

Precise time and frequency

ELI – CESNET day
23. November 2022

Vladimír Smotlacha, Josef Vojtěch



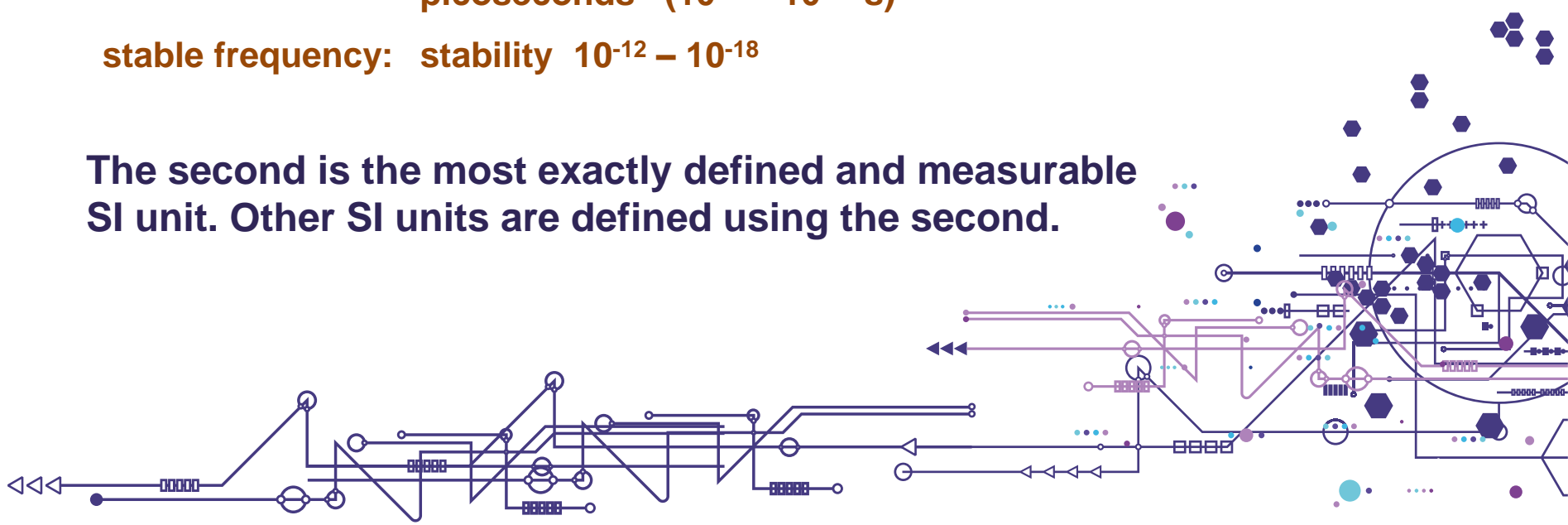
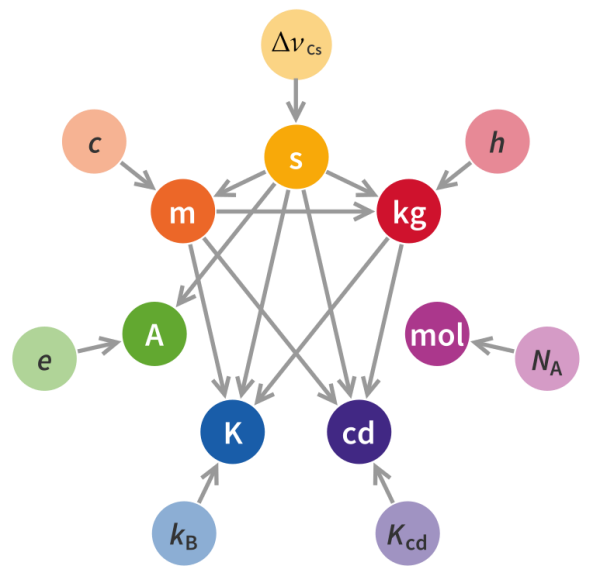


Why we need accurate time and stable frequency?

accurate time : uncertainty in the order of nanosecond to hundreds of picoseconds (10^{-9} - 10^{-10} s)

stable frequency: stability 10^{-12} – 10^{-18}

The second is the most exactly defined and measurable SI unit. Other SI units are defined using the second.

