



Accurate time. Worldwide.

# The ~~Revolution~~ Evolution of the IEEE 1588 Standard

Doug Arnold  
Meinberg USA

# Agenda



- Backward compatibility
- New ***Optional*** features
  - Profile Isolation
  - Interdomain interactions
    - Multimaster PTP
    - Common Mean Link Delay Service
  - Special Ports
  - Mixed Multicast/Unicast Operation
  - High accuracy features
  - Security

# Backward Compatibility



“The working group shall ensure that the resulting draft has the highest degree of backward compatibility possible with the previous edition of IEEE 1588...”

--- From the Bylaws of the IEEE 1588 Working Group

## What Backward compatibility means

- New edition device will not break 2008 edition network
- New features are optional
- Old features work as before

| Year | Version number | Backward compatible |
|------|----------------|---------------------|
| 2002 | 1              | N/A                 |
| 2008 | 2              | No                  |
| 2018 | 2.1            | Yes, with v2        |

# PTP Message Common Header



Table 18—Common message header

| Bits               |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | Octets | Offset |
|--------------------|---|---|---|-------------|---|---|---|--------|--------|
| 7                  | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3           | 2 | 1 | 0 |        |        |
| transportSpecific  |   |   |   | messageType |   |   |   | 1      | 0      |
| reserved           |   |   |   | versionPTP  |   |   |   | 1      | 1      |
| messageLength      |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 2      | 2      |
| domainNumber       |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 1      | 4      |
| reserved           |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 1      | 5      |
| flagField          |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 2      | 6      |
| correctionField    |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 8      | 8      |
| reserved           |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 4      | 16     |
| sourcePortIdentity |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 10     | 20     |
| sequenceId         |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 2      | 30     |
| controlField       |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 1      | 32     |
| logMessageInterval |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 1      | 33     |

2008 edition

Table 26—Common PTP message header

| Bits                |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | Octets | Offset |
|---------------------|---|---|---|-------------|---|---|---|--------|--------|
| 7                   | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3           | 2 | 1 | 0 |        |        |
| majorSdoId          |   |   |   | messageType |   |   |   | 1      | 0      |
| minorVersionPTP     |   |   |   | versionPTP  |   |   |   | 1      | 1      |
| messageLength       |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 2      | 2      |
| domainNumber        |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 1      | 4      |
| minorSdoId          |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 1      | 5      |
| flagField           |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 2      | 6      |
| correctionField     |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 8      | 8      |
| messageTypeSpecific |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 4      | 16     |
| sourcePortIdentity  |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 10     | 20     |
| sequenceId          |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 2      | 30     |
| reserved            |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 1      | 32     |
| logMessageInterval  |   |   |   |             |   |   |   | 1      | 33     |

