

**8th BIPM TWSTFT Monthly Report**

To: TWSTFT Participating Stations  
Dear Colleagues,

Please find enclosed the 8th BIPM TWSTFT Monthly Report. As usual we present some selected TWSTFT links which are computed and compared to GPS at the time of the preparation of *Circular T*. The results of the computation of nine such links are given in Tables 1 to 9 of the Appendix.

Following the recommendations of the last CCTF and the decisions of the CCTF WG on TWSTFT meeting at the USNO on December 13 and 14, two new TWSTFT links will be introduced into TAI in January 2000:

- a transatlantic link NPL/USNO,
- a European link PTB/VSL.

These two TWSTFT links will be in parallel with the best possible GPS links that will continue to provide data to be kept as reserve.

In addition another transatlantic link NIST/PTB is considered to be introduced into TAI. For this link, however, the primary technique would remain classical GPS C/A-code common-view, and TWSTFT technique would be used as a back-up.

We will be pleased to receive your comments on this report.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Jacques Azoubib and Włodzimierz Lewandowski

**Appendix to  
8th BIPM TWSTFT Monthly Report**

TWSTFT links computed at the BIPM

Because the TWSTFT data are unevenly spaced by intervals of 2 or 3 days, they are linearly interpolated to give the data for the TAI standard dates at intervals of 5 days.

Note: When TWSTFT sessions are missing and data are interpolated between TWSTFT sessions more than 5 days apart, results are printed in bold characters. Upper limit for interpolation is 12 days.

**Table 1.** TUG/PTB link

BIPM Report No.	Date 1999 (MJD)	[UTC(TUG) – UTC(PTB)] /ns		
		TWSTFT	<i>Circular T</i> (GPS)	TWSTFT– <i>Circular T</i>
<b>1</b>	1 April (51269)	110	132	–22
	6 April (51274)	112	133	–21
	11 April (51279)	112	135	–23
	16 April (51284)	129	148	–19
	21 April (51289)	156	180	–24
	26 April (51294)	177	197	–20
<b>2</b>	1 May (51299)	193	217	–24
	6 May (51304)	196	217	–21
	11 May (51309)	205	231	–26
	16 May (51314)	222	242	–20
	21 May (51319)	236	258	–22
	26 May (51324)	248	271	–23
	31 May (51329)	266	288	–22
<b>3</b>	5 June (51334)	286	307	–21
	10 June (51339)	293	314	–21
	15 June (51344)	308	331	–23
	20 June (51349)	322	341	–19
	25 June (51354)	331	352	–21
	30 June (51359)	342	368	–26

Note 1: The TUG/PTB TWSTFT link was calibrated by the transport of a TWSTFT station in May-June 1998. Until 30 June 1999 the *Circular T* GPS data for TUG were calibrated using an outdated value; this is the reason for the offset of about –22 ns between the two techniques.

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**Table 1.** TUG/PTB link (cont.)**Introduction of TUG/PTB TWSTFT link into TAI**

BIPM Report No.	Date 1999 (MJD)	[UTC(TUG) - UTC(PTB)] /ns		
		<i>Circular T (TWSTFT)</i>	GPS	<i>Circular T - GPS</i>
<b>4</b>	5 July (51364)	358	360	-2
	10 July (51369)	370	372	-2
	15 July (51374)	379	379	0
	20 July (51379)	385	388	-3
	25 July (51384)	391	390	1
	30 July (51389)	410	411	-1
<b>5</b>	4 August (51394)	426	431	-5
	9 August (51399)	439	441	-2
	14 August (51404)	454	455	-1
	19 August (51409)	462	462	0
	24 August (51414)	481	485	-4
	29 August (51419)	500	502	-2
<b>6</b>	3 September (51424)	517	521	-4
	8 September (51429)	525	527	-2
	13 September (51434)	550	552	-2
	18 September (51439)	562	565	-3
	23 September (51444)	576	580	-4
	28 September (51449)	588	590	-2
<b>7</b>	3 October (51454)	602	599	3
	8 October (51459)	613	614	-1
	13 October (51464)	624	628	-4
	18 October (51469)	636	637	-1
	23 October (51474)	658	658	0
	28 October (51479)	681	683	-2
<b>8</b>	2 November (51484)	700	697	3
	7 November (51489)	724	726	-2
	12 November (51494)	739	739	0
	17 November (51499)	747	747	0
	22 November (51504)	771	771	0
	27 November (51509)	794	795	-1