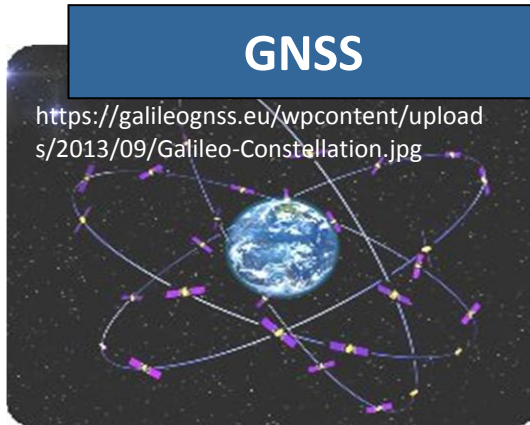


Precise time and frequency in science and research

Astronomy



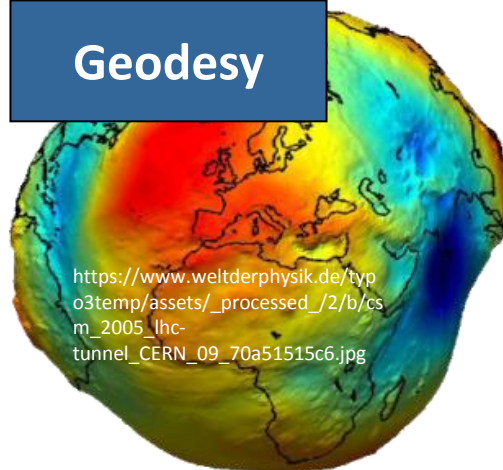
GNSS



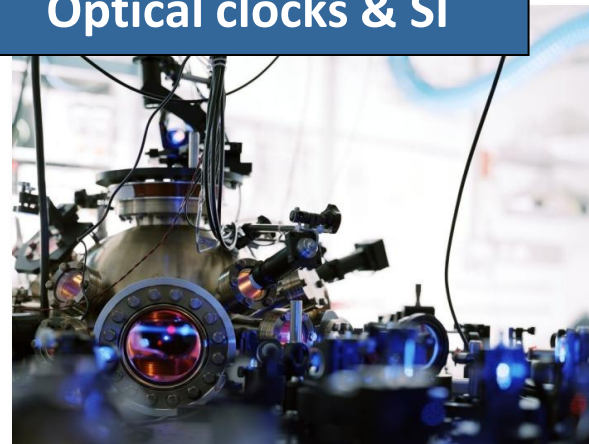
Fundamental physics



Geodesy



Optical clocks & SI



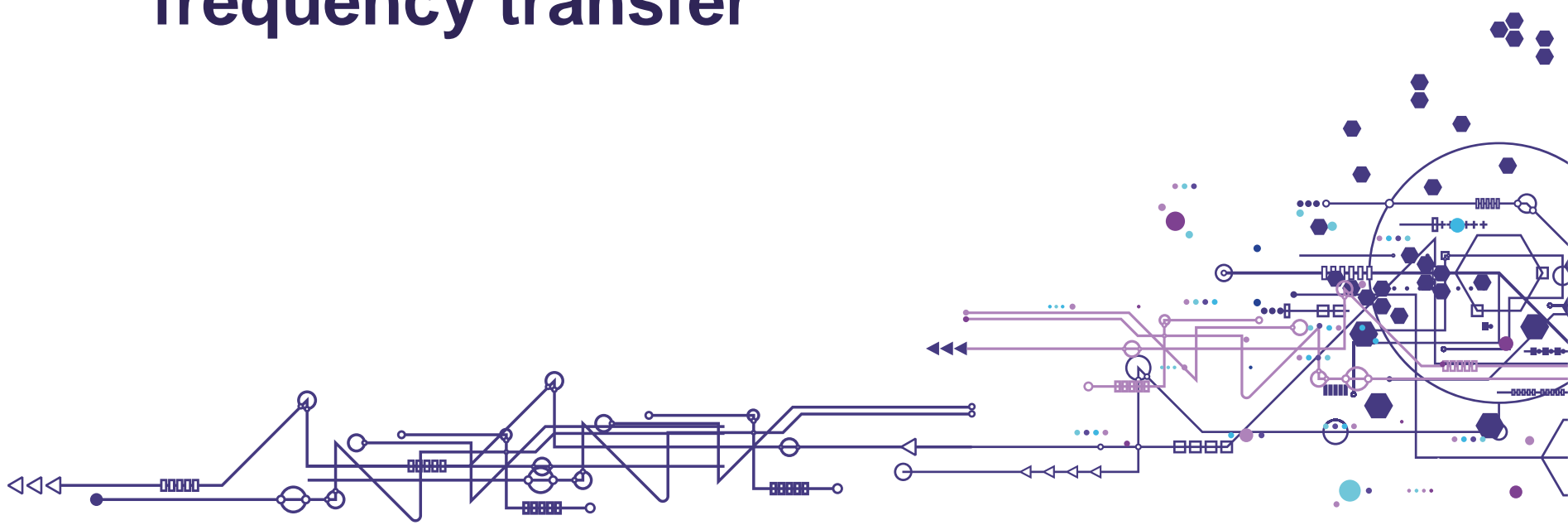
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Quantum technologies