New edition

# Profile Isolation



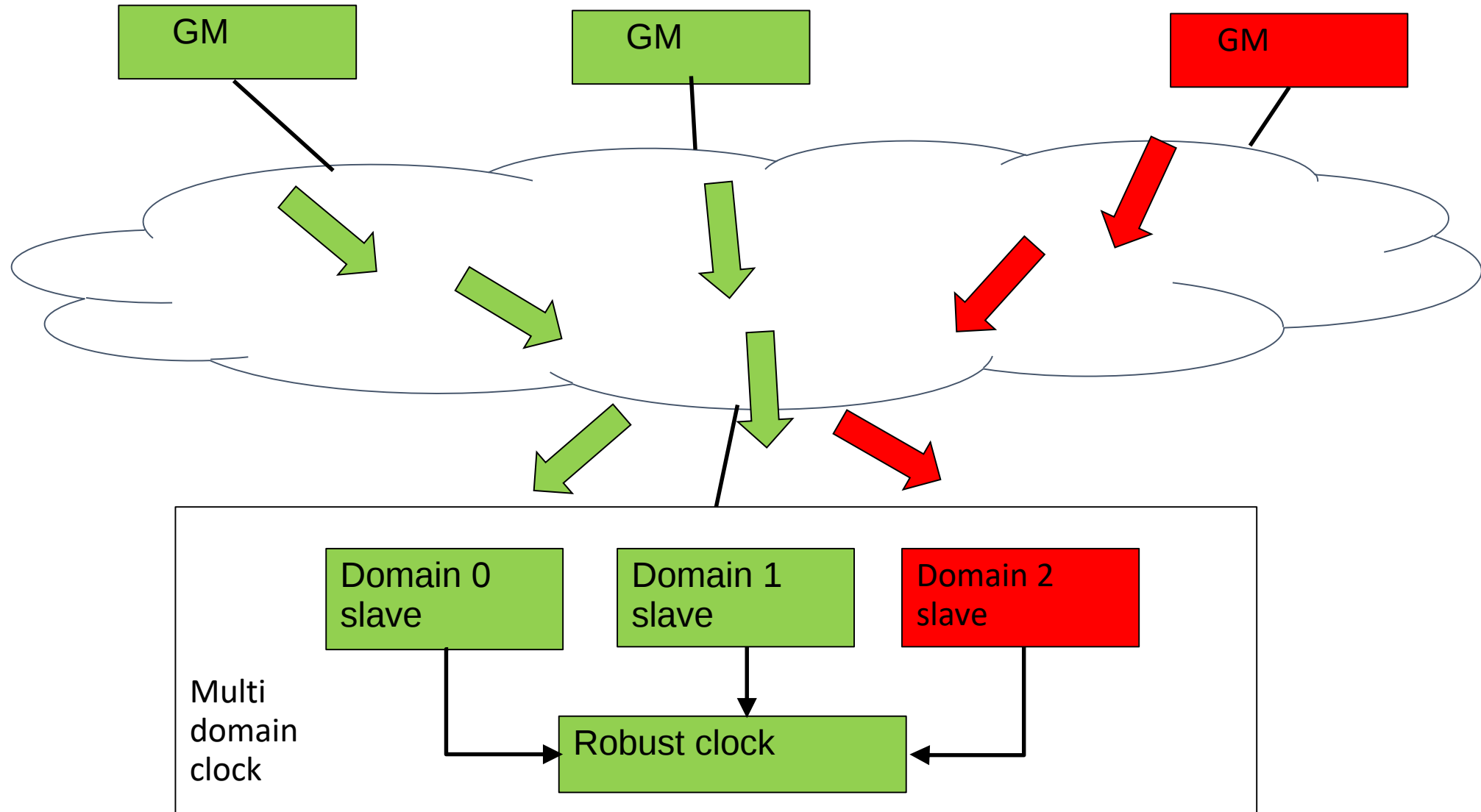
- Sdold = Standardization development organization identity
  - 12 bits in common message header
  - Given out by IEEE Registration Authority
  - Any legitimate standards group could get one
    - 0x00 indicates standard, non-isolated PTP
    - 0x100 indicates IEEE 802
    - 0xFFD, 0xFFE are for experimental use
    - ITU, IEC, SMPTE, IETF, etc.. could each get one
    - Meinberg, University of Illinois, etc.. could not
- Domain
  - Domain 4, Sdold = 0x300, is a different domain than Domain 4, Sdold = 0x301
  - Profile can dictate how the domain numbers associated with that organizations Sdold are used
  - E.g. Domain 0-15 for profile 1, domain 16-31 for profile 2, etc.

# Interactions among domains



- Independent domains fed from a single timing source
- Multi-grandmaster PTP
- Multipath PTP
- Time transfer between domains via non PTP mechanism
  - IRIG-B, 1PPS, Backplane
  - Interdomain timing metadata adapter
  - Timing transfers but not protocol (Each domain has own BMCA)
- Common Mean Link Delay service

