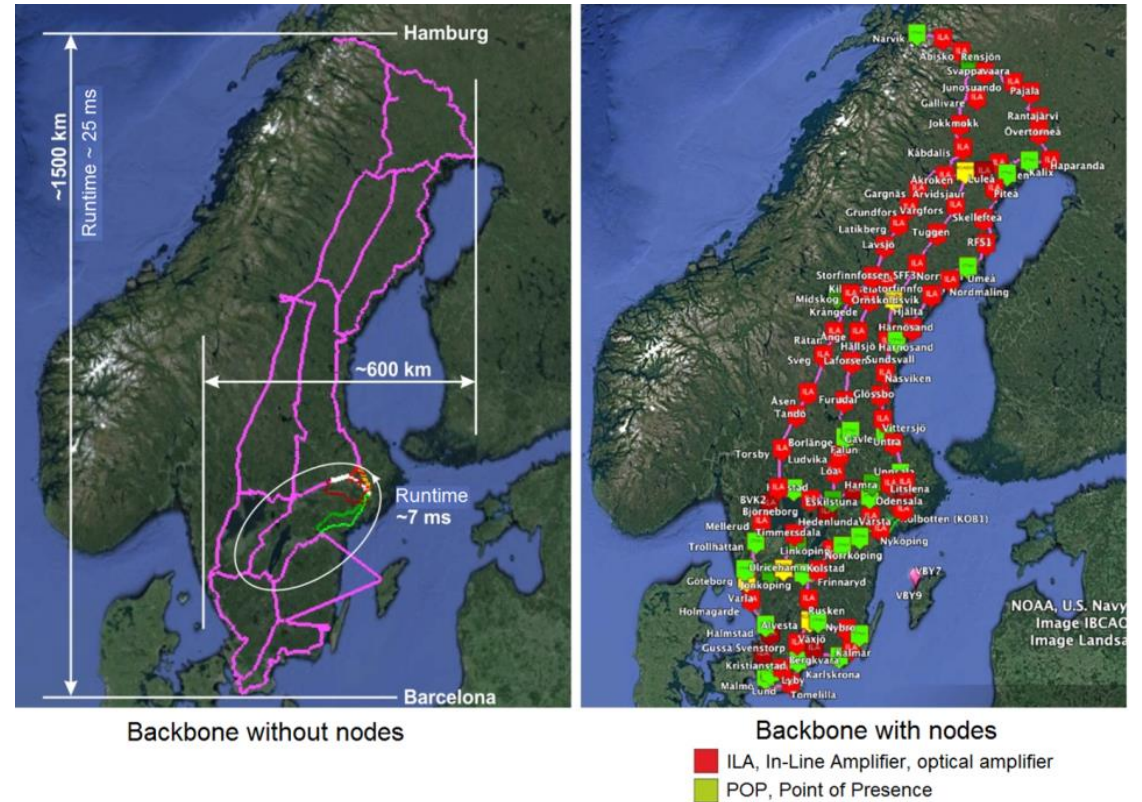
Vikten av var och när

Samhällets beroende av korrekt tids- och positionsangivelse



SUNET C

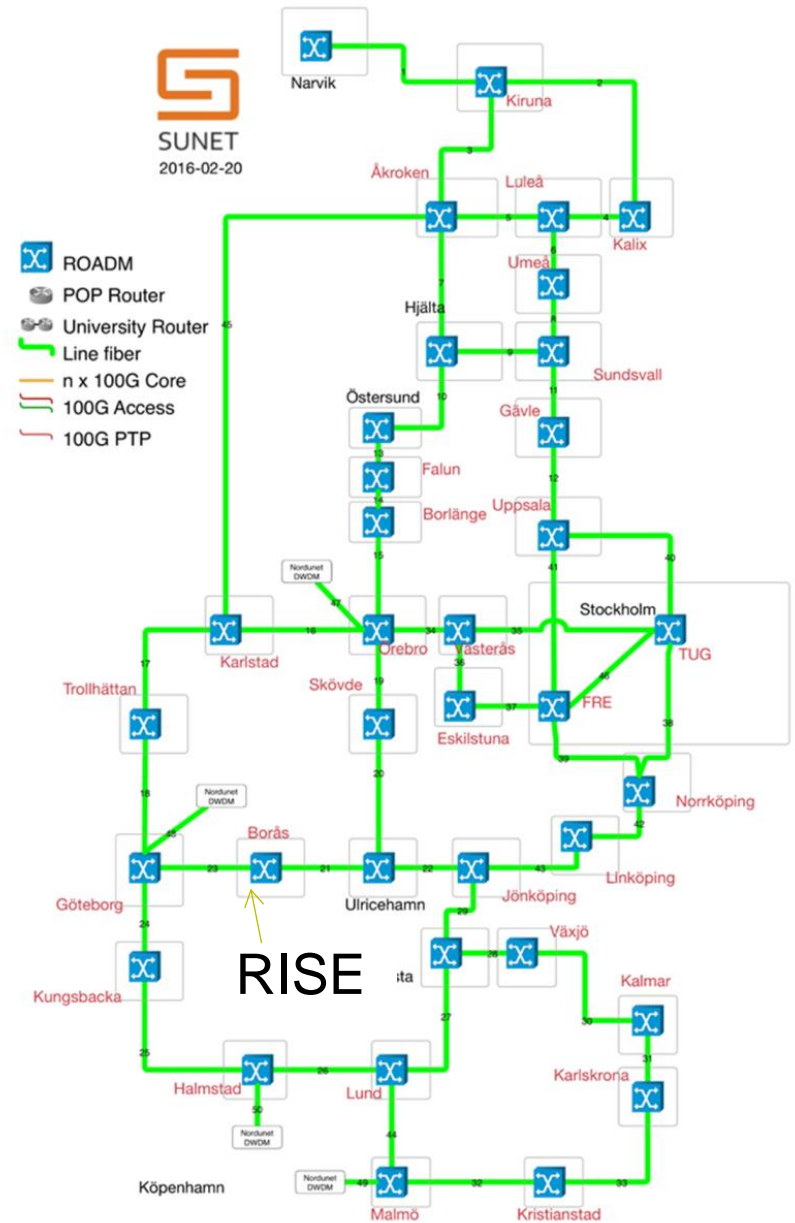
- Distance from North to South is comparable to the distance between Hamburg and Barcelona
- ROADMs in every university city
 - Reconfigurable Optical Add Drop Multiplexer
- Optical In-line Amplifiers
 - EDFA and Raman combined



The Figure presents all drop-off of wavelengths in the major cities and single amplifiers in between, which are a total of 88 Inline Amplifier sites (ILA) and 36 backbone Point of Presence (POP) with Reconfigurable Optical Add Drop Multiplexer (ROADM)

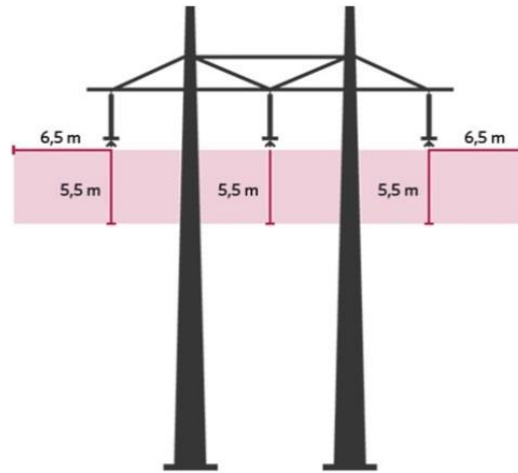
Network scheme

- 100 Gb/s routers at each client and in Stockholm
 - Two central hubs for robustness
 - 25 Gbaud, 4 QAM, dual polarization
 - Upgrade to 200 or 400 Gbit/s possible
 - **No optical dispersion compensation, no optical polarization tracking, all handled by DSP at Rx**
- Wavelength routed through ROADMs along shortest open path
- Point-to-point connection between two clients can be enabled dynamically



Utilizing power grid fiber

- SUNET C are utilizing optical fiber along the power grid within Sweden
- It result in 50Hz interference and variations in polarization along the fiber path.
 - When the magnitude of the interference is substantial, harmonic frequencies of 50 Hz appears in the polarization variation.
- The 50Hz interference is might due to the fact that the fiber for some part introduce an angle to the power cable and that induce a interference related to the Faraday effect



Summary SUNET C

- SUNET C is an all-optical network connecting all University-cities in Sweden
- Capacity for each client to have 100 Gb/s on predefined wavelength
- Flexible ROADMs enables arbitrary wavelength at a grid of 12,5 GHz
- Robust network with 2 or more spatially separated fiber pairs to each client
- Most of the fiber are in aerial installations along power lines



What have we done before

WRITE

JRP 17IND14 <http://empir.npl.co.uk/write/>

WRITE - White Rabbit Industrial Timing Enhancement

Aim

To use metrological developments accelerating the industrial adoption of PTP-WR

Motivation

- **Scalability**

Develop scalable calibration techniques for PTP-WR, 200 ps uncertainty using existing fiber configurations.
 Propagation Calibration - Absolute calibration- In Field protocols