Note 2: The TUG/PTB TWSTFT link has been included in the computation of TAI since July 1999. This link was calibrated by the transport of a TWSTFT station in May-June 1998. The GPS link between the TUG and the PTB is also computed as a check and the data kept in reserve; this link was calibrated by the transport of a GPS receiver in May-June 1998 (4th BIPM GPS calibration trip).

It is notable that, for the TUG/PTB link, the TWSTFT and GPS techniques were independently calibrated, and the results agree to within the associated uncertainties.

**Table 2.** PTB/NIST link

BIPM Report No.	Date 1999 (MJD)	[UTC(PTB) – UTC(NIST)] /ns		
		TWSTFT	<i>Circular T</i> (GPS)	TWSTFT– <i>Circular T</i>
<b>3</b>	5 June (51334)	–9	–9	0
	10 June (51339)	–3	–5	2
	15 June (51344)	–1	–3	2
	20 June (51349)	2	2	0
	25 June (51354)	4	2	2
	30 June (51359)	8	7	1
<b>4</b>	5 July (51364)	9	16	–7
	10 July (51369)	14	23	–9
	15 July (51374)	16	23	–7
	20 July (51379)	16	24	–8
	25 July (51384)	21	27	–6
	30 July (51389)	23	31	–8
<b>5</b>	4 August (51394)	21	25	–4
	9 August (51399)	26	34	–8
	14 August (51404)	32	38	–6
	19 August (51409)	33	40	–7
	24 August (51414)	37	42	–5
	29 August (51419)	41	46	–5
<b>6</b>	3 September (51424)	42	50	–8
	8 September (51429)	42	51	–9
	13 September (51434)	35	47	–12
	18 September (51439)	40	46	–6
	23 September (51444)	40	45	–5
	28 September (51449)	39	47	–8
<b>7</b>	3 October (51454)	41	48	–7
	8 October (51459)	48	57	–9
	13 October (51464)	48	54	–6
	18 October (51469)	50	58	–8
	23 October (51474)	47	55	–8
	28 October (51479)	46	53	–7
<b>8</b>	2 November (51484)	47	60	–13
	7 November (51489)	46	54	–8
	12 November (51494)	45	53	–8
	17 November (51499)	46	56	–10
	22 November (51504)	44	53	–9
	27 November (51509)	46	51	–5

Notes: The PTB/NIST TWSTFT link was calibrated by *Circular T* prior to July 1999.

Since July 1999 the GPS link between Europe and North America has been corrected by ionospheric delays derived from an IGS map rather than, as previously, by direct ionospheric measurements. This is the reason for the step of about 8 ns at the beginning of July 1999 between the TWSTFT and GPS values.

**Table 3.** NPL/USNO link

BIPM Report No.	Date 1999 (MJD)	[UTC(NPL) – UTC(USNO)] /ns		
		TWSTFT	<i>Circular T</i> (GPS)	TWSTFT– <i>Circular T</i>
<b>4</b>	5 July (51364)	* <b>60</b>	–56	* 116
	10 July (51369)	* <b>59</b>	–57	* 116
	15 July (51374)	* 58	–61	* 119
	20 July (51379)	* 60	–58	* 118
	25 July (51384)	* –71	–59	* –12
	30 July (51389)	–69	–56	–13
<b>5</b>	4 August (51394)	– <b>64</b>	–54	–10
	9 August (51399)	– <b>62</b>	–49	–11
	14 August (51404)	–57	–44	–13
	19 August (51409)	–55	–43	–12
	24 August (51414)	–55	–42	–13
	29 August (51419)	– <b>53</b>	–41	–12
<b>6</b>	3 September (51424)	– <b>54</b>	–42	–12
	8 September (51429)	–58	–45	–13
	13 September (51434)	–60	–47	–13
	18 September (51439)	–61	–51	–10
	23 September (51444)	–62	–49	–13
	28 September (51449)	†– <b>63</b>	–50	†–13
<b>7</b>	3 October (51454)	–62	–52	–10
	8 October (51459)	–62	–49	–13
	13 October (51464)	– <b>64</b>	–54	–10
	18 October (51469)	– <b>65</b>	–57	–8
	23 October (51474)	–67	–56	–11
	28 October (51479)	–71	–64	–7
<b>8</b>	2 November (51484)	–76	–63	–13
	7 November (51489)	–82	–74	–8
	12 November (51494)	–87	–77	–10
	17 November (51499)	–92	–84	–8
	22 November (51504)	–96	–87	–9
	27 November (51509)	–97	–90	–7

