

# Report from NRL

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CGSIC, Timing Subcommittee 12 September 2016



# **GPS Space Clock Technology**

### **Navigation Technology Satellite (NTS)**

- NRL has contributed to GPS technology and system development since the beginning of the program
- Contributions began with System Concept Studies, and the Development, Orbit and Operation of the NTS
- NTS flew the first GPS pseudo-random ranging code transmitters, and demonstrated the first GPS on-board atomic clock operation

### NRL conducted the Joint GPS Clock Technology Program

- Developed production sources of space and ground hydrogen masers, and space cesium atomic clocks for the GPS satellites
- Clock Electronics Design
- Transition to Industry Partners for production

### **GPS Space and Ground Clock Analysis**

NRL provides Space and Ground atomic clock performance analysis to the GPS program



### **Precise Clock Evaluation Facility (PCEF)**

### Precision Clock Measurement and Evaluation Capabilities in **Support of Multiple NRL Programs**

- Provides Capability for Measuring and Characterizing Clocks
- Maintains Realization of Coordinated Universal Time, UTC(NRL)
  - 6 Masers: 12 Cesiums
- Multiple Multi-Channel Precision Dual Mixer Measurement Systems
- Precise Time and Frequency Distribution Systems
- Automated Data Collection and Archival Systems
- Supports the GPS Space Clock Extended Life Tests

### In process of upgrading:

- **Environmental chambers**
- Masers
- Measurement Systems









# **GPS Space Clock Extended Life Testing**

### Provides Long-Term Testing of Production Space Clocks for the **GPS Program**

- Conducted Series of GPS Clock Life Tests at the NRL PCEF
  - Two Block IIR Rubidium Atomic Frequency Standards (RAFS)
    - 1997 to 2004
  - Two Block IIF Digital Cesium Beam Frequency Standards (DCBFS)
    - Intermittently 2004 to 2006
    - Resumed November 2010 to present
  - Two Block IIF RAFS
    - August 2008 to present
  - Two GPS III RAFS
    - Expected arrival December 2016
- **Production Units**
- Validate prior to launch



# **GPS Space Clocks Extended Life Test Objectives**

### NRL Life Tests serve as a baseline for on-orbit clock performance

- Provide long term observation that cannot be conducted in the clock manufacturer's production environment
- Simulate space-like environment for vacuum and temperature
- Evaluate performance parameters
  - Clock and telemetry
- Identify premature failure modes
- Characterize clock over long term

### GPS Life Testing Joint Collaboration

- NRL
- GPS Directorate
- Satellite Manufacturers
- Clock Manufacturers



# **GPS Block IIF Life Test Chambers**



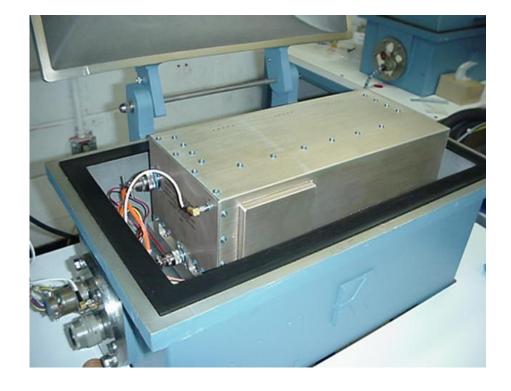


# **GPS Block IIF Life Test Units**

RAFS









### **GPS On-Orbit Clock Evaluation & Analysis**

# Provide Long-Term Performance Analysis of all Operational GPS Satellite and Monitor Station Clocks for the 2nd Space Operations Squadron (2 SOPS) at the GPS Master Control Station (MCS)