- **Resiliency**

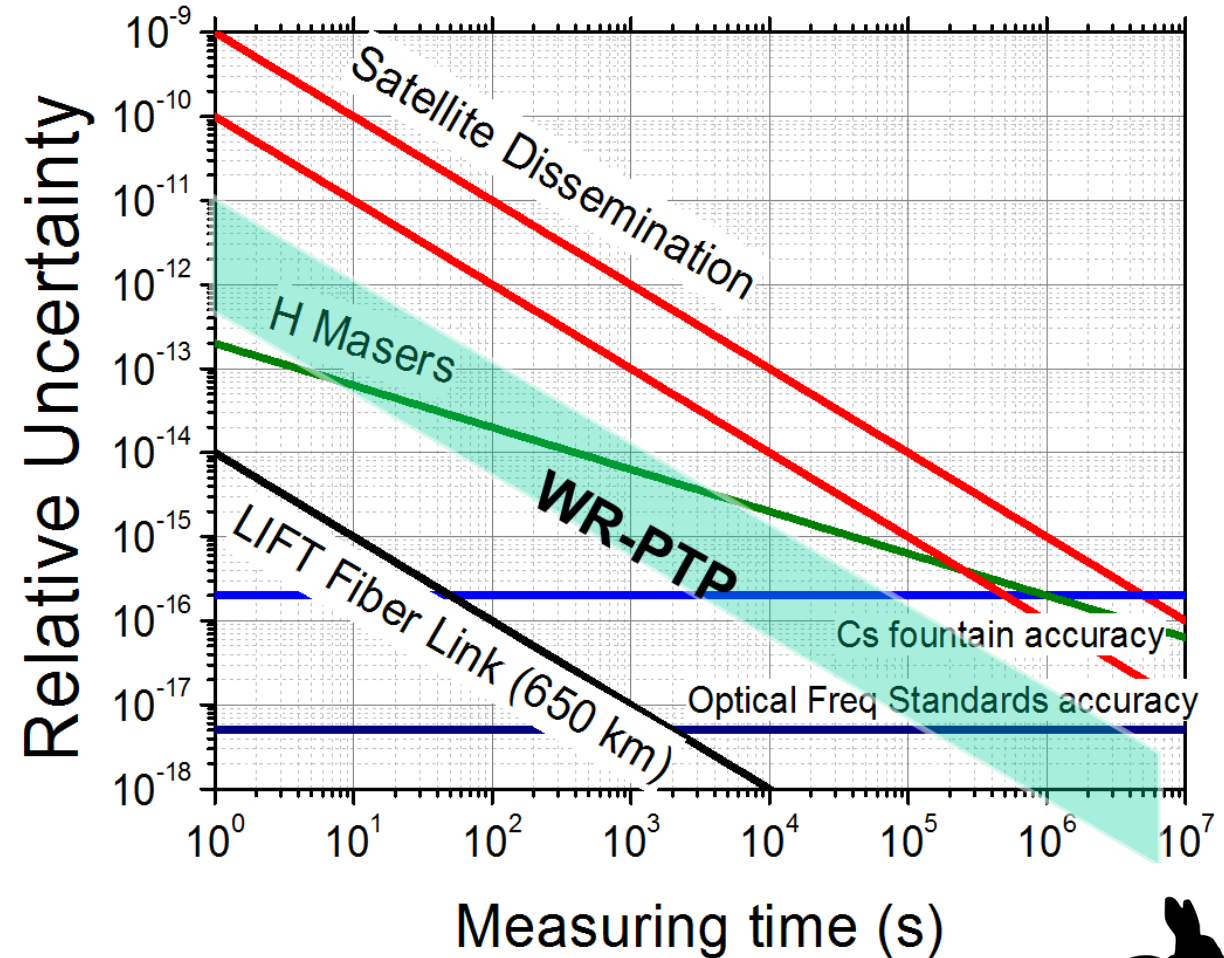
Develop validated techniques for redundant and resilient time transfer
 Topology - Holdover- Monitor

- **Performance**

New PTP-WR devices, with improved performance and better compatibility with existing protocols and standards. Target freq. instability: $< 1e-13$ @100s
 Improved local oscillators – SPEC7 hardware - protocol compatibility PTP

- **Real Field**

Demonstrate the use of PTP-WR to deliver UTC to industrial users
 Space FR/IT - Financial NL - Telecom SE

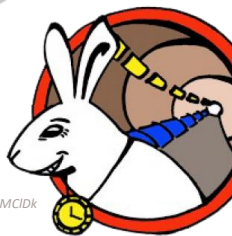
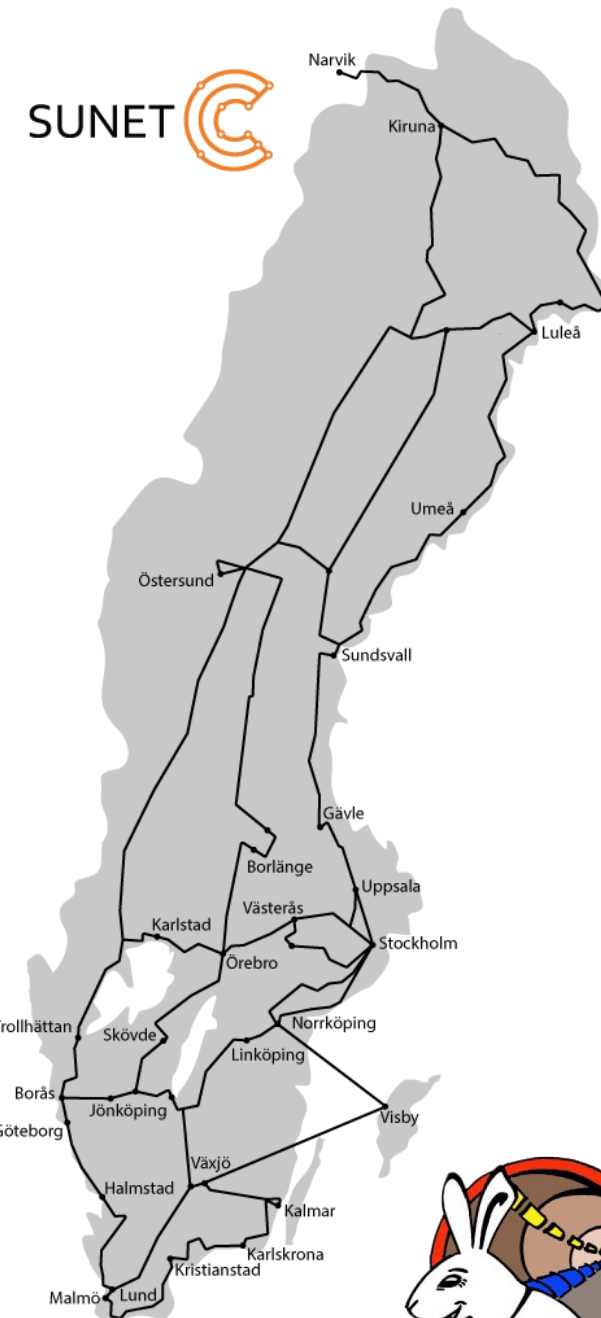
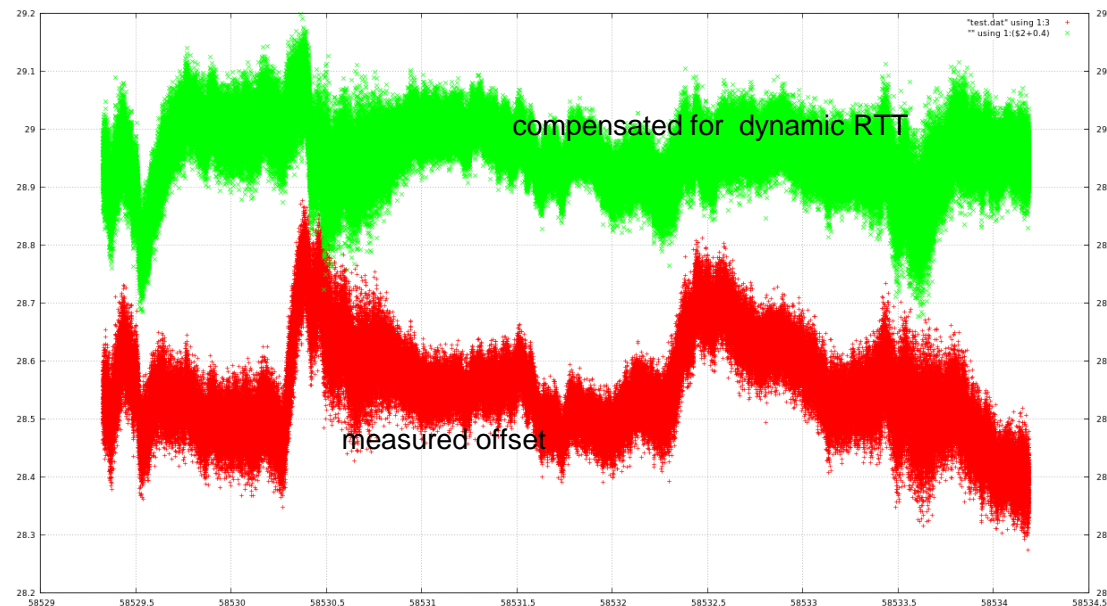


