

# IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON ULTRASONICS, FERROELECTRICS, AND FREQUENCY CONTROL

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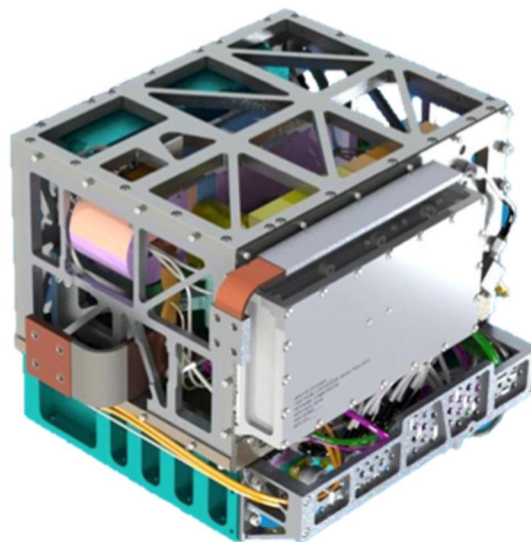
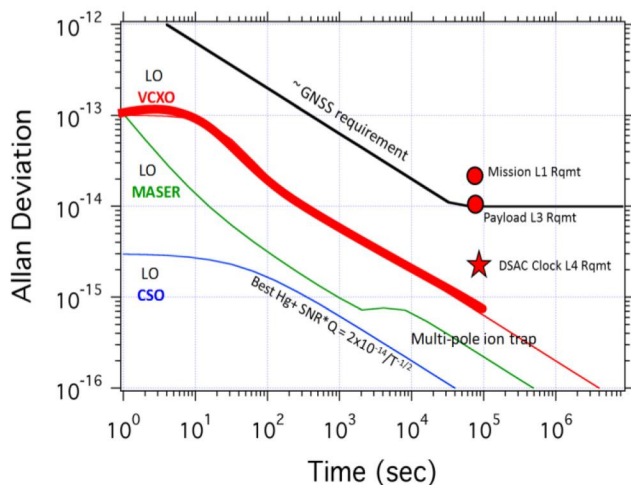
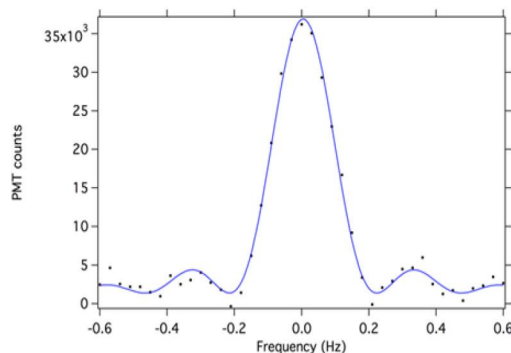
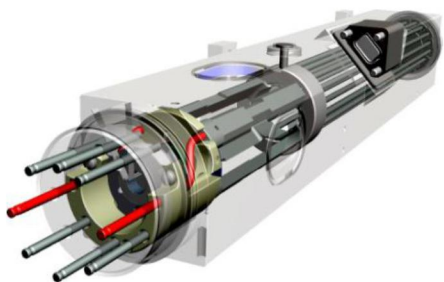
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Guidelines for Authors ..... 924

## Special Issue From the 2015 Joint Conference of the IEEE International Frequency Control Symposium & European Frequency and Time Forum

