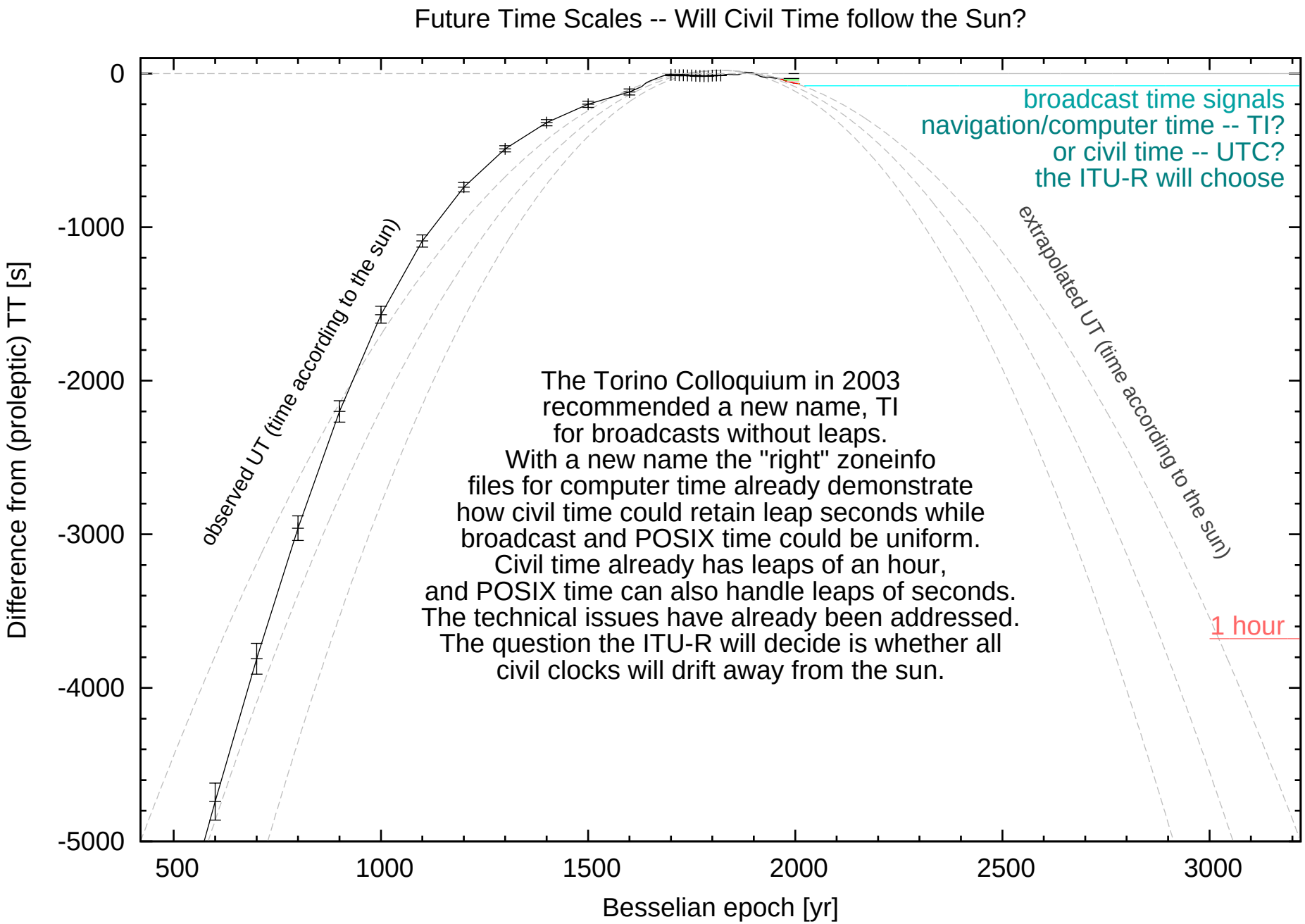
Future Time Scales -- Will Civil Time follow the Sun?
Difference from (proleptic) TT [s]
0
-1000
-2000
-3000
-4000
-5000
500
1000
1500
2000
2500
3000
Besselian epoch [yr]
observed UT (time according to the sun)
extrapolated UT (time according to the sun)
broadcast time signals
navigation/computer time -- TI?
or civil time -- UTC?
the ITU-R will choose
1 hour
The Torino Colloquium in 2003
recommended a new name, TI
for broadcasts without leaps.
With a new name the "right" zoneinfo
files for computer time already demonstrate
how civil time could retain leap seconds while
broadcast and POSIX time could be uniform.
Civil time already has leaps of an hour,
and POSIX time can also handle leaps of seconds.
The technical issues have already been addressed.
The question the ITU-R will decide is whether all
civil clocks will drift away from the sun.