D.Colonico et al. EFTF2019

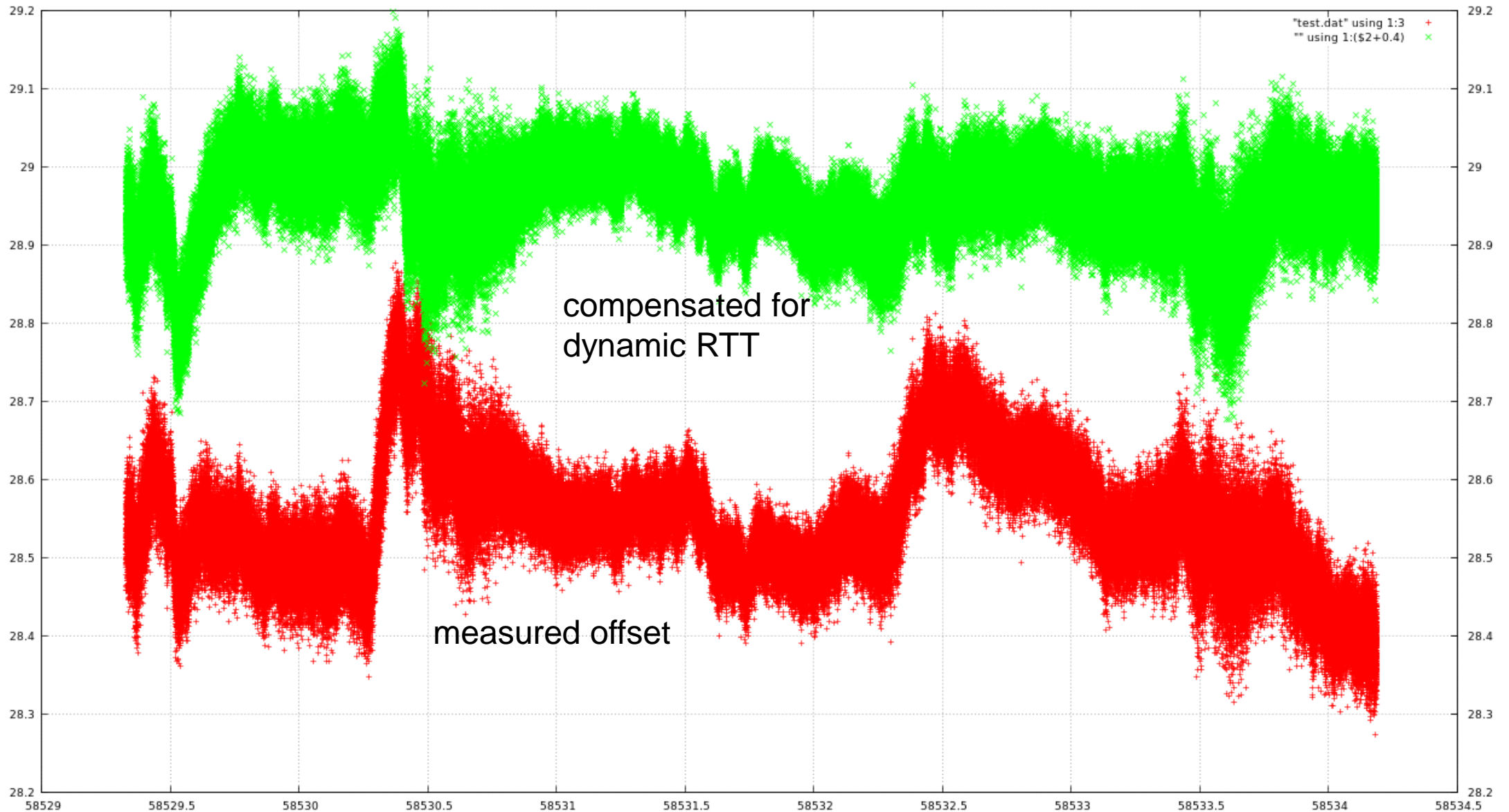


WR and Coherent Communications

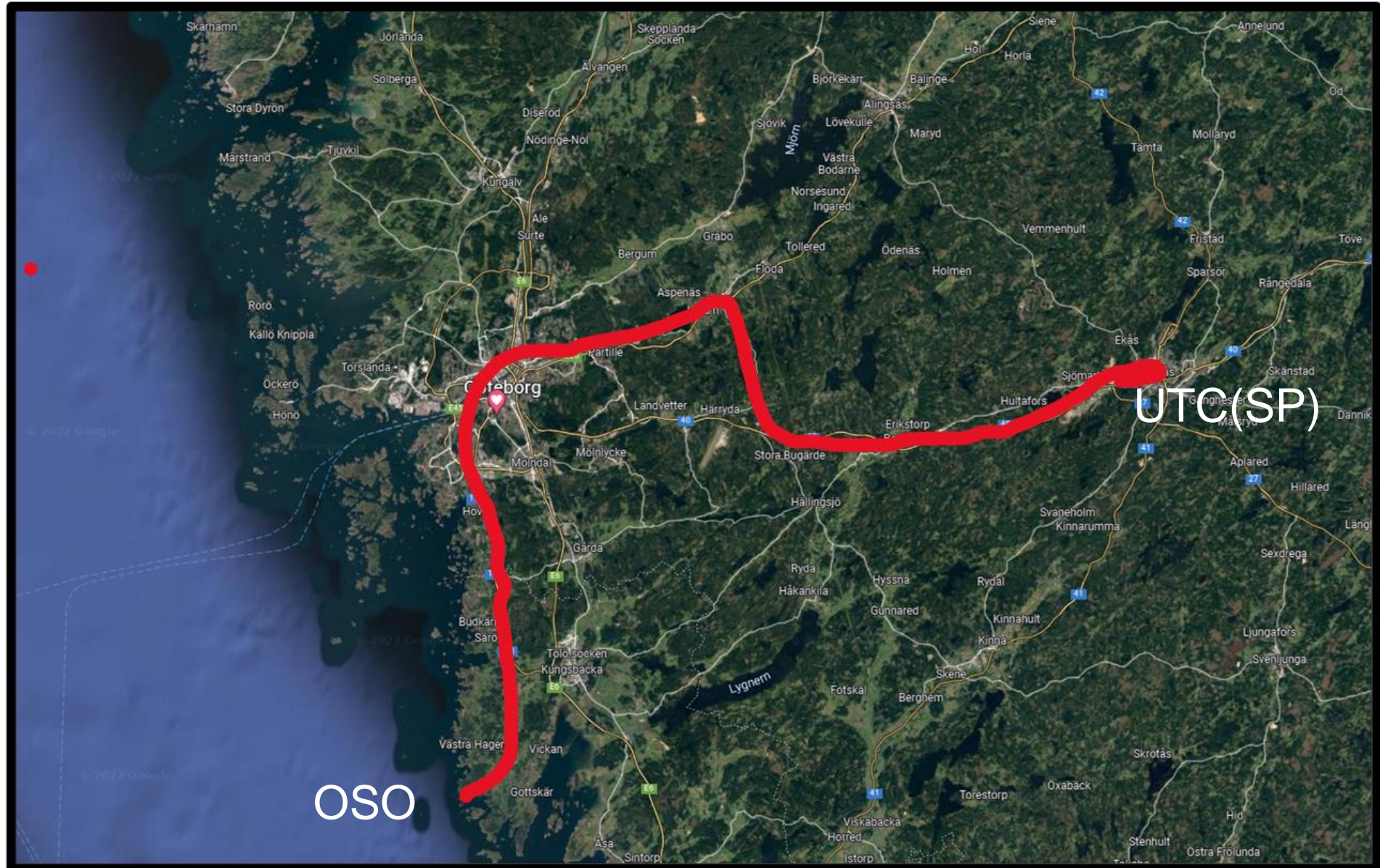
- Run AM light beside coherent 100G slots in SUNET-C
 - ROADM based, no dispersion compensation
 - Unidirectional, two fiber, same wave length
- 800 km (**8 ms** RTT) in southern Sweden 7SOL LEN GM/SL @RISE , 13 hops
- C36, with several empty slots space to next carrier
- Initial DCM+AMP, but expect less than 100 ps broadening,
- works without DMC, need about zero dBm input
- High jitter, both on 1pps and the LEN reported clock offset
- Uncorrected alpha, change in offset correlates with RTT changes of several hundred nanoseconds



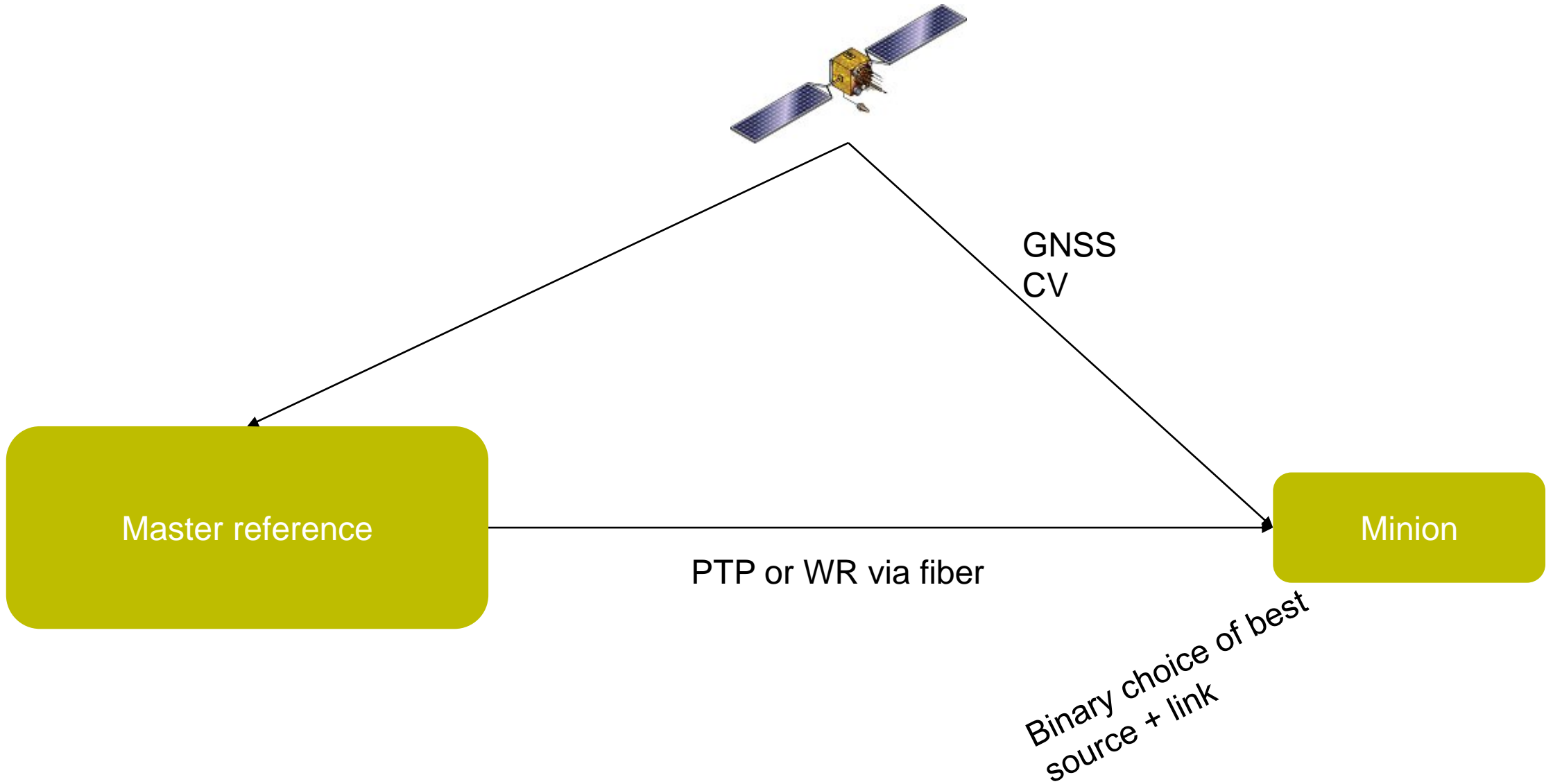
Redundant UTC(SP) dissemination to a telecom user