# Interactions among domains

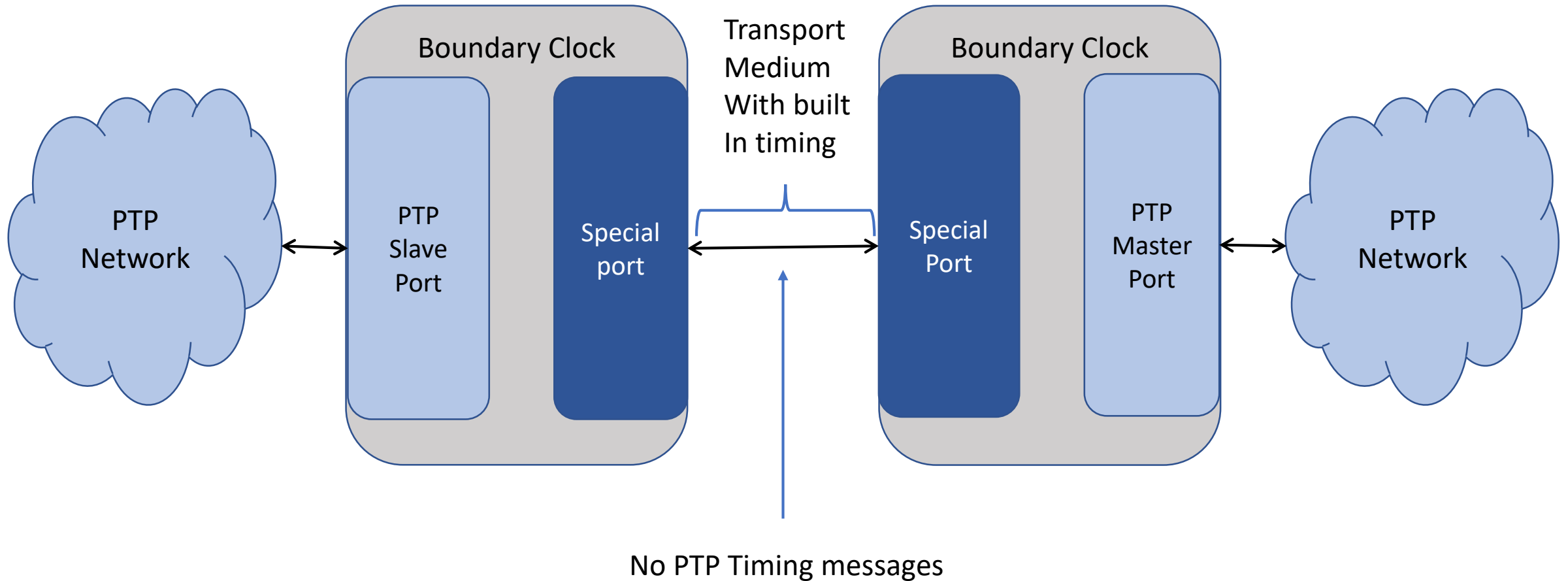


# Common Mean Link Delay Service



- Domain agnostic common service
  - PTP instances in node can subscribe to service
- For PTP Nodes which use Peer delay and have PTP instances in multiple domains
- Link delays usually the same in different domains if they have the same second definition
- For example, BC with many 128 ports and four domains
  - Processing overhead for redundant peer delay measurements costly

