FREQUENCY COMPARISON (H_MASER 140 0890) - (LNE-SYRTE-FO1)
For the period MJD 54829 to MJD 54859

The primary frequency standard LNE-SYRTE-FO1 has been compared to the hydrogen Maser 140 0890 of the laboratory, during 2 measurement campaigns between MJD 54829 and 54859 (29th December 2008-28th January 2009). The fountain operation covers ~ 77 % of the total measurement duration.

The mean frequency differences at the middle date of the periods are given in the following table:

Period (MJD)	Date of the estimation	y(HMaser$_{140\ 0890}$ – FO1)	u_B	u_A	$u_{link\ /\ maser}$
54829 – 54839	**54834**	**-923.6**	**4.4**	**3**	**1.1**
54849 – 54859	**54854**	**-1079.0**	**4.4**	**2**	**1.0**

Table 1: Results of the comparisons HMaser$_{140\ 0890}$-FO1 in 1 x 10^{-16}.

The FO1 fountain was compared to the hydrogen Maser 140 0890 of the laboratory during the measurement period. The FO1 fountain was operated in the same mode during all the period: the interrogating signal synthesis is based on the multiplication of a 100 MHz signal provided by a cryogenic oscillator phase locked on the maser 140 0890. It uses a synthesizer to lock the microwave signal on the atomic resonance. The frequency difference between the maser and the fountain is deduced from the average correction applied to the synthesizer.

Average value and statistical uncertainty

The details of the calculations are given in figures 1 and 2:

The frequency data averaged over 0.2 day are plotted on the upper graphs (blue points) together with a linear unweighted fit (red line).
The parameters of the fit y=a + bx are respectively:

Period (MJD)	a	b
54829 – 54839	**(15.9+/- 4.2) 10^{-12}**	**(-2.9+/-0.8) 10^{-16}/day**
54849 – 54859	**(36.0+/- 2.4) 10^{-12}**	**(-6.6+/-0.5) 10^{-16}/day**

Table 2: Coefficients of the linear fit of HMaser$_{140\ 0890}$-FO1

These coefficients are used to remove the drift (data plotted in the graphs in the middle, red points) and to calculate the average values at middle dates, given in table 1. The lower graphs give the variances of the frequency residuals. We estimate statistical uncertainties $u_A = 3\times10^{-16}$ and $u_A = 2\times10^{-16}$ respectively for the 2 segments.

