

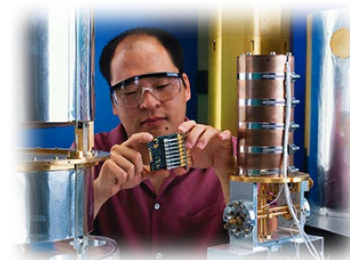
The Redefinition of the SI and Mass Metrology

DR. CARL J. WILLIAMS
Deputy Director

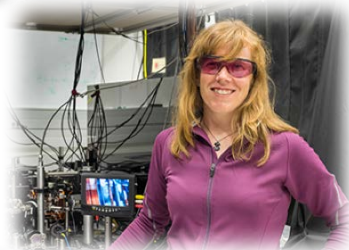
Physical Measurement Laboratory (PML)
National Institute of Standards and Technology

10 October 2018 CENAM

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NIST
National Institute of
Standards and Technology
U.S. Department of Commerce



PML
PHYSICAL MEASUREMENT LABORATORY

PML

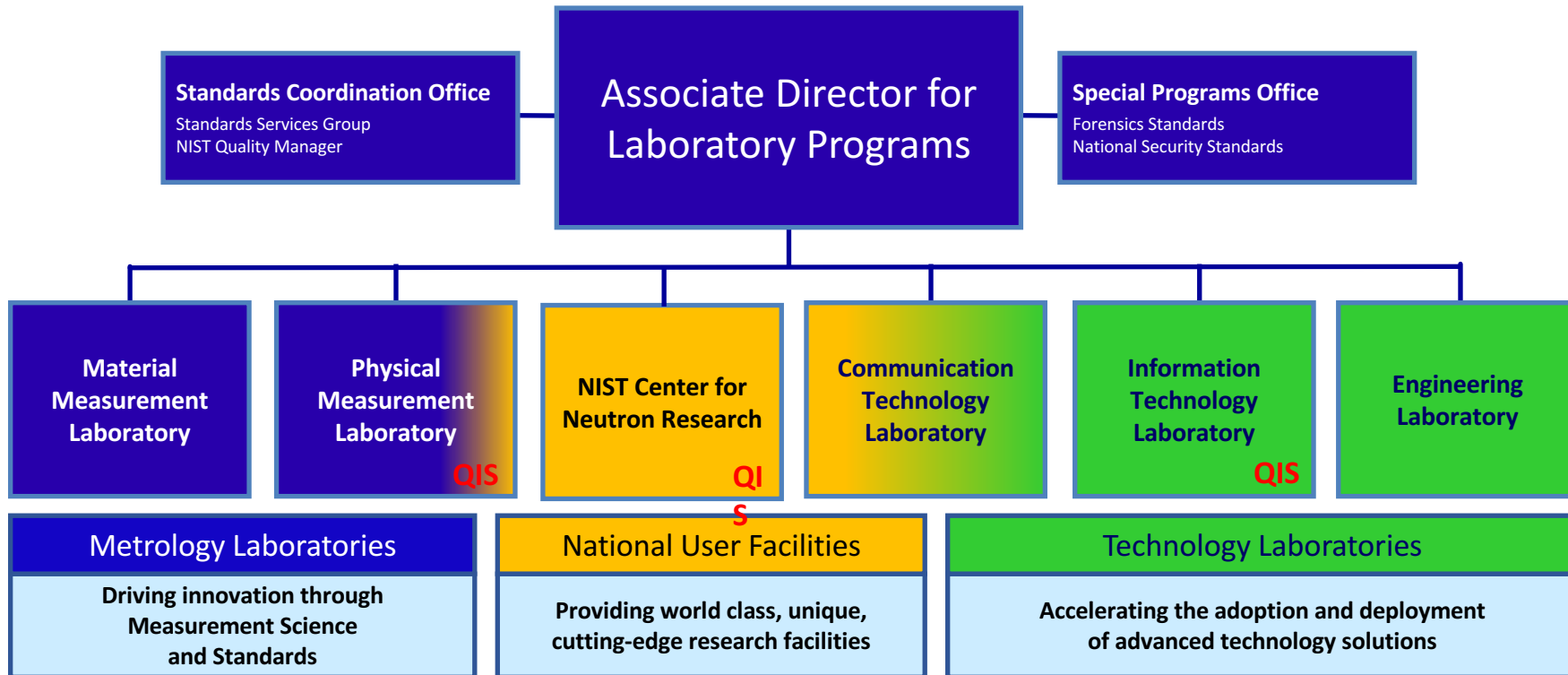
Outline

- NIST and the Physical Measurement Laboratory (PML)
- The Metric System and the Origin of the SI
- Quantum Standards and Movement Toward Redefining the SI
- Quantum Standards and Quantum Metrology Today
- Mass and Force Metrology and the SI Tomorrow
- Towards Democratization of the SI: Embedded Measurements

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NIST Laboratories and User Facilities



PML's Core Mission

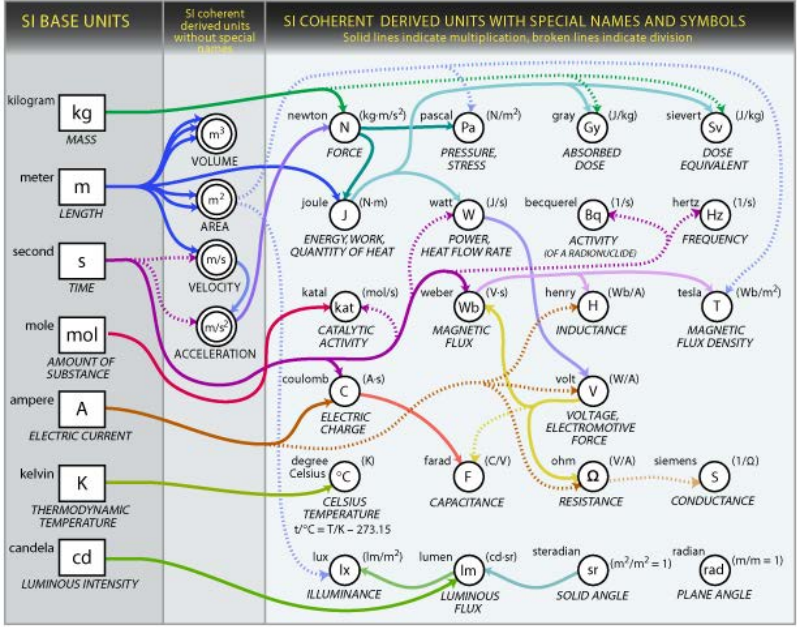