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### SPECIAL ISSUE PAPERS

Introduction to the Special Issue From the 2015 Joint Conference of the IEEE International Frequency Control Symposium & European Frequency and Time Forum .....	<i>A. Partridge</i>	927
Measuring Buffer-Gas Pressure in Sealed Glass Cells: An Assessment of the KSK Technique .....	<i>T. Driskell, M. Huang, and J. Camparo</i>	928
Tungsten Oxide Layers of High Acoustic Impedance for Fully Insulating Acoustic Reflectors .....	<i>M. DeMiguel-Ramos, B. Díaz-Durán, J. Munir, M. Clement, T. Mirea, J. Olivares, and E. Iborra</i>	938
White Rabbit Precision Time Protocol on Long-Distance Fiber Links .....	<i>E. F. Dierikx, A. E. Wallin, T. Fordell, J. Myyry, P. Koponen, M. Merimaa, T. J. Pinkert, J. C. J. Koelemeij, H. Z. Peek, and R. Smets</i>	945
Wave Propagation Direction and <i>c</i> -Axis Tilt Angle Influence on the Performance of ScAlN/Sapphire-Based SAW Devices .....	<i>A. Kochhar, Y. Yamamoto, A. Teshigahara, K. Hashimoto, S. Tanaka, and M. Esashi</i>	953
The $\Omega$ Counter, a Frequency Counter Based on the Linear Regression .....	<i>E. Rubiola, M. Lenczner, P.-Y. Bourgeois, and F. Vernotte</i>	961
Phase Analysis for Frequency Standards in the Microwave and Optical Domains .....	<i>M. Kazda, V. Gerginov, N. Huntemann, B. Lipphardt, and S. Weyers</i>	970
Quality Factor Measurements of Various Types of Quartz Crystal Resonators Operating Near 4 K .....	<i>S. Galliou, M. Goryachev, P. Abbé, X. Vacheret, M. E. Tobar, and R. Bourquin</i>	975
Frequency Comparison of $^{171}\text{Yb}^+$ Ion Optical Clocks at PTB and NPL via GPS PPP .....	<i>J. Leute, N. Huntemann, B. Lipphardt, C. Tamm, P. B. R. Nisbet-Jones, S. A. King, R. M. Godun, J. M. Jones, H. S. Margolis, P. B. Whibberley, A. Wallin, M. Merimaa, P. Gill, and E. Peik</i>	981
Code-Phase Clock Bias and Frequency Offset in PPP Clock Solutions .....	<i>P. Defraigne and J.-M. Sleewaegen</i>	986
ELSTAB—Fiber-Optic Time and Frequency Distribution Technology: A General Characterization and Fundamental Limits .....	<i>P. Krehlik, Ł. Śliwaczyński, Ł. Buczek, J. Kołodziej, and M. Lipiński</i>	993
BeiDou Time Transfer With the Standard CGGTTS .....	<i>W. Huang and P. Defraigne</i>	1005
JPL Ultrastable Trapped Ion Atomic Frequency Standards ...	<i>E. A. Burt, L. Yi, B. Tucker, R. Hamell, and R. L. Tjoelker</i>	1013
Chip Scale Atomic Resonator Frequency Stabilization System With Ultra-Low Power Consumption for Optoelectronic Oscillators .....	<i>J. Zhao, Y. Zhang, H. Lu, D. Hou, S. Zhang, and Z. Wang</i>	1022

(Contents Continued on Page 923)

---

Stable Similariton Generation in an All-Fiber Hybrid Mode-Locked Ring Laser for Frequency Metrology .....	<i>V. Lazarev, A. Krylov, D. Dvoretzkiy, S. Sazonkin, A. Pnev, S. Leonov, D. Shelestov, M. Tarabrin, V. Karasik, A. Kireev, and M. Gubin</i>	1028
Mercury Ion Clock for a NASA Technology Demonstration Mission .....	<i>R. L. Tjoelker, J. D. Prestage, E. A. Burt, P. Chen, Y. J. Chong, S. K Chung, W. Diener, T. Ely, D. G. Enzer, H. Mojaradi, C. Okino, M. Pauken, D. Robison, B. L. Swenson, B. Tucker, and R. Wang</i>	1034

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### **Mercury Ion Clock for a NASA Technology Demonstration Mission**

The Deep Space Atomic Clock (DSAC) mission is a spaceflight demonstration experiment to operate a new type of atomic clock in Earth orbit. The experimental clock is based on the 40.5-GHz ground state hyperfine transition of Mercury 199 ions confined near room temperature in either a quadrupole or multipole linear ion trap. Atomic state selection is accomplished via optical pumping with a Mercury 202 discharge lamp. The cover figures show a) the quadrupole and multipole ion trap assemblies, b) the 40.5-GHz ion clock signal, c) the fractional frequency stability of trapped ion based frequency standard implementations and the DSAC demonstration goals, and d) the complete DSAC ion clock assembly with the outer magnetic shield removed.

Images are courtesy of Robert L. Tjoelker, John D. Prestage, Eric A. Burt, Pin Chen, Yong J. Chong, Sang K. Chung, William Diener, Todd Ely, Daphna G. Enzer, Hadi Mojaradi, Clay Okino, Mike Pauken, David Robison, Bradford L. Swenson, Blake Tucker, and Rabi Wang. The authors are with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA 91109 USA.

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