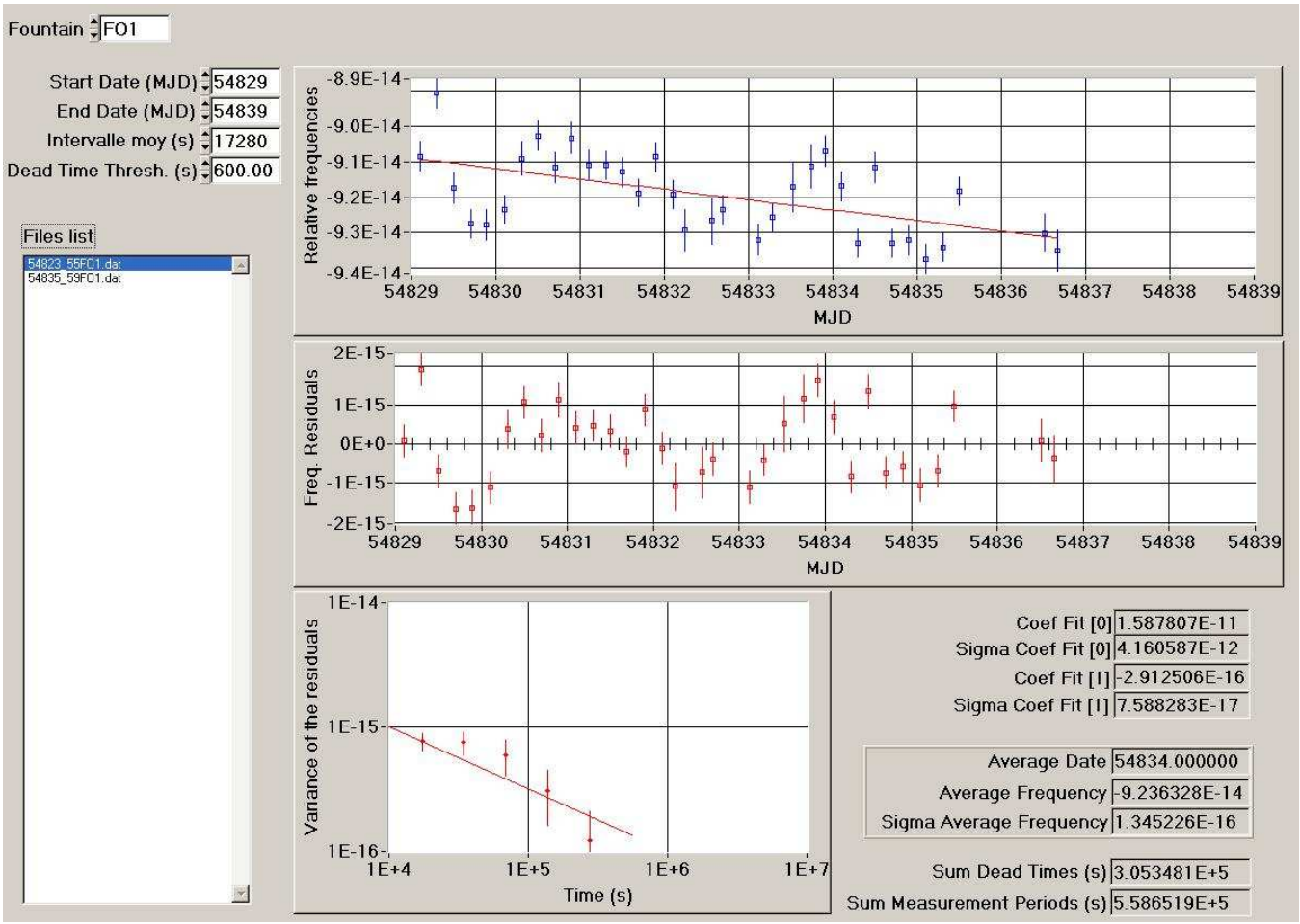

Figure 1: Data processing for the period MJD 54829-54839

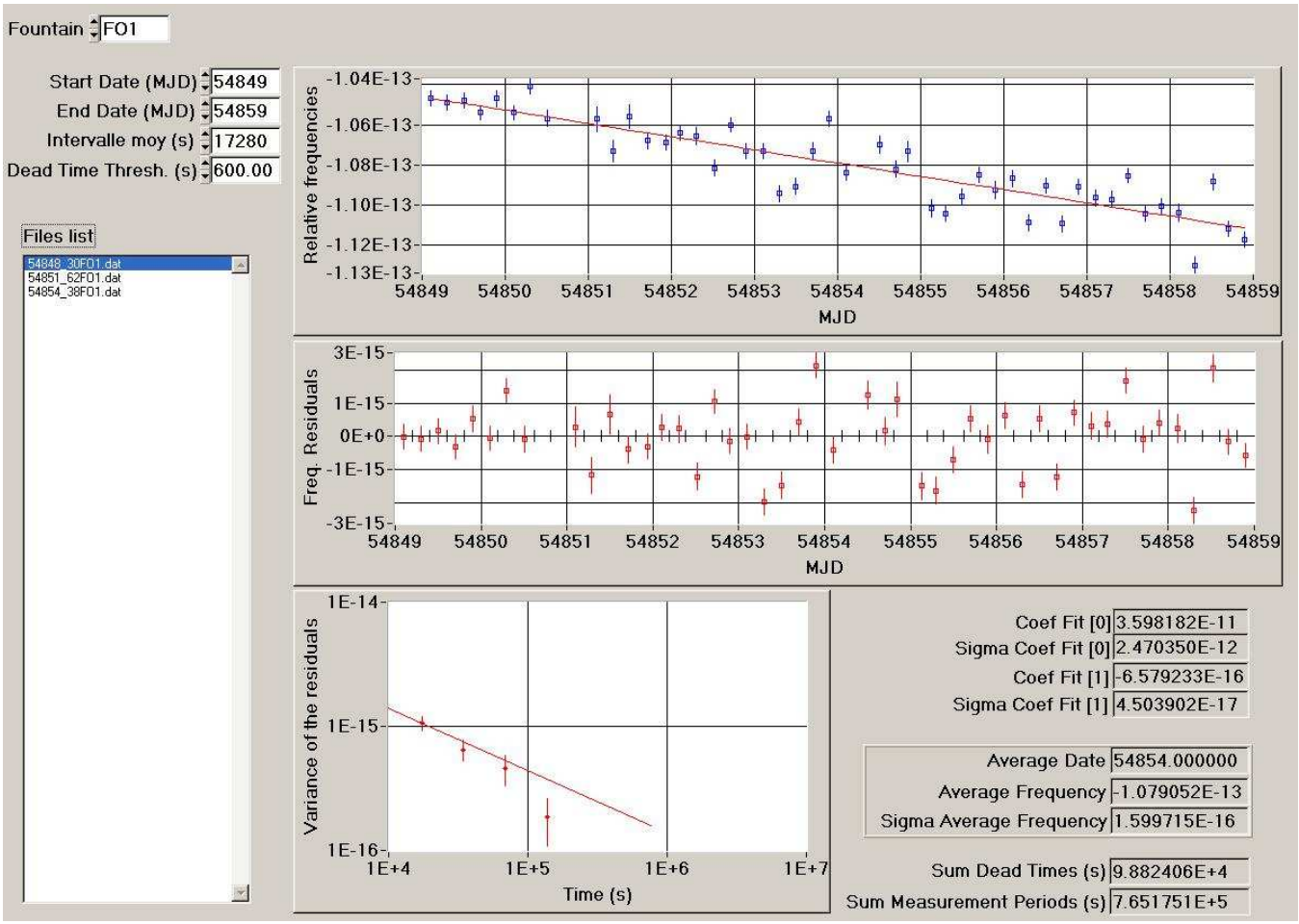

Figure 2: Data processing for the period MJD 54849-54859

We verified the result by applying a second method. We calculated the accumulated phase by integrating the data points, assuming a linear frequency drift during each segment, and during the dead times of the fountain operation. The average frequency is then obtained by dividing the total accumulated phase by the calibration period duration. The processing has been performed with segments of 0.01, 0.1 and 1 day durations. The differences between the results and the values given in table 1 are in agreement within 3.3×10^{-16} and 1.4×10^{-16} for the 2 periods respectively, which is consistent with the estimations of the statistical uncertainties u_A and the uncertainties due to the link.

Accuracy

The frequency is corrected from the quadratic Zeeman, the Black Body radiation, the cold collisions and cavity pulling, and the red shift effects. The following table summarizes the budget of systematic effects and their associated uncertainties. The accuracy is the quadratic sum of all the systematic uncertainties.

	Correction (10^{-16})	**Uncertainty (10^{-16})**
Quadratic Zeeman effect	-1277.5	0.2