Acurate time and stable frequency transfer

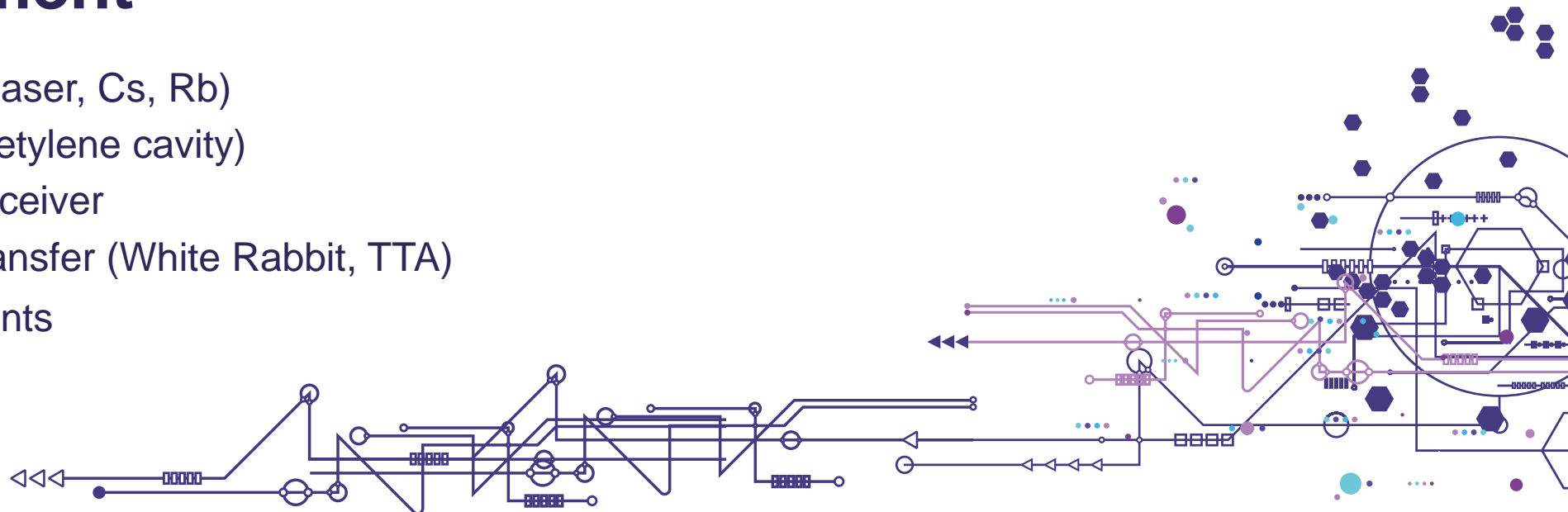


Our activities

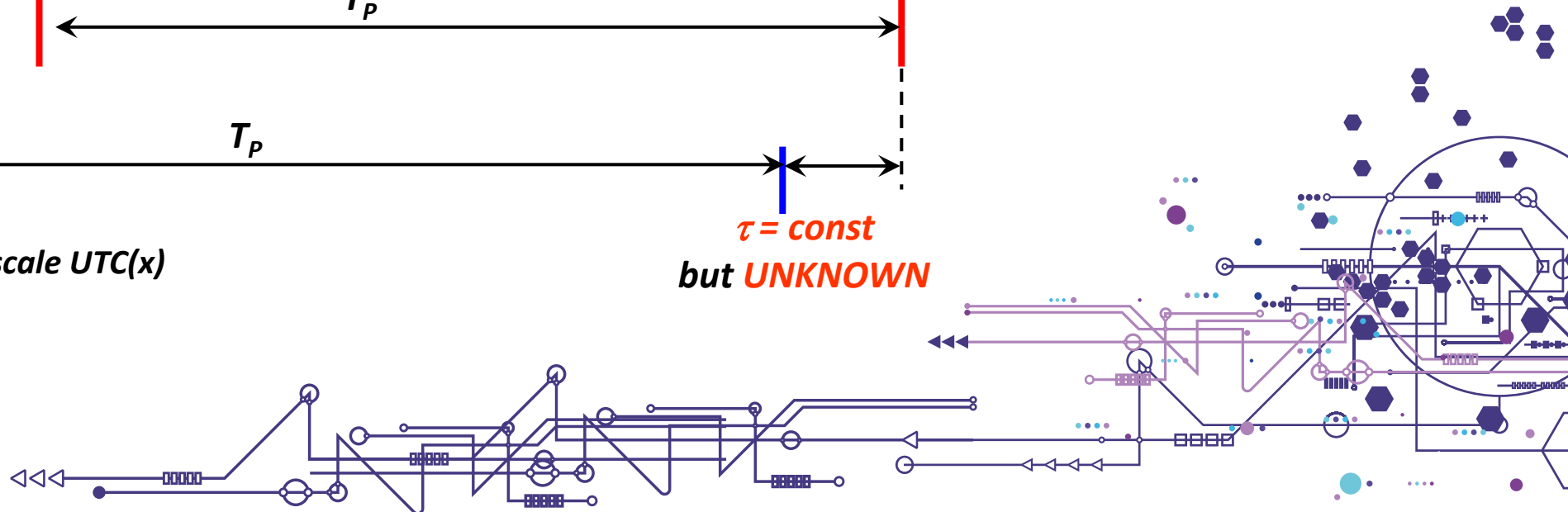
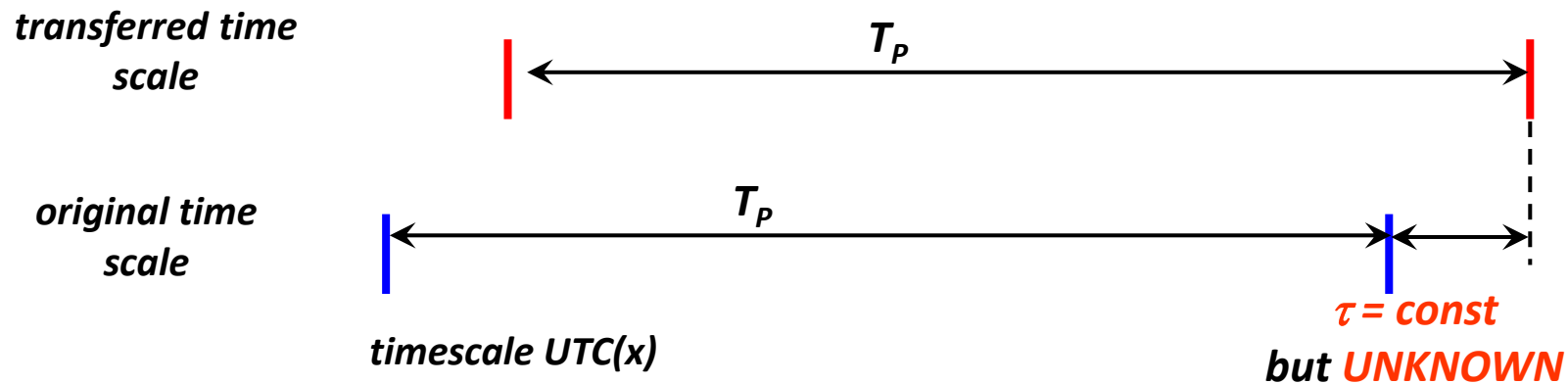
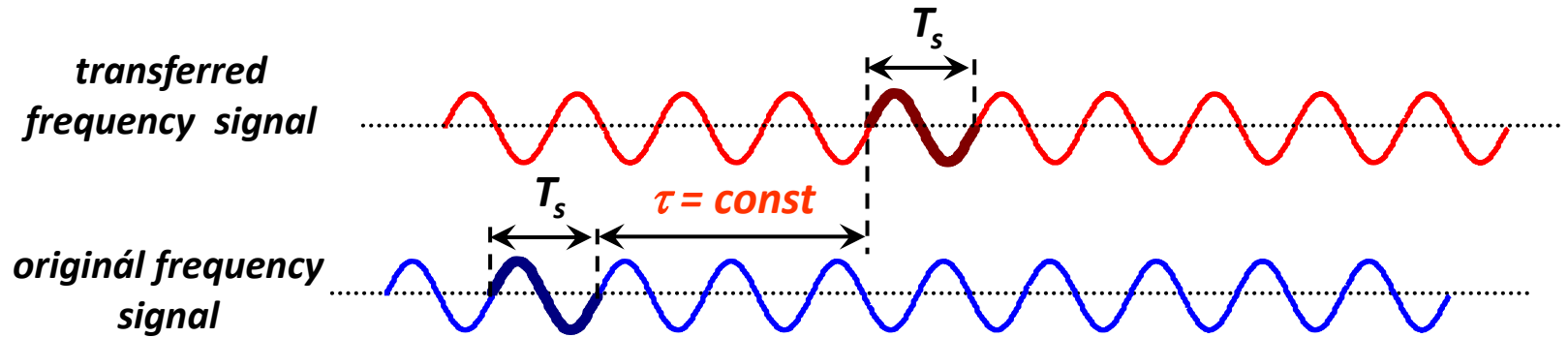
- Accurate time transfer
- Comparison of atomic time scales
- Stable frequency transfer
- Operation of own atomic time scale (Cs clock, H-maser) traceable to UTC(TP)
- Cooperation with NRENS, NMIs, and research institutes in the scope of national and international projects