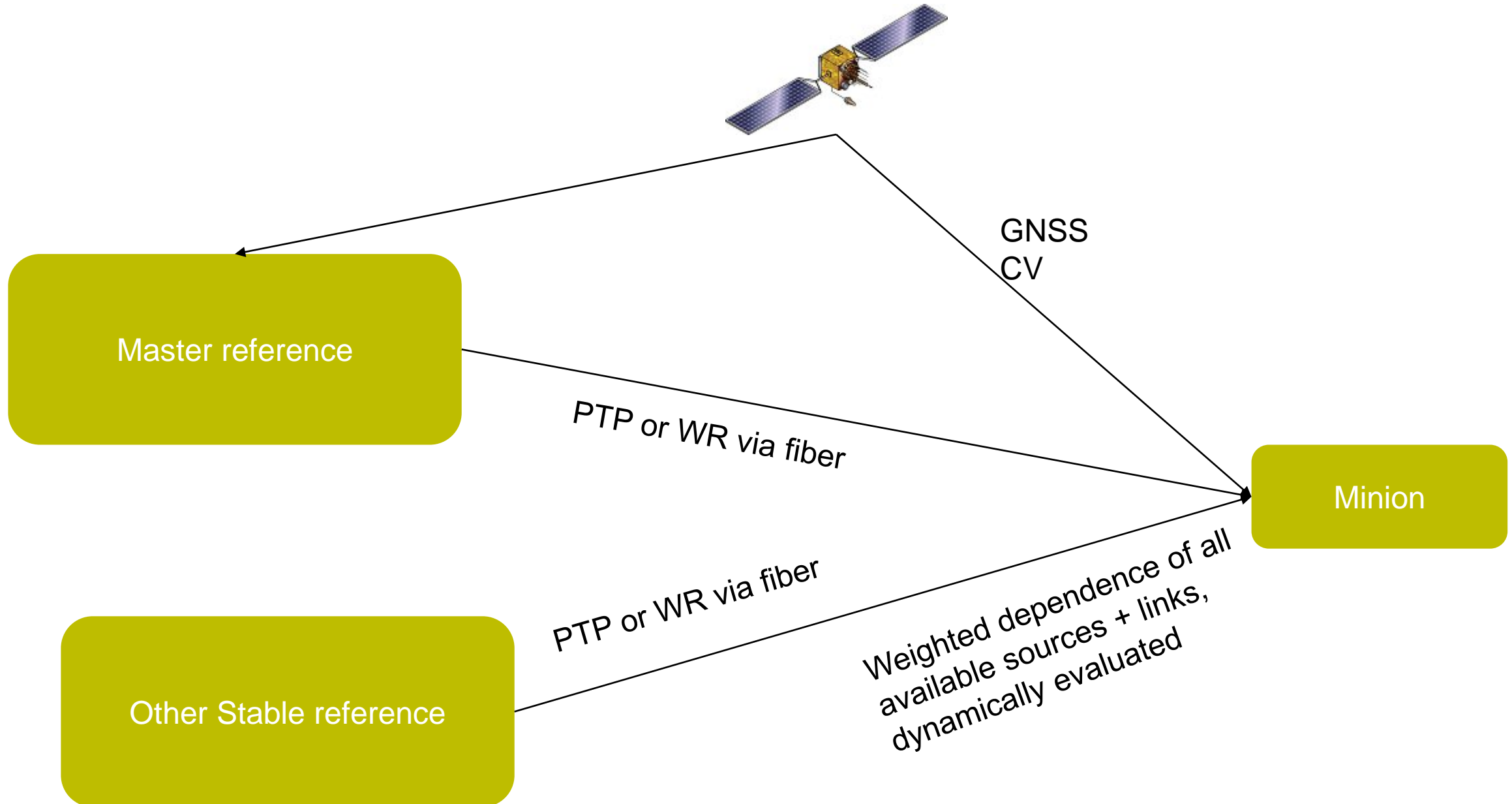
The setting, on the west coast of Sweden



Present Implementation



Proposed Implementation



What are we planning to do now



Field Trial of FPGA-Based Real-Time Sensing Transceiver over 524km of Live Aerial Fiber

Mikael Mazur⁽¹⁾, Dennis Wallberg⁽²⁾, Lauren Dallachiesa⁽¹⁾, Erik Borjesson⁽³⁾, Roland Ryf⁽¹⁾, Magnus Bergroth⁽²⁾, Borje Josefsson⁽²⁾, Nicolas K. Fontaine⁽¹⁾, Haoshuo Chen⁽¹⁾, David T. Neilson⁽¹⁾, Jochen Schroeder⁽⁴⁾, Per Larsson-Edefors⁽³⁾ and Magnus Karlsson⁽⁴⁾

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(3) Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Chalmers University, Sweden

(4) Department of Microtechnology and Nanoscience, Chalmers University, Sweden

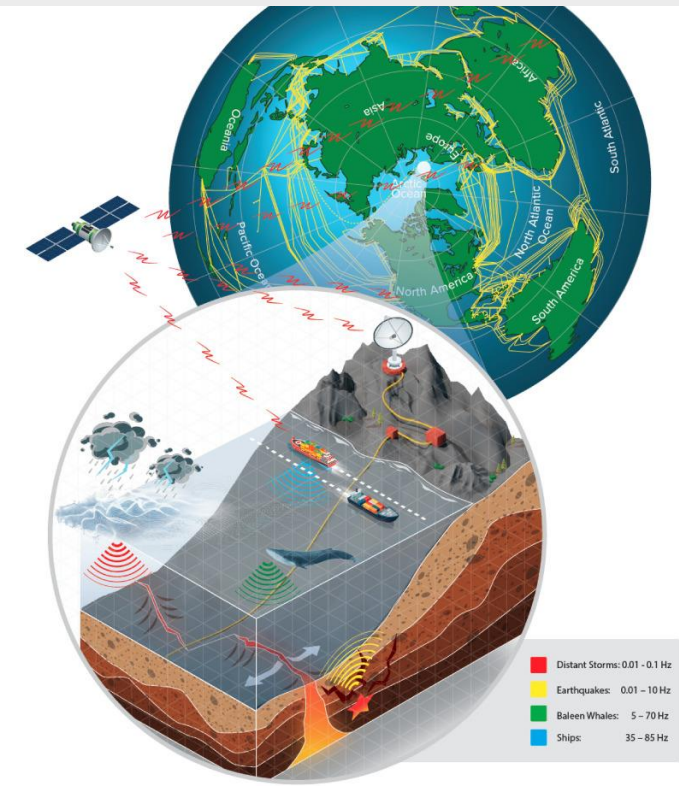
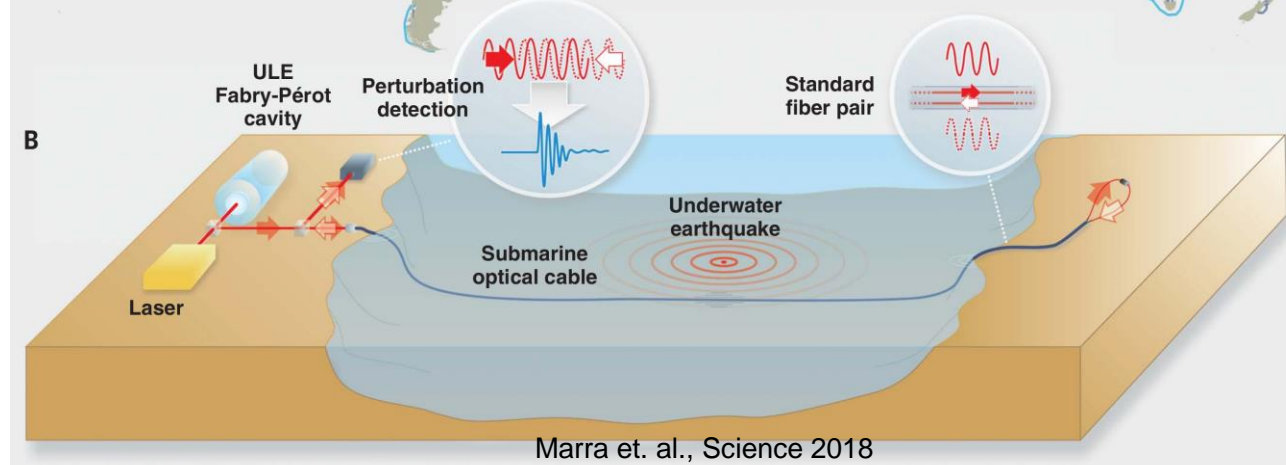
mikael.mazur@nokia-bell-labs.com