Notes: The NPL/USNO TWSTFT link was not calibrated until 21 July 1999. Since 25 July 1999 this link has been calibrated by *Circular T* using the data of June 1999.

See also the note to Table 2 concerning the time step in the GPS values between 30 June 1999 and 5 July 1999.

\* Hardware and automation problems have rendered USNO TWSTFT data between 5 June 1999 and 25 July 1999 unreliable. These data were adjusted a posteriori between 16 June 1999 and 25 July 1999.

† This value replaces the incorrect value given in the 6th Report.

**Table 4.** USNO/PTB link

BIPM Report No.	Date 1999 (MJD)	[UTC(USNO) – UTC(PTB)] /ns		
		TWSTFT	<i>Circular T</i> (GPS)	TWSTFT– <i>Circular T</i>
<b>3</b>	5 June (51334)	* <b>25</b>	–6	* 31
	10 June (51339)	* <b>43</b>	–10	* 53
	15 June (51344)	* 14	–9	* 23
	20 June (51349)	* 15	–12	* 27
	25 June (51354)	* 12	–10	* 22
	30 June (51359)	* 10	–12	* 22
<b>4</b>	5 July (51364)	* <b>10</b>	–20	* 30
	10 July (51369)	* 7	–26	* 33
	15 July (51374)	* 7	–25	* 32
	20 July (51379)	* 7	–24	* 31
	25 July (51384)	* -14	–27	* 13
	30 July (51389)	–16	–29	13
<b>5</b>	4 August (51394)	<b>–18</b>	–24	6
	9 August (51399)	<b>–24</b>	–36	12
	14 August (51404)	–31	–40	9
	19 August (51409)	–31	–43	12
	24 August (51414)	–33	–43	10
	29 August (51419)	–34	–42	8
<b>6</b>	3 September (51424)	–33	–45	12
	8 September (51429)	–30	–41	11
	13 September (51434)	–22	–35	13
	18 September (51439)	–23	–33	10
	23 September (51444)	–25	–34	9
	28 September (51449)	<b>–23</b>	–34	11
<b>7</b>	3 October (51454)	<b>–25</b>	–37	12
	8 October (51459)	<b>–34</b>	–47	13
	13 October (51464)	–36	–44	8
	18 October (51469)	–40	–48	8
	23 October (51474)	–36	–46	10
	28 October (51479)	–33	–41	8
<b>8</b>	2 November (51484)	–33	–46	13
	7 November (51489)	–31	–40	9
	12 November (51494)	–31	–39	8
	17 November (51499)	–31	–40	9
	22 November (51504)	–30	–39	9
	27 November (51509)	–33	–41	8

Notes: The USNO/PTB TWSTFT link was calibrated using *Circular T* of May 1997. At this time the USNO GPS time-receiving equipment was inaccurate by about 23 ns, which explains the offset between the TWSTFT data and the *Circular T* data observed.

See also the note to Table 2 concerning the time step in the GPS values between 30 June 1999 and 5 July 1999.

\* See note to Table 3.