# Special Ports



# Special Ports

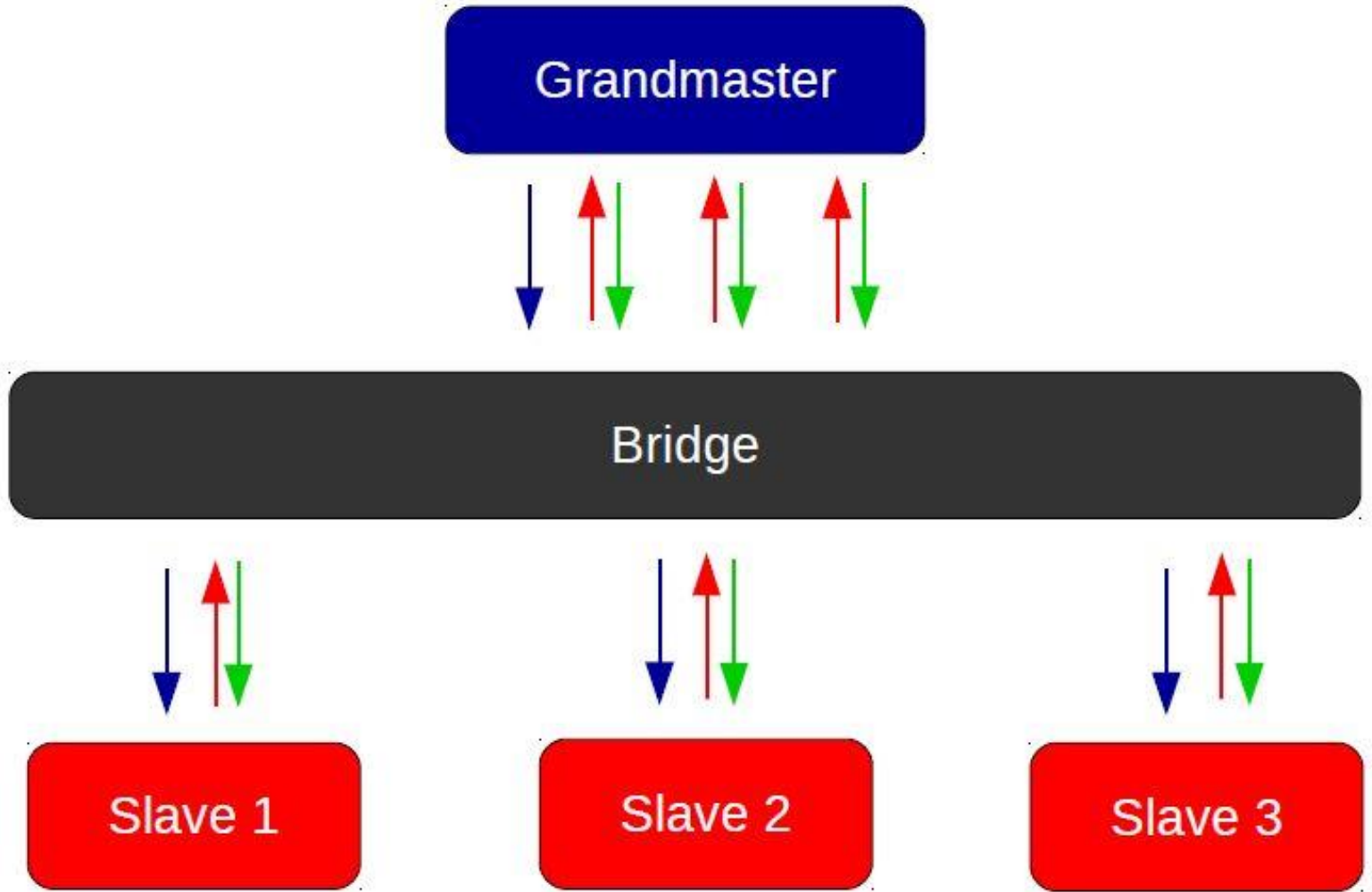


- For transport media with built in timing mechanisms
- For example
  - WIFI
  - EPON
- Standard PTP media independent/media dependent interface defined
  - Transfer time from PTP to special media
  - Transfer time from special media to PTP
- Following lead from IEEE 802.1AS Working Group
- Standard MIMD interface defined
  - Standards Organization could define their own compliant special ports