Fiber Sensing

Bridging the community gap

- Fiber sensing
 - Tones of single-mode fibers deployed for sensing purposes
 - Fiber is very sensitive: Strain, temperature, mechanical perturbations,...
 - The fiber sensitivity enables the fiber sensing field... but is also the reason we need dynamic DSP tracking!
- Example of sensing effects/techniques
 - Phase interferometry, polarization interferometry
 - Rayleigh, Brillouin and Raman scattering
- Why use telecom networks for sensing?
 - Improve the network reliability and protect against outages
 - Deployed fibers can expand coverage to new areas
 - Overall improve the role of fiber infrastructure in our society



M. Landro et. al., Sci. Rep. 2022

Transceiver-based Fiber Sensing

Unlocking another use-case

- Coherent transceiver with DSP
 - Full-field detector → Polarization and phase interferometer
 - Dynamical DSP engine to “eliminate” the effects of the fiber as a sensor
 - Can we turn these block into sensors
- Key challenges
 - Much lower SNR, ENOB: 100+GS/s ADCs
 - High-speed parallel DSP engine. Data cannot be stored and processed offline
 - Sensing filtering/implementation must be compatible with ASIC architectures
- Potential
 - Complimentary technique to dedicated sensing systems
 - Very large number of coherent transceivers out there

Inherently compatible telecom systems, it's a transceiver!!!

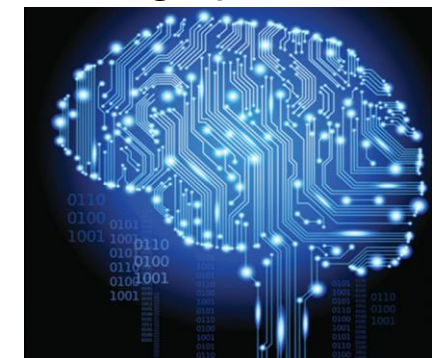
Compensate any physical distortions



Sensing



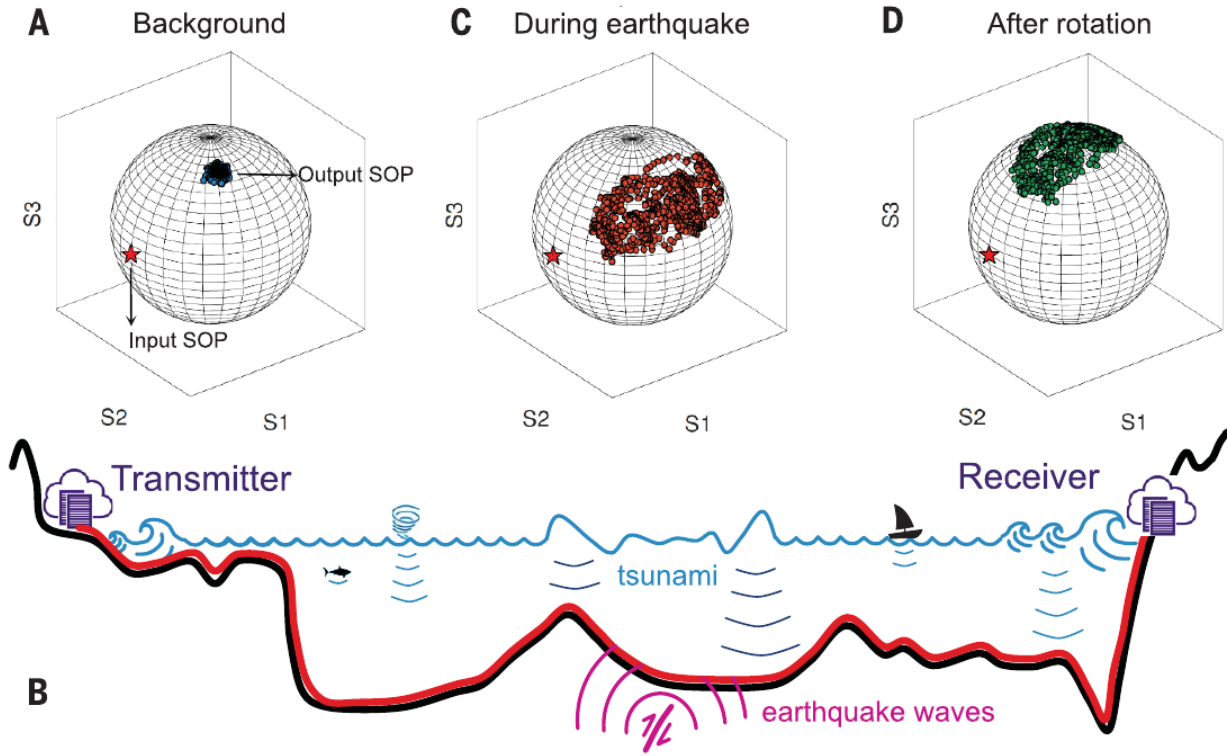
Monitoring network environment
Active outage prevention



NOKIA Bell Labs

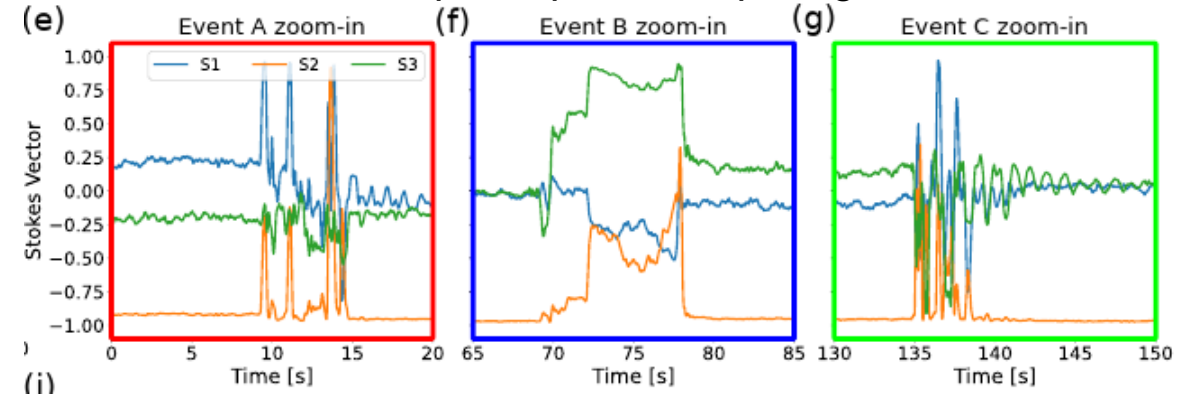
Examples of Transceiver-based Sensing

Earthquake detection using commercial transceivers



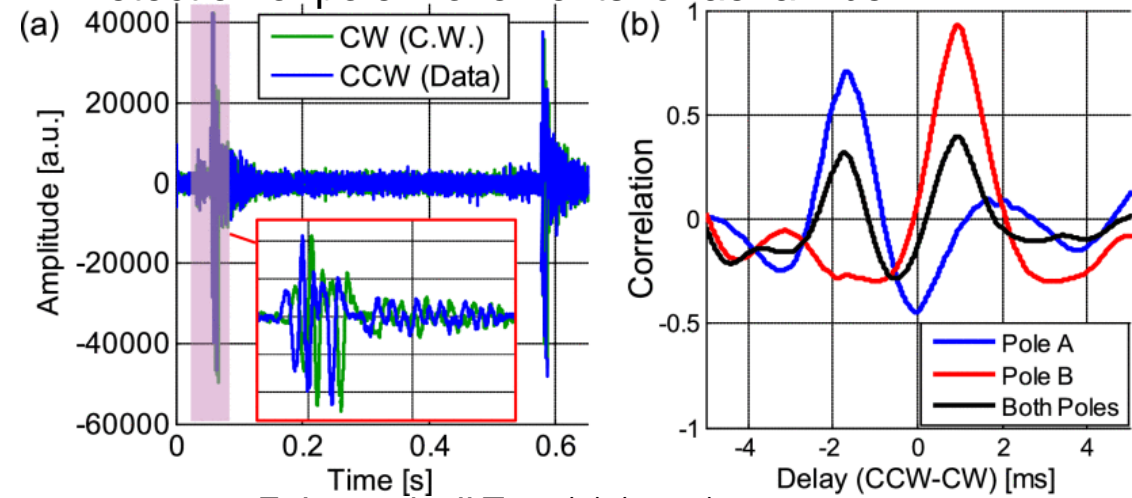
Zhan et. al., Science (2021)