**Table 5.** PTB/DTAG link

BIPM Report No.	Date 1999 (MJD)	[UTC(PTB) – UTC(DTAG)] /ns		
		TWSTFT	<i>Circular T</i> (GPS)	TWSTFT– <i>Circular T</i>
<b>3</b>	5 June (51334)	–49	–67	18
	10 June (51339)	–46	–65	19
	15 June (51344)	–65	–82	17
	20 June (51349)	–82	–104	22
	25 June (51354)	–81	–102	21
	30 June (51359)	–78	–99	21
<b>4</b>	5 July (51364)	–75	–98	23
	10 July (51369)	–64	–83	19
	15 July (51374)	–76	–79	3
	20 July (51379)	–87	–91	4
	25 July (51384)	–99	–100	1
	30 July (51389)	–113	–117	4
<b>5</b>	4 August (51394)	–128	–133	5
	9 August (51399)	–125	–123	–2
	14 August (51404)	–129	–130	1
	19 August (51409)	–142	–149	7
	24 August (51414)	–143	–147	4
	29 August (51419)	–166	–181	15
<b>6</b>	3 September (51424)	–184	–190	6
	8 September (51429)	–198	–206	8
	13 September (51434)	–204	–207	3
	18 September (51439)	–217	–220	3
	23 September (51444)	–234	–237	3
	28 September (51449)	–250	–253	3
<b>7</b>	3 October (51454)	–283	–279	–4
	8 October (51459)	<b>–295</b>	–297	2
	13 October (51464)	–296	–299	3
	18 October (51469)	–306	–309	3
	23 October (51474)	–320	–323	3
	28 October (51479)	–357	–356	–1
<b>8</b>	2 November (51484)	–363	–365	2
	7 November (51489)	–367	–373	6
	12 November (51494)	–373	–377	4
	17 November (51499)	–398	–400	2
	22 November (51504)	–407	–412	5
	27 November (51509)	–421	–423	2

Note: The PTB/DTAG TWSTFT link was calibrated by the transport of a TWSTFT station. The observed discrepancy between the TWSTFT data and the *Circular T* values in this table might be explained by an inaccuracy of the DTAG GPS time-receiving equipment.



**Table 6.** VSL/PTB link

BIPM Report No.	Date 1999 (MJD)	[UTC(VSL) – UTC(PTB)] /ns		
		TWSTFT	<i>Circular T</i> (GPS)	TWSTFT– <i>Circular T</i>
<b>4</b>	5 July (51364)	–	19	–
	10 July (51369)	–	–107	–
	15 July (51374)	–	–97	–
	20 July (51379)	–	–82	–
	25 July (51384)	–	–61	–
	30 July (51389)	–	–35	–
<b>5</b>	4 August (51394)	–27	–24	–3
	9 August (51399)	–6	–6	0
	14 August (51404)	7	9	–2
	19 August (51409)	14	17	–3
	24 August (51414)	7	7	0
	29 August (51419)	–1	0	–1
<b>6</b>	3 September (51424)	–3	–3	0
	8 September (51429)	–10	–9	–1
	13 September (51434)	–10	–9	–1
	18 September (51439)	–25	–25	0
	23 September (51444)	–37	–33	–4
	28 September (51449)	–47	–46	–1
<b>7</b>	3 October (51454)	–42	–39	–3
	8 October (51459)	–47	–47	0
	13 October (51464)	–54	–55	1
	18 October (51469)	–50	–49	–1
	23 October (51474)	–42	–41	–1
	28 October (51479)	–37	–39	2
<b>8</b>	2 November (51484)	–43	–39	–4
	7 November (51489)	–40	–37	–3
	12 November (51494)	–47	–47	0
	17 November (51499)	–57	–59	2
	22 November (51504)	–61	–58	–3
	27 November (51509)	–55	–55	0

Notes: The VSL/PTB TWSTFT link was calibrated by *Circular T*.

The transmitted power of the TWSTFT signal from VSL has been suffering from an extra attenuation of up to 6 dB since 30 June 1999. The VSL TWSTFT data were not available between 9 July 1999 and 2 August 1999.

