

Improving Time Accuracy at the Network Edge

WSTS 2018

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Motivation & Background

New technologies require high time accuracy

• elCIC, TDD, 5G, small-cell ...

Synchronization **over network is challenging**...

- Legacy networks
- Diversity of standards
- Multi-vendor / operator networks

High accuracy; **GNSS based solution**; low in network

- Accuracy
- Verification
- Results



IOT PRTC - Solution overview

High accuracy; GNSS based solution; low in network

IOT PRTC requirements

- Simple installation
- Indoor or Outdoor
- No calibration / compensation
- "UTC out-of-the-box"
- Protection via network

PRTC time error with traditional "system" **GNSS** satellites Direct signal Reflected signal Antenna delay RF Line Amplifier delay Fixed Delays OVP + (Line Amp) RF cable(s) delay RF splitter delay Multi-path effects PŤP **Compensate fixed delays for high time accuracy** PRTC Network

Time Variation + offset (or ACDC)





PRTC accuracy = sum of many "system" parts



	Typical Delay (type)	Exact delay (unit)
Antenna	30ns	34ns
Line Amplifier	10ns	12ns
Cables	210m (840ns)	215m (887ns)
Splitter	15ns	5ns
Total	895ns	938ns

Accurate compensation of RF delays is difficult



Sources of time error with IOT PRTC



Evolution of PRTC to IOT PRTC

PRTC





Outdoors



Indoors



IOT PRTC = Ease of installation + Low cost

- Integrated GNSS antenna with PTP grand master
- Standard Ethernet/IP connectivity
- Installation Indoor or simple outdoor locations
- No delay compensation required
- Copper or Fibre connection (reach + lightning immunity)





Mounting Options for urban canyons Location choice



Indoor - Window



Outdoor - Pole / Wall / Roof



Indoor Small Cell Sync Requirements

- GM with integrated GNSS antenna
 - optional external antenna
- PTP capacity for building (~64)
- Cost effective and compact design
- Window installation
- Ethernet cabling:
 - Copper/POE
 - Fibre
- Multiple protection options:
 - Sync-E
 - PTP
 - APTS
- Supports multiple profiles





Outdoor Small Cell Sync Requirement

- Features as Indoor plus...
- Options to be installed on:
 - external walls,
 - Pole / lamp post,
 - roof
- Rugged device
 - -40C to +65C
 - IP66 waterproof





Measurement Results

From VTT Finnish Timekeeper



Testing UTC– needs good UTC reference

- VTT provides UTC MIKES
- Distance 876m
- Fibre connection
- PTP White Rabbit
- Accuracy UTC ~5ns



Time from Finnish Time keeper VTT MIKES



Antenna/GM testing locations at VTT #1 Indoor (glass bricks); #2 Outdoor (wall)





VTT Test results (~1 week) 5405 Outdoor



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VTT Test results (~1 week) 5405 Indoor



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VTT Test results – MTIE / TDEV



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IOT PRTC – suitable for For ultra high accuracy (Per-unit compensation is possible)



	Typical (type)	Exact (unit)	
Time offset	Ons	4ns	
Time variation*	+/-3ns	+/-3ns	
* Demende en installation la sation and CNCC soustallations used			



Extremely low fixed time offset Time offset stable across e.g. link flaps "Precise UTC out-of-box"





IOT PRTC – suitable for For ultra high accuracy (Per-unit compensation is possible)



	Typical (type)	Exact (unit)	
Time offset	Ons	4ns	
Time variation*	+/-3ns	+/-3ns	
* Demonde en installation la astion and CNICC constallations wood			

* Depends on installation location and GNSS constallations used



Extremely low fixed time offset

Time offset stable across link flaps; resets; etc.

"Precise UTC out-of-box"



Conclusions - IOT PRTC

Easier-to-install and lower-cost solution

PRTC accuracy Indoors and in deep Urban Canyons

(multi-Path delay reduction)

Also platform for high accuracy

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selecting the right wave improves packet clock performance









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Thank You



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