■ Our equipment

- Atomic clocks (H-maser, Cs, Rb)
- Reference laser (acetylene cavity)
- GNSS calibration receiver
- Adapters for time transfer (White Rabbit, TTA)
- Laboratory instruments

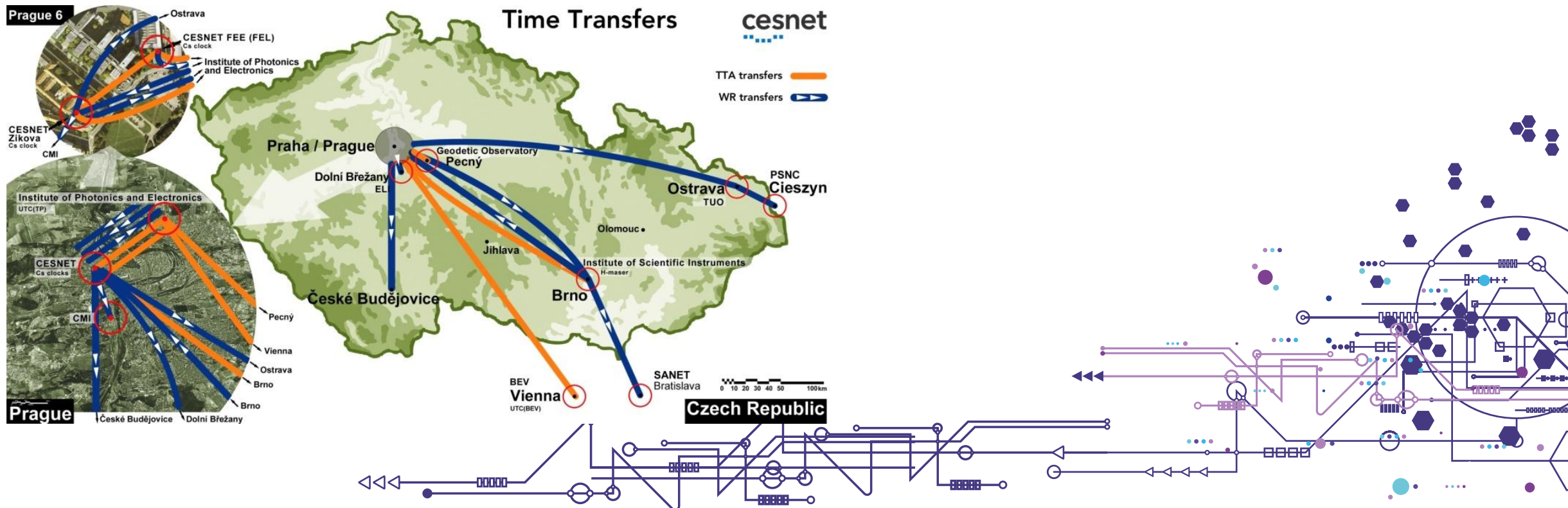


Time and frequency transfer principles



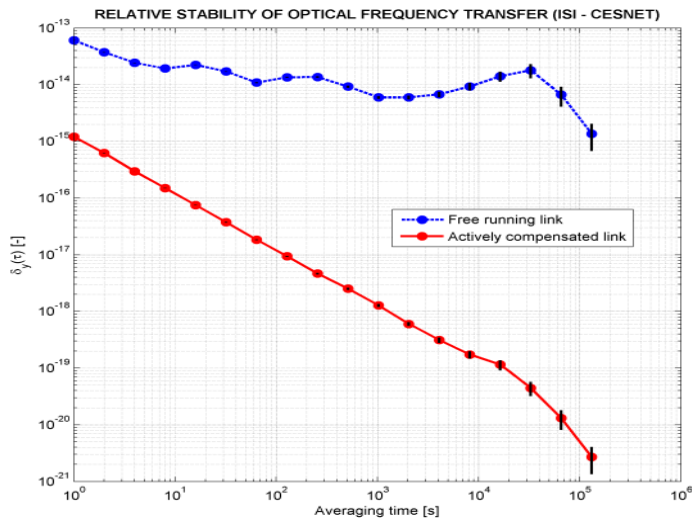
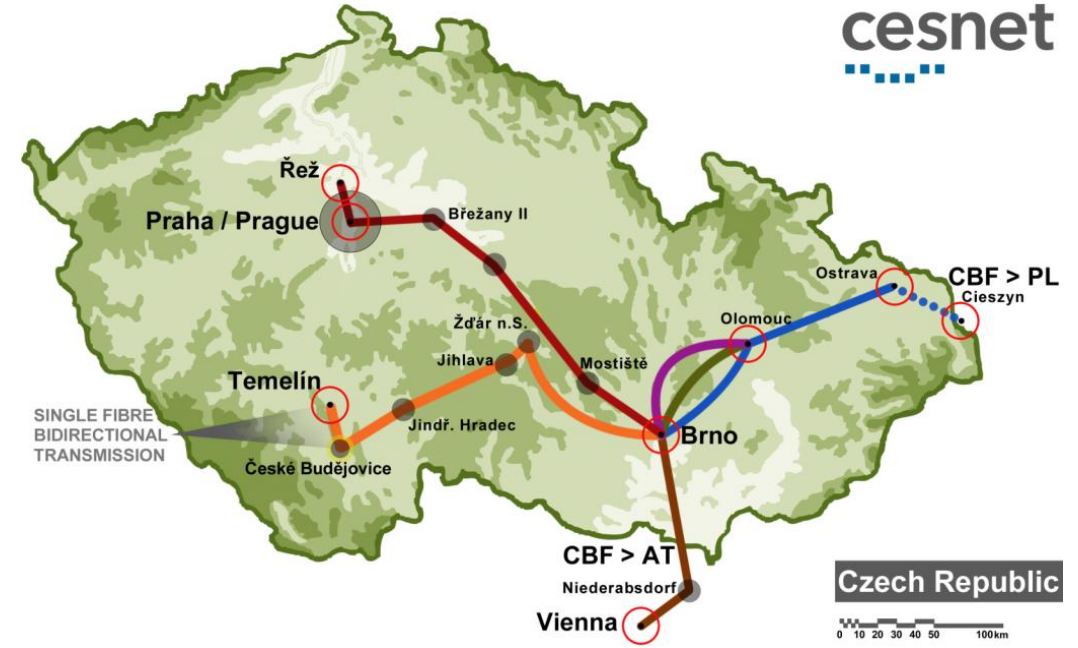
Time transfer

- Since 2011, now time transfer at 3100+ km of fiber and frequency at 1100+ km