Detection of fiber patch panel tampering over field link



M. Mazur et. al., Proc. ECOC (2022)

Detection of pole movements for aerial fiber

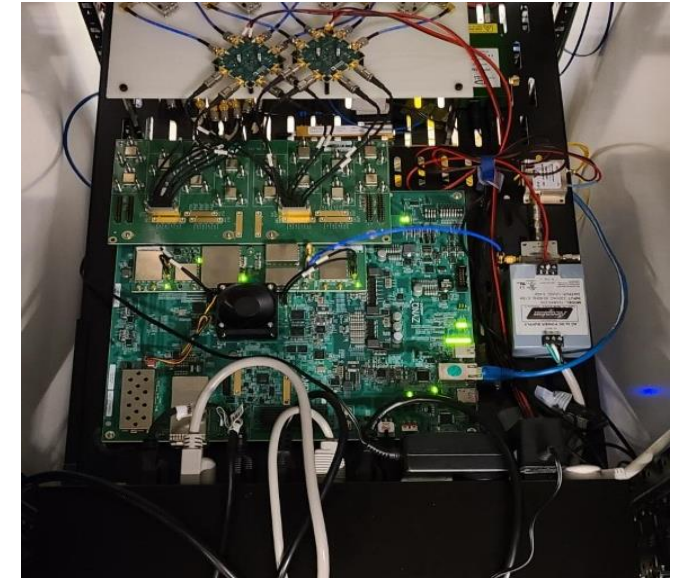


E. Ip et. al., JLT 40 (5) (2021)

Coherent Transceiver Prototype

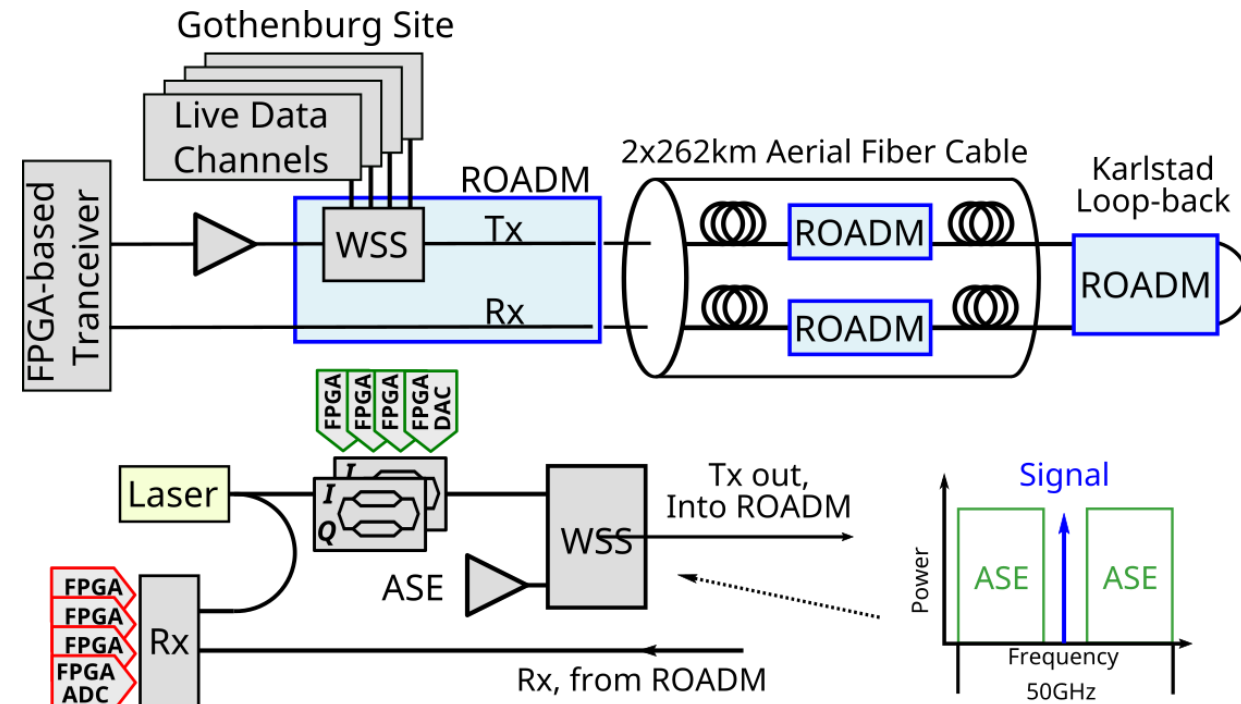
- FPGA-based coherent DSP Engine
 - 1GBd transmission
 - 125MHz DSP clock rate, 8 parallel lanes
 - Complete pilot-based coherent DSP written in VHDL
 - All DSP blocks updated every clock cycle

- Sensing capabilities
 - Polarization and phase sensing
 - This work focus on equalizer-based sensing
 - Complete streaming of equalizer state at MHz rate
 - Both hardware and software-level filtering implemented



Live Network Trial

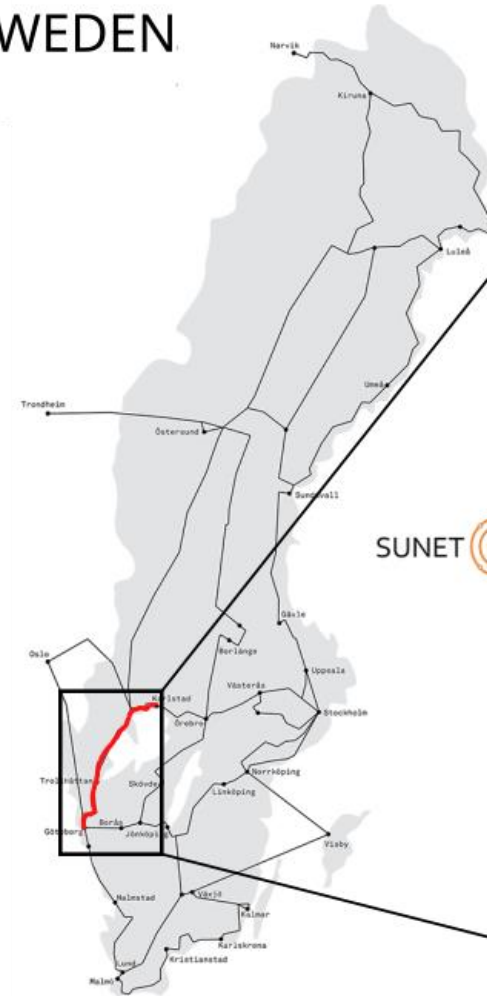
- Connected to ROADM node in Gothenburg
 - 50GHz channel emulated by combining with ASE
 - Combined with multiple live coherent transceivers
 - Launch power equalized using ROADM WSS
- Loopback in Karlstad
 - Channel extracted using ROADM node
 - Physical loopback to transmit signal back to Gothenburg
- Receiver implementation
 - Full band drop-node, passive splitter
 - No optical filter present due to equipment limitations
 - Coherent Rx in homodyne configuration



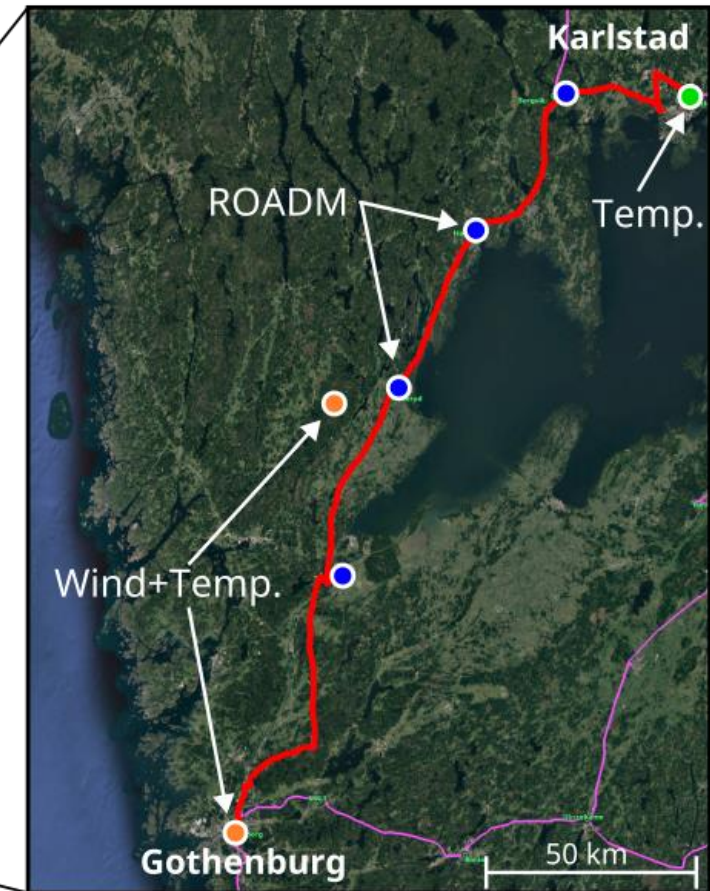
Field Trial – 524km of Aerial Fiber

- Sunet Network
 - Provides connectivity to universities
 - Part of Nordnet, connects Scandinavia
 - Different links with a high degree of redundancy
- Specific test link
 - Gothenburg-Karstad
 - 262km one way
 - Passes 5 live ROADMs
- Aerial fiber link
 - Fiber wound around high power lines
 - Very exposed to the environment