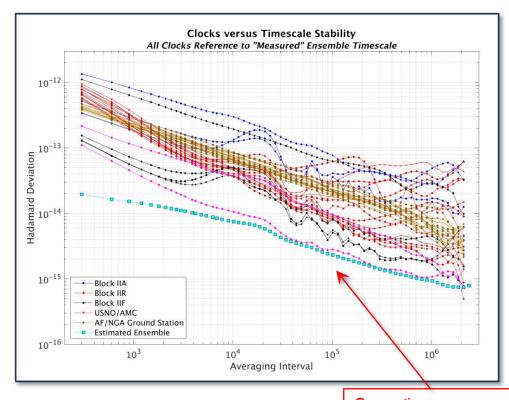
- NRL has provided the on-orbit performance of GPS satellite clocks since the beginning of the GPS program
- Measurements are collected from a network of 16 ground monitor stations operated by the USAF and NGA
- NRL Analysis used by 2SOPS to Tune the OCS Kalman Filter
  - Reports provided on a quarterly basis
  - Referenced to UTC(USNO)
- Metrics used in the analyses include:
  - Clock Frequency and Drift
  - Frequency stability based on the Allan (ADEV) and Hadamard (HDEV) Deviations
- Maintain comprehensive on-line database for all satellite and monitor station tracking data



### **Next Generation GPS Time Timescale**

### Provide Algorithms and Software for Next Generation GPS System Time as part of the GPS OCX Ground Segment Upgrade

- NRL developing the Algorithms and Software for Generating Next-Generation GPS Time Timescale within the OCX Operational Kalman Filter
- Improvements to the GPS Time Timescale
  - Clock weighting for better handling of mixed clock types
  - Automated clock break detection
  - Robust outlier and anomalous clock behavior mitigation
- Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) providing Orbit **Determination Software**
- NRL Supports JPL with Timescale Software
- $NRL \rightarrow JPL \rightarrow Harris \rightarrow Raytheon$



Generating a new robust timekeeping capability for the Next Generation GPS



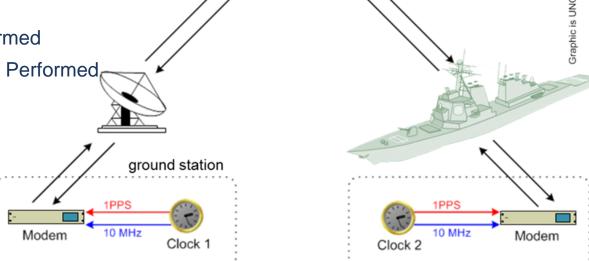
### **NEXTANT – At-Sea Demo**

### **Support DARPA Demonstration of Alternative Time Transfer** Capability At Sea by Two Way Satellite Time Transfer

- Goal to Improve Global Availability of Time Transfer Exceeding GPS Capability
- Utilize Existing Shipboard Comms Systems
- Utilize DoD Timing Network for Demonstration
- **GPS-Independent Time & Synchronization Capability**
- Cooperative Effort with SPAWAR/PEO/USNO
- NRL to Develop and Demonstrate Technique that would Transition to USNO for Operations

### **Status**

- March 2016 Land-Based Demo Performed
- August 2016 Trident Warrior 16 Demo Performed



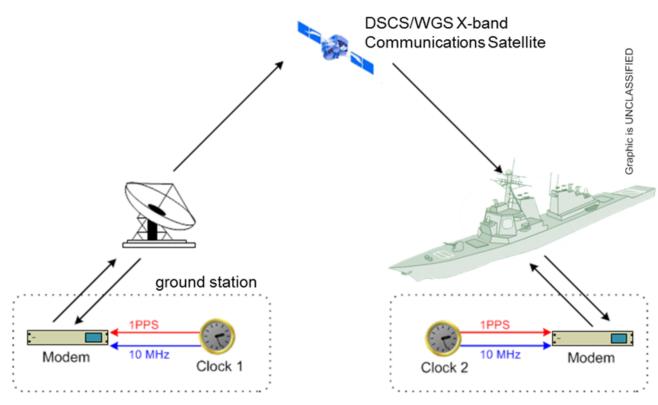
DSCS/WGS X-band Communications Satellite