- Dedicated DWDM channels, prioritizing bi-directional fiber (compensation of delay fluctuation)
- International cooperation - BEV (AT), PSNC (PL), FÚ SAV (SK)
- Two systems: TTA adapters and White Rabbit

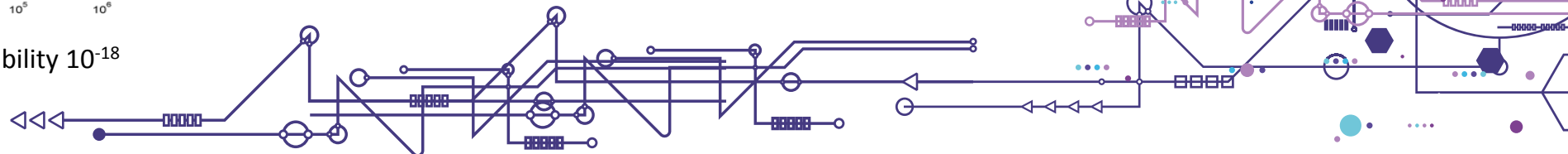
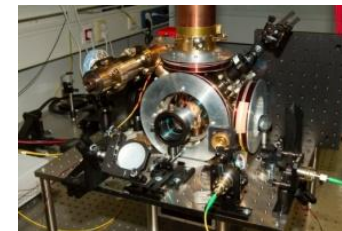


Frequency transfer

- Stable optical frequency transfer since 2015, now at 1100+ km of fibre
- Inteconnection of (being developed) optical clocks based on Ca^+ ion
- Signal source: laser 1540.5 nm in UPT AV ČR
- Transfer in both C and L bands