SWEDEN



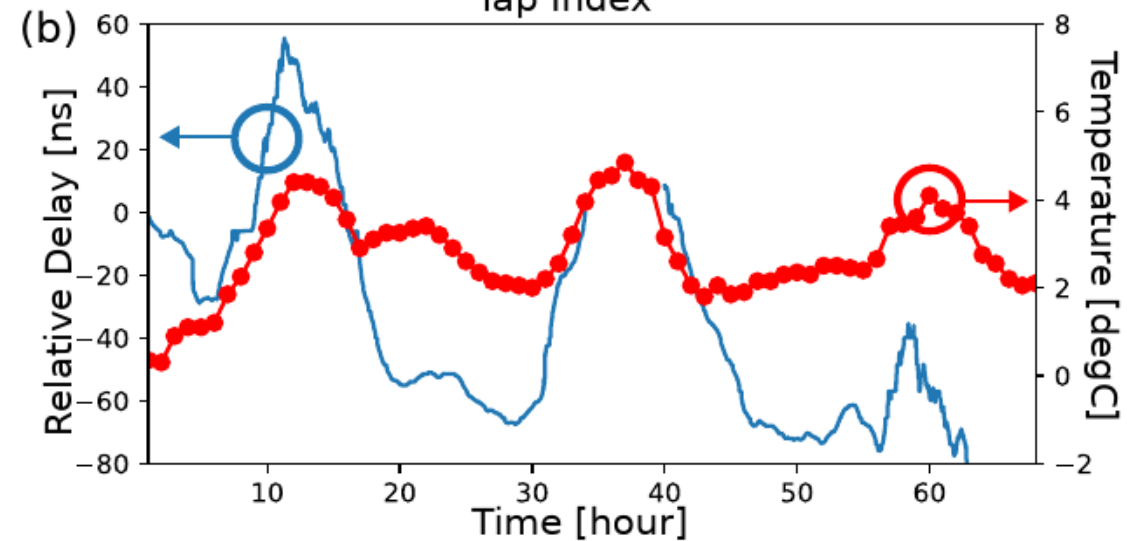
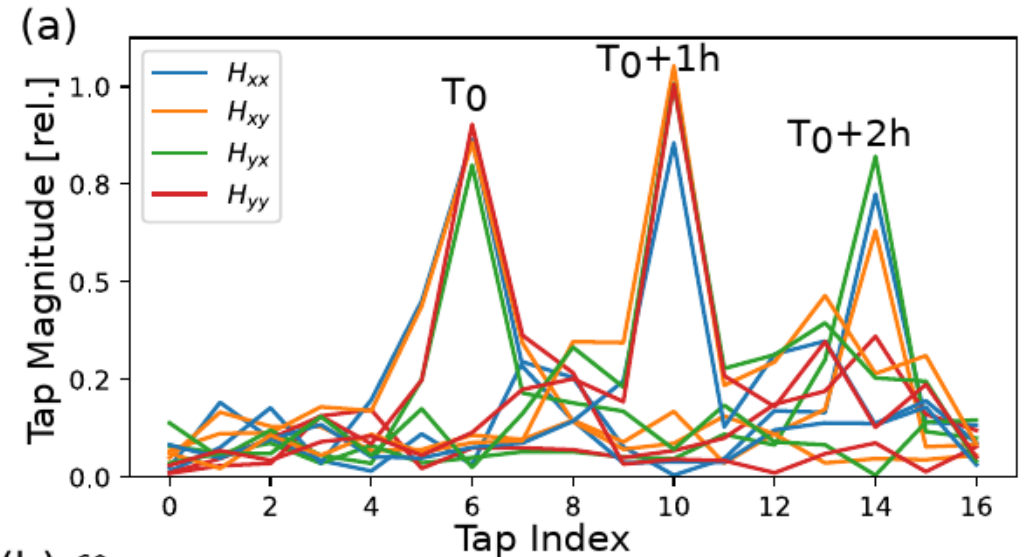
Got-Karlstad-Got, 524km



Results – Time-of-flight measurements

What can be learned from timing recovery

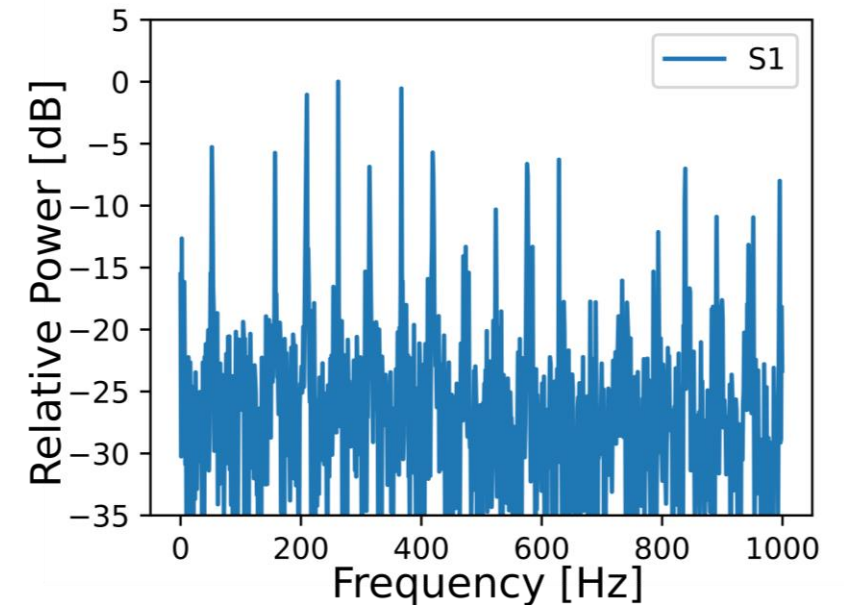
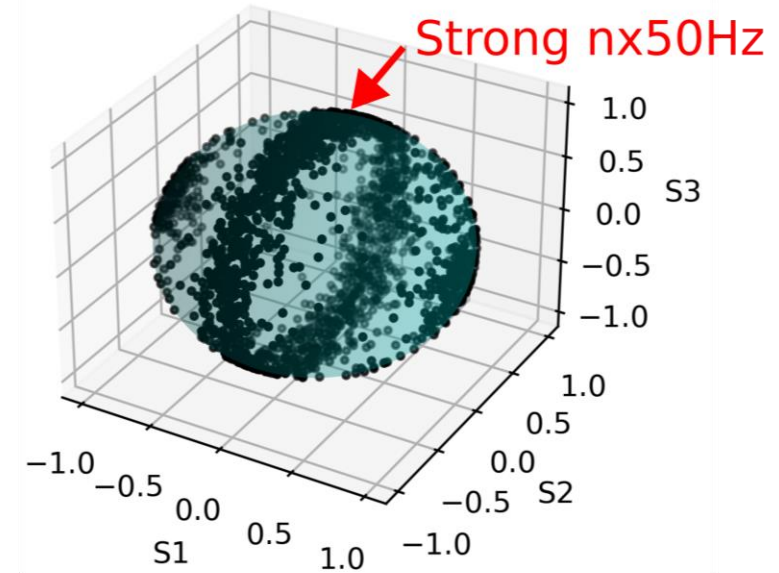
- Dynamic equalizer for timing recovery
 - Stochastic gradient descent to optimize sampling position
 - Fiber stretch is an example of link-induced delay
- Time-of-flight measurements
 - Typically done using time-domain pulses
 - Transmitted signal is a continuous pulse train
 - Monitoring sampling position and phase → time-of-flight (ToF) measurements
- Correlation with weather stations along the link
 - Good qualitative agreement
 - Very dynamic link, lot of length change!
 - Requires clock tracking/referencing for non-loopback configs



Results – State of Polarization

Aerial fiber wound around high voltage cables

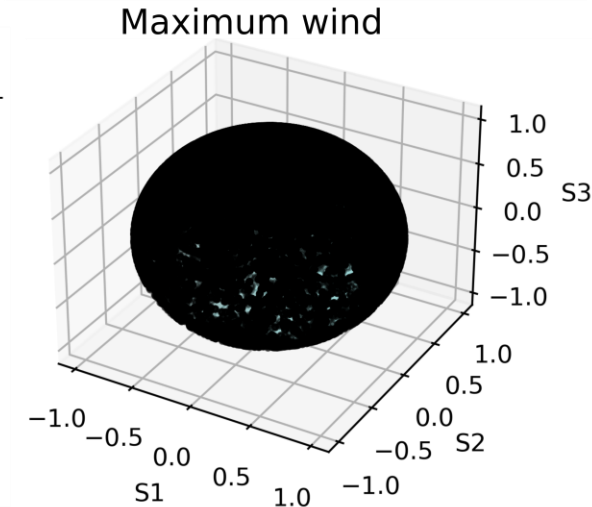
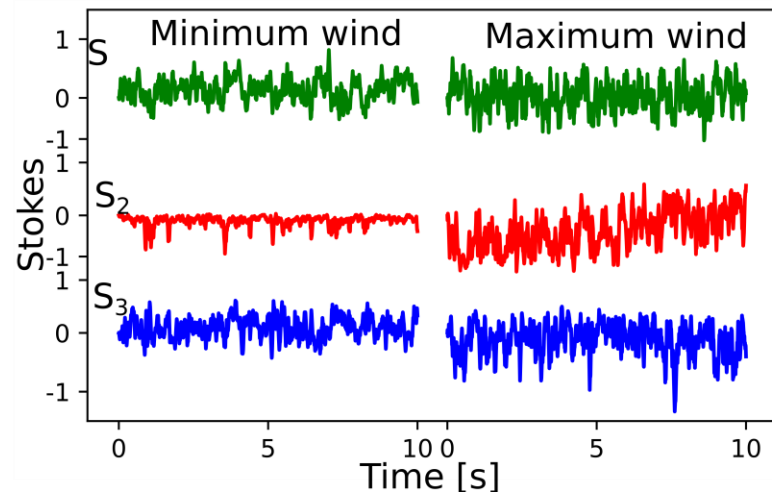
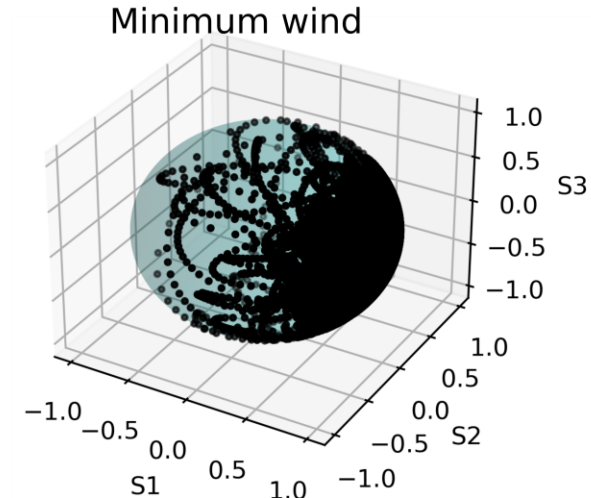
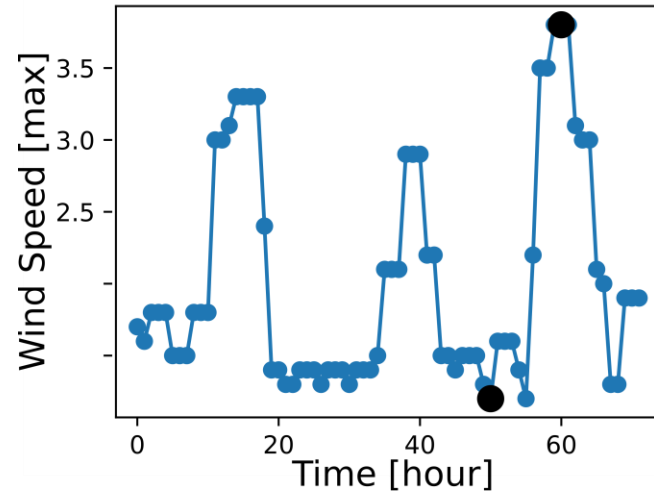
- Measured polarization
 - Stokes vector extracted from received X-polarization
 - Strong 50Hz and overtones
 - Tones present for all Stokes parameters
- Strong tones dominates the polarization response
 - Similar to system noise
 - Must be filtered out to enable environmental sensing
- Correlation with weather stations along the link
 - Good qualitative agreement
 - Very dynamic link, lot of length change!