# Mixed Multicast/Unicast Operation



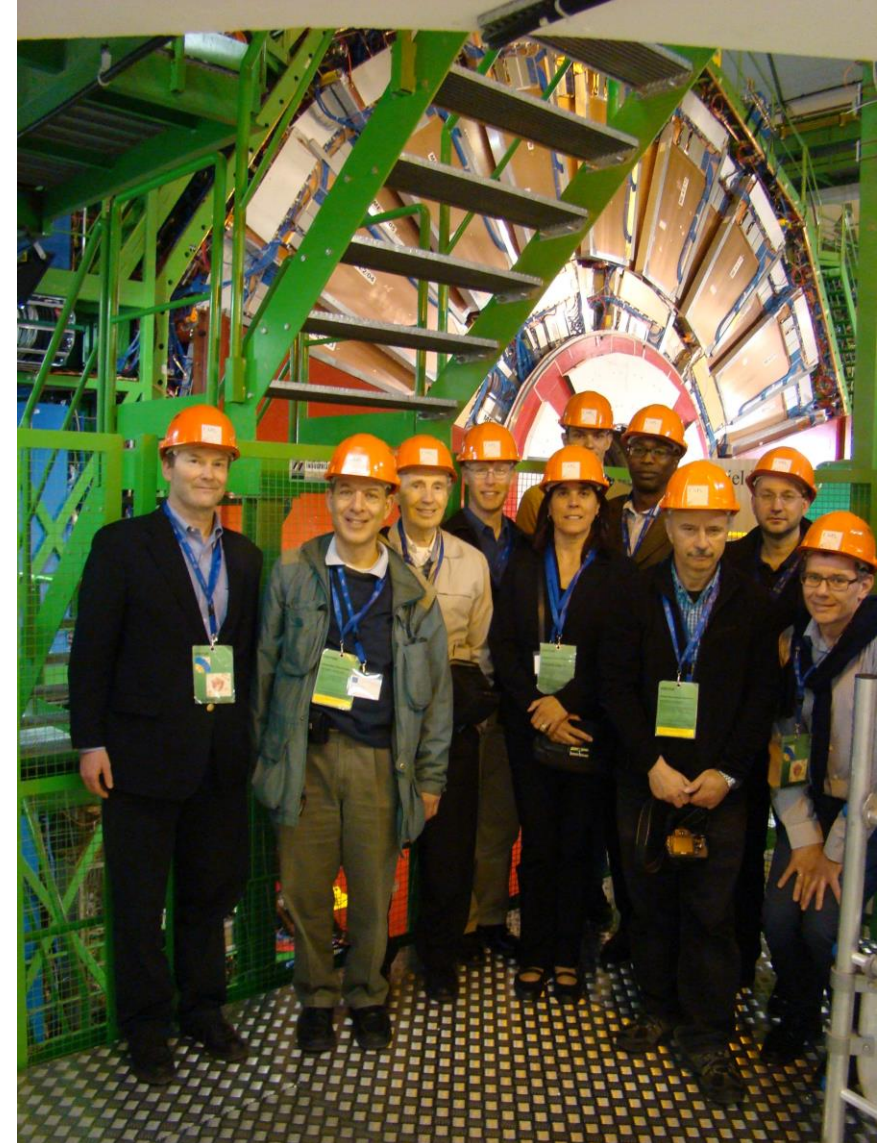
- Sync, Announce are multicast
- Delay Request, Delay Response are unicast
- Cut down on “noise” in multicast address
- Used in IETF draft Enterprise Profile