Black body radiation	165.6	0.6
Cold collisions and cavity pulling	116.2	1.9
First order Doppler	0	3.2
Microwave spectral purity&leakage	0	< 1
Ramsey & Rabi pulling	0	< 1
Microwave recoil	0	< 1.4
Second order Doppler effect	0	< 0.1
Background gas collisions	0	<0.3
Total	**-995.7**	**4.3**
Red shift	- 69.3	1.0
Total with red shift	**-1065**	**4.4**

Table 3: Budget of systematic effects and uncertainties for SYRTE-FO1 fountain

$$u_B = 4.4 \times 10^{-16}$$

Uncertainty of the link

The uncertainty of the link is the quadratic sum of 2 terms:
-A possible effect of phase fluctuations introduced by the cables that connect the primary standard to the Maser. It is estimated to be 10^{-16}.
-The uncertainty due to the dead times of the frequency comparison.
To estimate this contribution, we use the comparison between the reference Maser and Maser 140 0889. We calculate the time deviation of the normalized phase differences with the linear frequency drift removed. The uncertainty is given by:

$$\sigma_{y_{Dead\ Time}} = \frac{\sqrt{\sum_i \sigma_{x_i}^2}}{T}$$

where σ_{xi} are the extrapolated TVar for each dead times. We applied the method to the dead times longer than 600 s and obtained stability degradations of 0.5×10^{-16} and 0.2×10^{-16} for the 2 periods respectively