Results – State of Polarization

Is environmental sensing still possible?

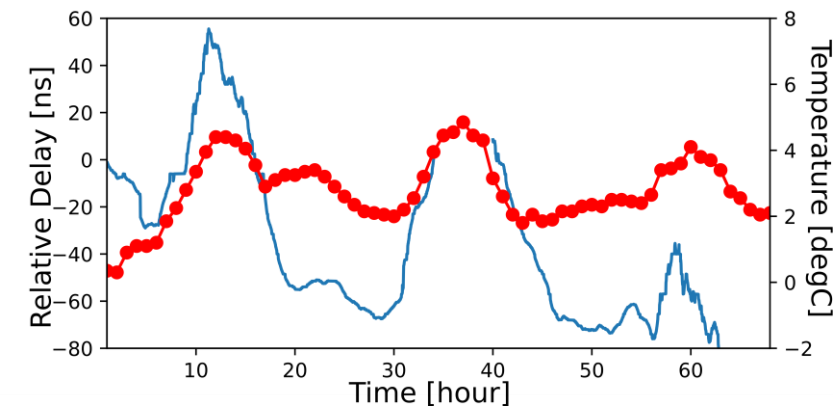
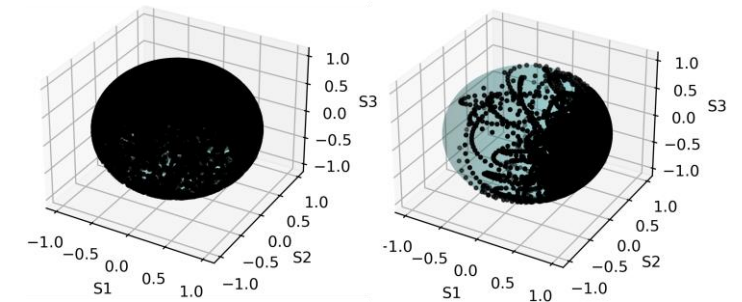
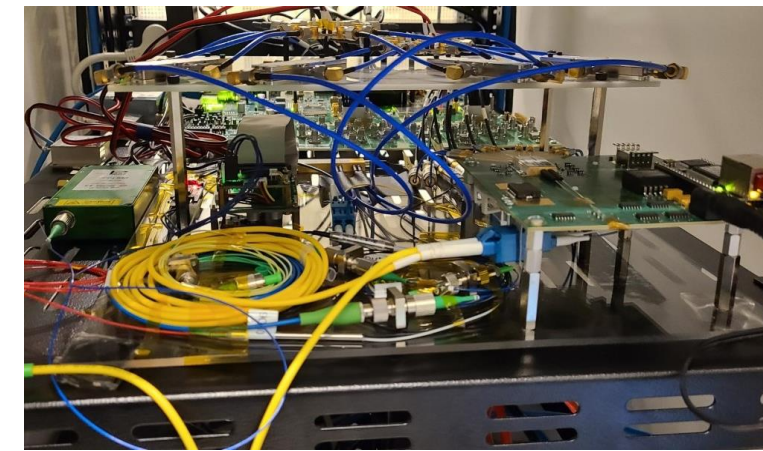
- Nature is typically well behaved
 - No distinct frequency tones
 - Broadband, low-frequency response
 - Ranges of interest can be filtered out
- Extracting wind contributions
 - Focusing on frequencies below 45Hz
 - High sampling rate avoids aliasing
 - Filtering and decimation can be done in HW
- Difference in wind conditions observed
 - Amount of SOPR clearly correlates
 - Aerial fiber, highly affected



Conclusions

Transceiver-based sensing over aerial fibers

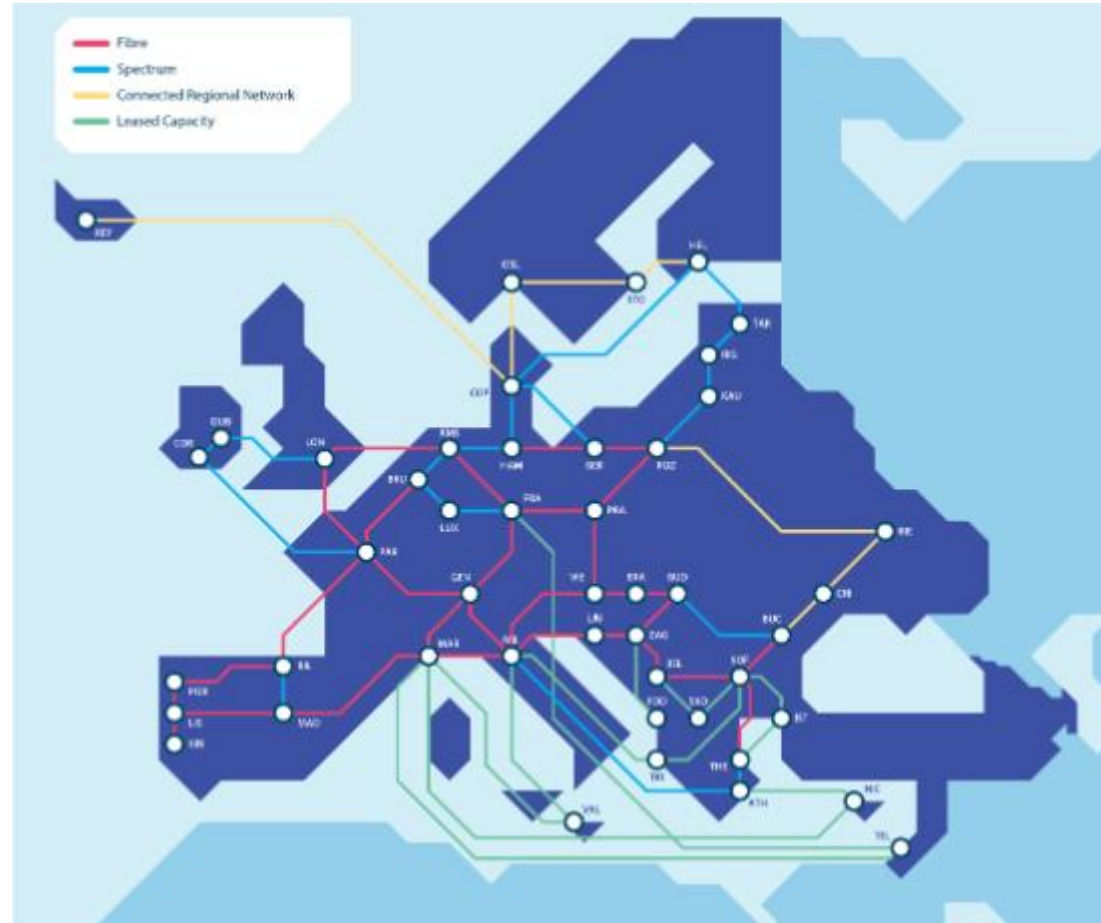
- Coherent transceiver as sensors
 - Full-field detector → Polarization and phase interferometer
 - DSP continuously track environmental fiber distortions
 - Might be hard to get to but the information is there!
- Field trial over 524km of aerial fiber
 - Fiber wound around high voltage cables
 - Polarization rotations dominated by $n \cdot 50\text{Hz}$
 - Can be filtered out with sufficient sampling rate to avoid aliasing!
- Environmental sensing
 - Demonstrated equalizer-based time-of-flight measurements
 - Good qualitative agreement with temperature observations



So far

Initial aim specifications

- 100Gbit compatible
- 1pps
- Frequency 1 to 200 MHz
- 19 inch rack
- Bi-direct and duplex
- Sub ns
- PTP, WR or custom format
- Redundant power
- FPGA





THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Sven-Christian Ebenhag

Research Institutes of Sweden

Safety and Transport

Measurement Science and Technology