# High Accuracy PTP



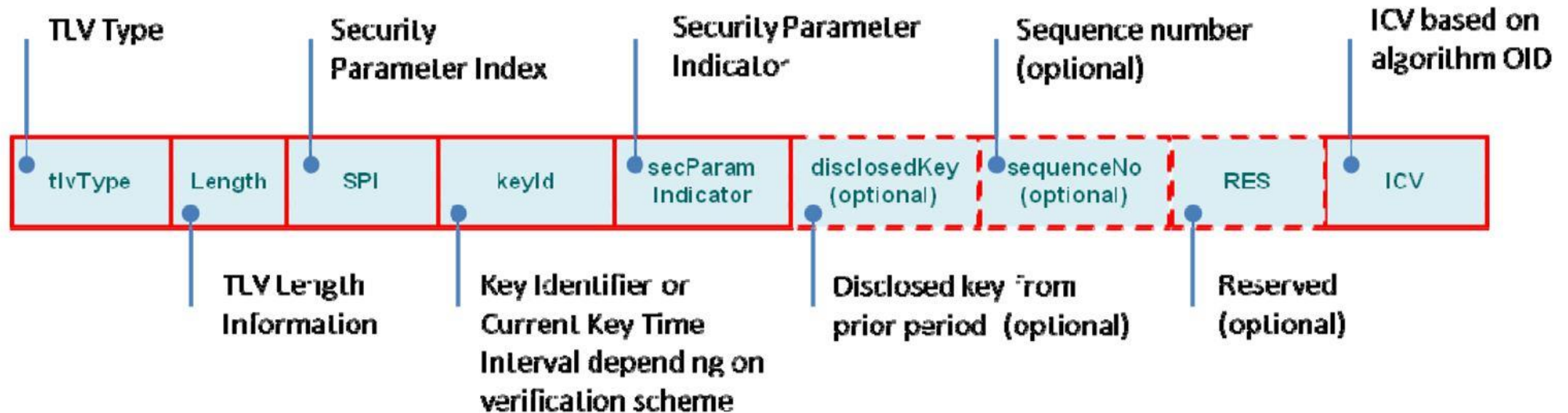
- Based on work at CERN
  - White Rabbit extensions to PTP
  - Lead scientist Maciej Lipinski
  - Achieved sub-ns phase synchronization
- Manually configured port states
  - All ports either configured or BMCA, no mixing
- Layer 1 Syntonization
- Asymmetry calibration



## Four Prongs

1. Recommendations for transport of PTP over IPsec and MACsec
2. Security TLV
  - Can be attached to any PTP message
  - Friendly to GDOI and TESLA based key exchange mechanisms
  - Key exchange details outside scope of IEEE 1588
3. Recommendations for use of redundancy in network architecture
  - For example, multi-master PTP, multipath PTP
  - Necessary but not sufficient to defeat delay attacks
4. Recommendations on the use of monitoring

# Security TLV



# Even more optional features



- Slave timing measurement TLV for monitoring
  - Pass timestamps to GM or monitoring node to verify timing
- Modular Transparent Clocks
  - For blade or SFP module architecture system
  - “Stepness” now a port property
  - TC ports can change 1-step to 2-step, or 2-step to 1-step
- Standard performance metrics for monitoring
  - Based on mean, min, max, and standard deviation for quantities
  - 15 minute and 24 hour averages
- Not addressed in this edition: standards MIB, YANG

# Summary

- Backward compatibility maintained
  - PTPv2 and PTPv2.1 devices can work together
- Features for robustness and accuracy
  - Profile Isolation
  - Interdomain interactions
  - Security TLV
  - Standard metrics
  - Slave port monitoring
- Features for Accuracy
  - Manual port configuration
  - Calibration
  - Layer-1 syntonization
- Features for flexibility
  - Modular TCs
  - Special ports
  - Mixed multicast/unicast



Accurate time. Worldwide.