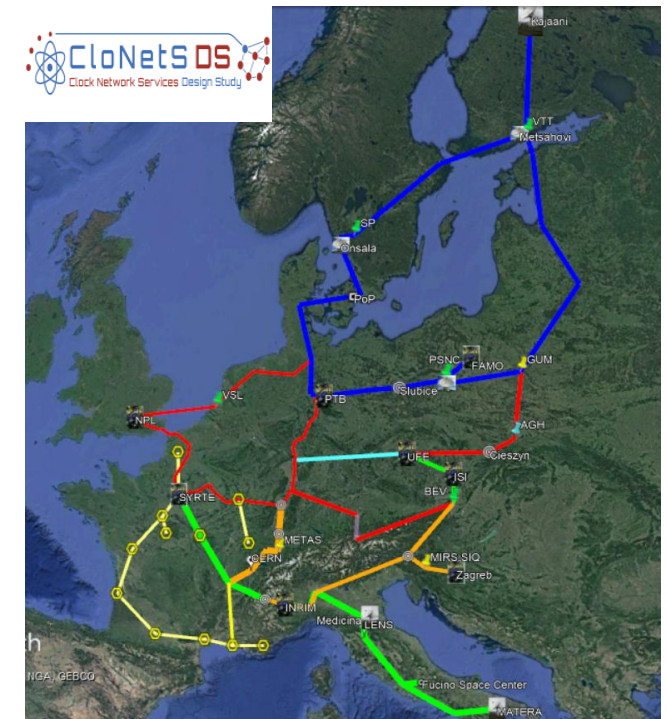


CESNET Praha - UPT Brno 306 km, stability 10^{-18}



Projects

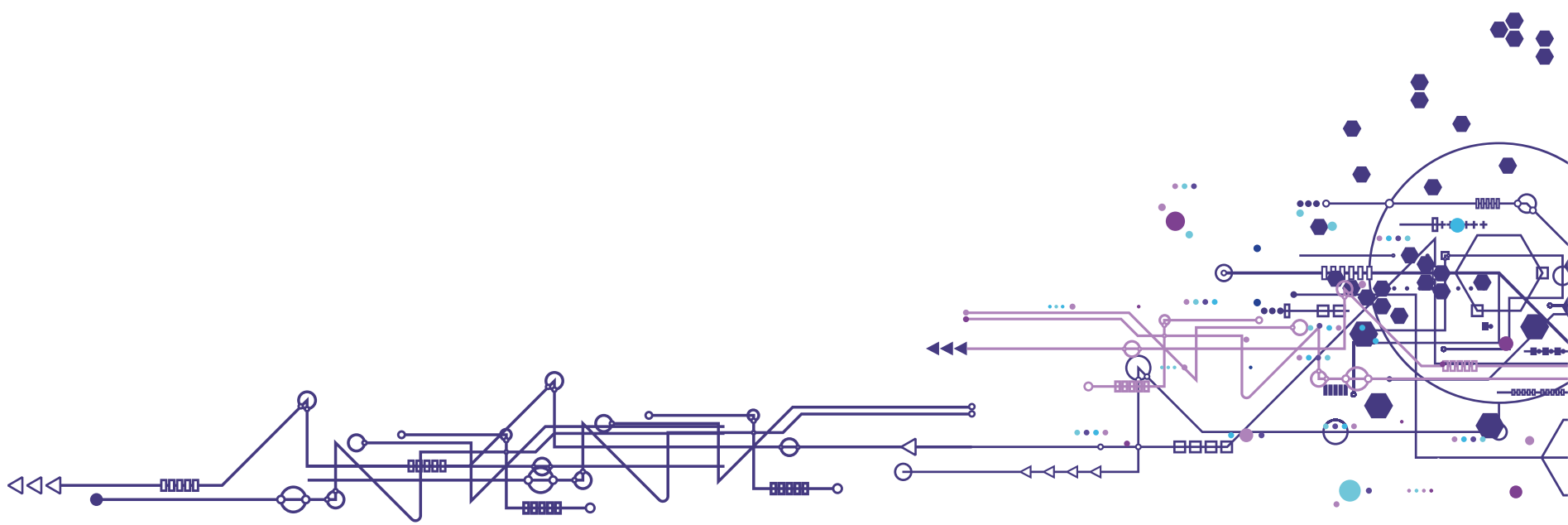
- 2019-2022 H2020 **CLONETS-DS** CLOck NETwork Services - Design Study, coordinator (GEANT)
- Project TiFOON (2019 – 2022)
- Activity Optical Time Frequency Network in GN4 project
 - will continue in GN5





CITAF

Czech Infrastructure for Time and Frequency



Infrastructure CITAF



CITAF goals:

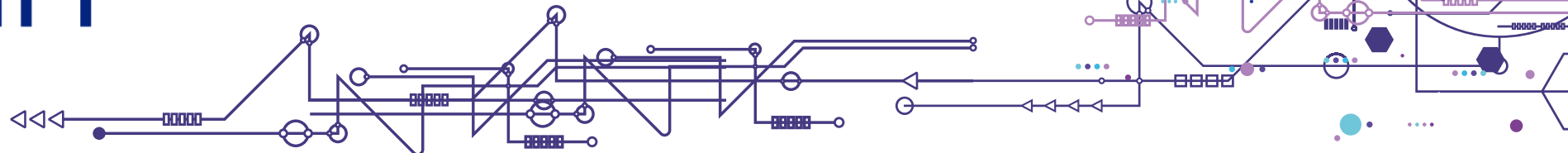
- to be a national platform for cooperation in research and development of methods of time and frequency transmission in optical networks;
- to establish a permanent national optical infrastructure for the transmission of time and frequency interconnected to the follow-up European infrastructure;
- to support joint publishing activities of partners and cooperation in national and international projects and grants;
- present the results of cooperation and develop an awareness of the possibilities and use of the distribution of very accurate time and stable frequency.

CITAF

CITAF is a non-commercial and open activity focused on the transfer of accurate time and very stable frequency using optical networks. It is operated on top of the CESNET network infrastructure.

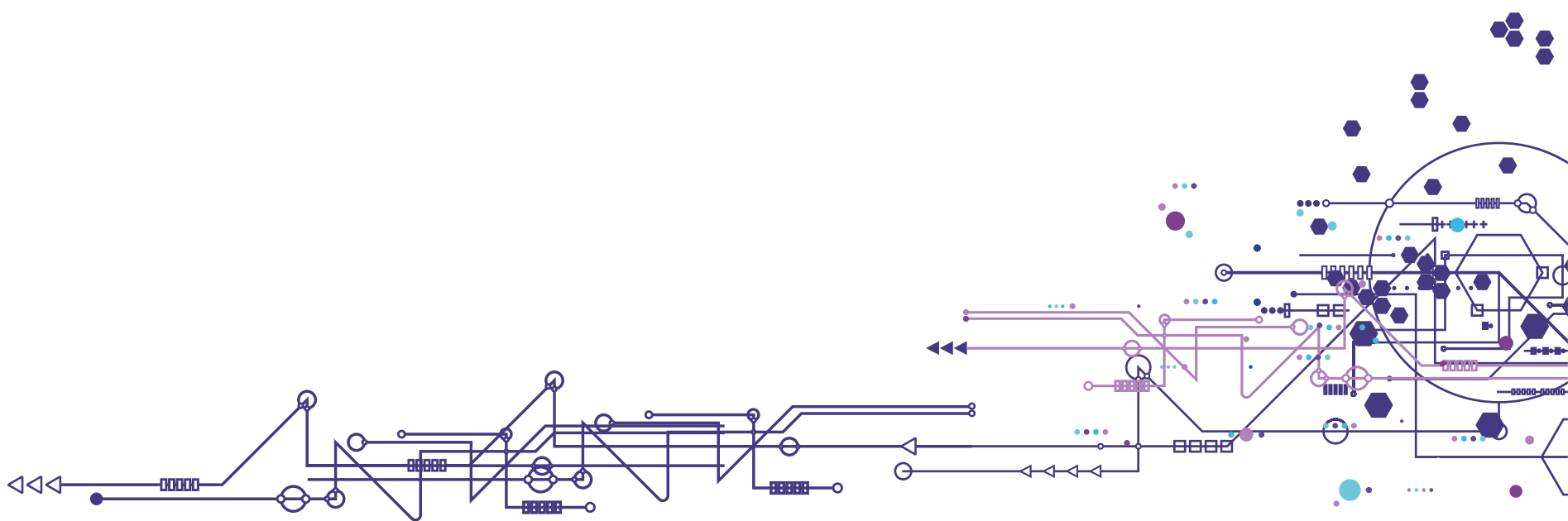
Partners

- CESNET
- FEL ČVUT
- FJFI ČVUT
- Ústav přístrojové techniky AV ČR
- Ústav fotoniky a elektroniky AV ČR
- Ústav fyziky plazmatu AV ČR





Future plans



Future plans in T&F



- Providing network time services
 - NTP, PTP (IEEE 1588)
- Cooperation with CITAF partner
- Participation in EU project aimed on building pan-European T&F network
- Cooperation with QKD activities
- Participation on optical frequency comparison and distribution
 - CMI is going to finish its own optical clock
- Time and frequency distribution using White Rabbit technology
 - White Rabbit link from Cesnet to ELI is in operation since 2016



Thank you