# **One-Way Satellite Time Transfer**

### **Develop Technique and Data to support One-Way Satellite Time Transfer**

- Goal to Improve Global Availability of Passive Time Transfer
- Would dovetail nicely with NEXTANT for Navy application
- Utilize DoD Timing Network for Demonstration

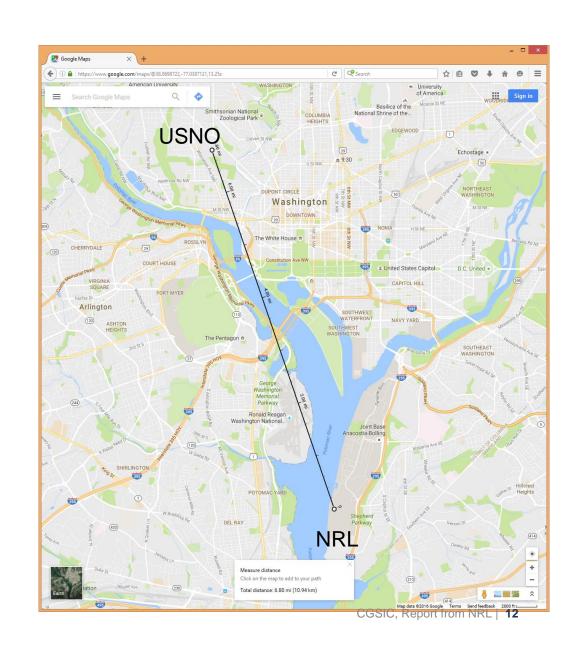




### **NRL/USNO Time Transfer Testbed**

### Laboratory Time Transfer Links

- Geodetic GPS
- Television (WTTG DTV) Common-View
- Dedicated Fiber link (USNO-NRL)
- Link-16 (Summer 2016)
- Ku-Band TWSTT (Fall 2016)
- X-Band TWSTT (Fall 2016)





## 48th Annual Precise Time and Time Interval (PTTI) Systems and Applications Meeting

### **PTTI 2017**

(Co-located with ION International Technical Meeting) January 30 - February 2, 2017 **Hyatt Regency** Monterey, California

### **PTTI Tutorials January 30 Tutorials Chair**

Dr. Jay Hanssen U.S. Naval Observatory

- Reference Time Scales and Traceability Concepts Dr. Felicitas Arias, BIPM
- Precision Measurements and Calibration Mr. David Howe, NIST
- Introduction to Atomic Frequency Standards Dr. Robert Tjoelker, NASA JPL
- Global Navigation Satellite Systems Dr. Pascale Defraigne, Royal Observatory Belgium
- Fiber Based Time and Frequency Transfer Dr. Sven-Christian Ebenhag, SPTR Institute of Sweden
- Earth's Time Varying Rotation Dr. Richard Gross, JHU APL

#### **General Chair**

Mr. Ryan Dupuis **Excelitas Technologies** 

### **Program Chair**

Mr. Michael Lombardi National Institute of Standards and Technology

Abstract Deadline: October 3, 2016

- Clock Technology for PTTI Applications
- Computer Time Transfer: NTP, PTP, and Related Systems
- GNSS Time Transfer
- PTTI Measurement Techniques
- Time Transfer via Ground Based Radio Signals
- Time Transfer via Optical Fibers
- Geostationary Satellite Time and Frequency Transfer
- · Optical Clocks and the Eventual Redefinition of the SI Second
- PTTI Services in Emerging Nations
- The Role of PTTI in:
  - · Improving GNSS Invulnerability, Reliability, and Performance
  - Consumer Market Applications
  - Electric Power Distribution
  - Telecommunications
- Time is Money: The Role of PTTI in the Financial Sector
- · Time Scales and Algorithms
- Timing Laboratory Activities and Updates
- Timing Activities at International Agencies/Organizations