# Thank you for your attention

Doug Arnold

Meinberg USA

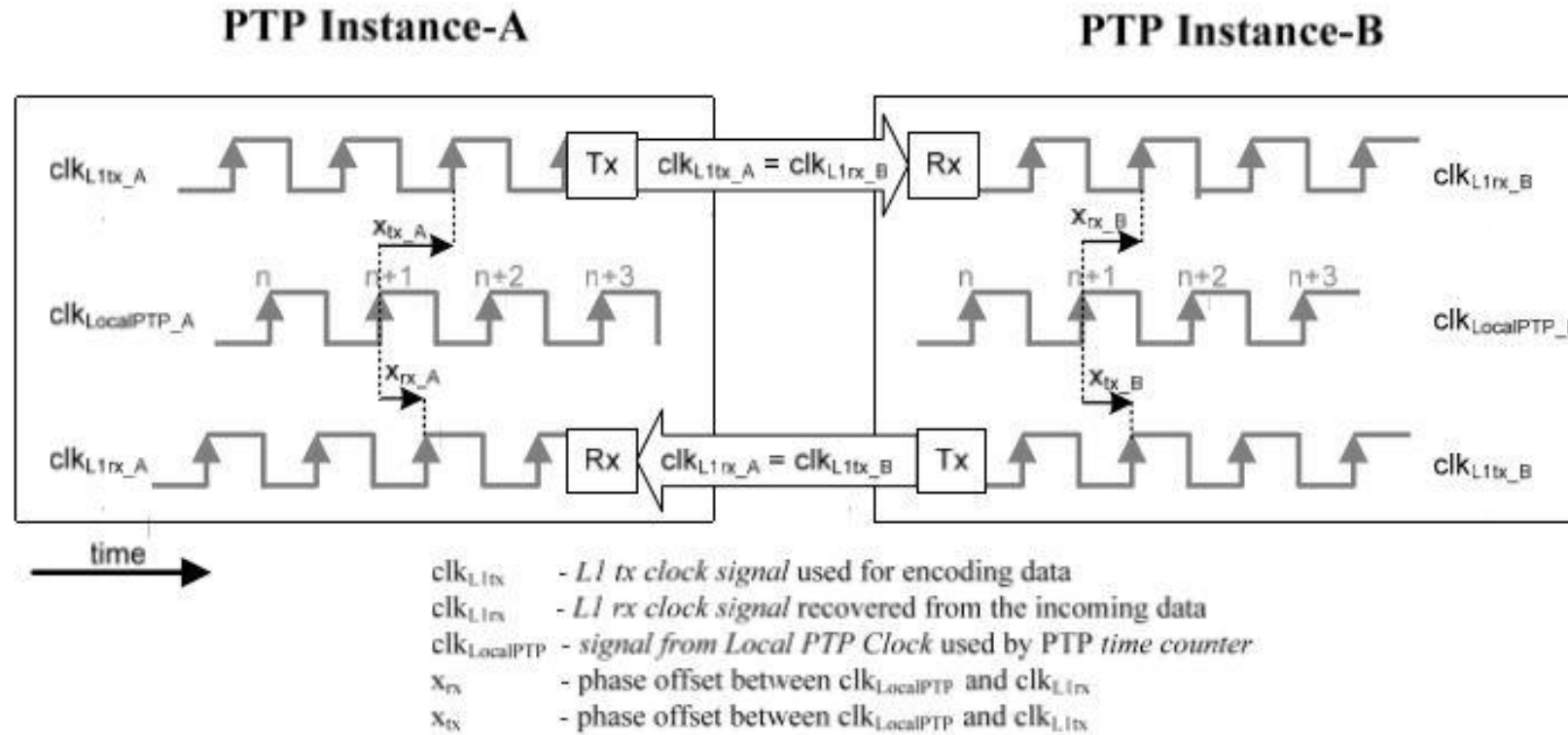
[Doug.Arnold@meinberg-usa.com](mailto:Doug.Arnold@meinberg-usa.com)

# Modular Transparent Clocks



- Modular transparent clocks
  - Blade architecture switches/routers
  - SFP modules convert ordinary switches or routers to TCs
- Egress TC ports can update either correction field when Follow\_Up present
- Both ingress or egress TC ports can change stepness
  - Create Follow\_Up to accompany Sync
  - Combine correction fields in Sync, and drop Follow\_Up (New!)
- twoStepFlag indicates message semantics only
  - TRUE means Follow\_Up coming
  - FALSE means no Follow\_Up
  - Regardless of TC port properties

# High Accuracy PTP



**Figure 65—Link reference model.**

Asymmetry errors removed through calibration of phase differences among various clocks

- Calibration is relative to “Golden Calibrator”
- Scaling to large networks unsolved problem
- Layer-1 Syntonization keeps many phase errors constant so they can be calibrated

# Performance Metrics for Monitoring



- Complete implementation
  - 24 our average of each metric
  - 24 hours worth of 15 minute averages of each metric
  - 37 metrics defined
  - Partial or no implementation allowed
- Based of fundamental statistics for each quantity
  - Average, minimum, maximum, standard deviation
  - Or counters of events
- Examples
  - averageOffsetFromMaster
  - minMeanPathDelay (delay request-response only)
  - maxMeanLinkDelay (peer delay only)
  - SyncRx (counter)