**Table 7.** NPL/NIST link

BIPM Report No.	Date 1999 (MJD)	[UTC(NPL) – UTC(NIST)] /ns		
		TWSTFT	<i>Circular T</i> (GPS)	TWSTFT– <i>Circular T</i>
<b>4</b>	5 July (51364)	30	–60	90
	10 July (51369)	28	–60	88
	15 July (51374)	31	–63	94
	20 July (51379)	32	–58	90
	25 July (51384)	35	–59	94
	30 July (51389)	38	–54	92
<b>5</b>	4 August (51394)	39	–54	93
	9 August (51399)	† 40	–51	† 91
	14 August (51404)	44	–46	90
	19 August (51409)	46	–46	92
	24 August (51414)	49	–43	92
	29 August (51419)	<b>52</b>	–37	89
<b>6</b>	3 September (51424)	53	–37	90
	8 September (51429)	–39	–35	–4
	13 September (51434)	–39	–35	–4
	18 September (51439)	–37	–38	1
	23 September (51444)	–38	–38	0
	28 September (51449)	–37	–37	0
<b>7</b>	3 October (51454)	–40	–41	1
	8 October (51459)	–41	–39	–2
	13 October (51464)	<b>–44</b>	–44	0
	18 October (51469)	<b>–47</b>	–47	0
	23 October (51474)	–49	–47	–2
	28 October (51479)	–50	–52	–2
<b>8</b>	2 November (51484)	–54	–49	–5
	7 November (51489)	–59	–60	1
	12 November (51494)	–65	–63	–2
	17 November (51499)	–70	–68	–2
	22 November (51504)	–74	–73	–1
	27 November (51509)	–79	–80	1

Notes: The NPL/NIST TWSTFT link was calibrated on MJD = 51377 using *Circular T*.  
See also the note to Table 2 concerning the time step in the GPS values between 30 June 1999 and 5 July 1999.

† This value replaces the incorrect value given in the 5th Report.

**Table 8.** NPL/PTB link

BIPM Report No.	Date 1999 (MJD)	[UTC(NPL) – UTC(PTB)] /ns		
		TWSTFT	<i>Circular T</i> (GPS)	TWSTFT– <i>Circular T</i>
<b>6</b>	3 September (51424)	† –500	–87	† –413
	8 September (51429)	–76	–86	10
	13 September (51434)	–70	–82	12
	18 September (51439)	–72	–84	12
	23 September (51444)	–74	–83	9
	28 September (51449)	–72	–84	12
<b>7</b>	3 October (51454)	–76	–89	13
	8 October (51459)	–84	–96	14
	13 October (51464)	–88	–98	10
	18 October (51469)	–91	–105	14
	23 October (51474)	–91	–104	13
	28 October (51479)	–92	–105	13
<b>8</b>	2 November (51484)	–97	–109	12
	7 November (51489)	–100	–114	14
	12 November (51494)	–106	–116	10
	17 November (51499)	–112	–124	12
	22 November (51504)	–114	–126	12
	27 November (51509)	–122	–131	9

Notes: The NPL/PTB TWSTFT link was calibrated on MJD = 51238 using *Circular T*.

† This value replaces the incorrect value given in the 6th Report.

**Table 9.** NPL/VSL link

BIPM Report No.	Date 1999 (MJD)	[UTC(NPL) – UTC(VSL)] /ms		
		TWSTFT	<i>Circular T</i> (GPS)	TWSTFT– <i>Circular T</i>
<b>6</b>	3 September (51424)	–88	–84	–4
	8 September (51429)	–84	–77	–7
	13 September (51434)	–78	–73	–5
	18 September (51439)	–64	–59	–5
	23 September (51444)	<b>–53</b>	–50	–3
	28 September (51449)	–43	–38	–5
<b>7</b>	3 October (51454)	–51	–50	–1
	8 October (51459)	–54	–49	–5
	13 October (51464)	–51	–43	–8
	18 October (51469)	<b>–59</b>	–56	–3
	23 October (51474)	–67	–61	–6
	28 October (51479)	–72	–66	–6
<b>8</b>	2 November (51484)	–71	–70	–1
	7 November (51489)	–77	–77	0
	12 November (51494)	–75	–69	–6
	17 November (51499)	–72	–65	–7
	22 November (51504)	–69	–68	–1
	27 November (51509)	–80	–76	–4

Note: The NPL/VSL TWSTFT link was calibrated on MJD = 51304 using *Circular T*.