To realize, disseminate, and advance the International System of Units (SI) in the United States

The SI is ...

- Scientifically based
- Defined by consensus (CGPM/CIPM)

PML seeks to ensure that in the U.S. the SI is...

- Maintained and improved
- Realized in practice
- Disseminated for routine uses
- Disseminated for new and novel uses



METROLOGY MAKES IT HAPPEN

High-tech industries create jobs and economic growth

Many of these same sectors require the tightest manufacturing tolerances

- Petroleum and coal
- Chemicals
- Aerospace
- Pharmaceuticals
- Navigation/Control Instruments
- Semiconductors
- Communications
- Smart Grid



1 Scientific discovery is built on measurement science

2 If you can't measure it you can't make it reliably or improve it

3 Industry depends on constantly improving measurement tools to stay innovative and competitive



Metrology and the federal role is established in the United States Constitution. It is essential to commerce, trade, and innovation.

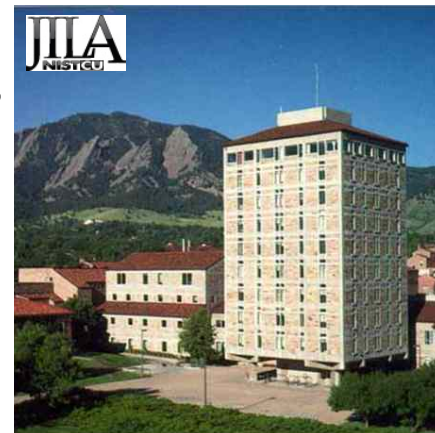
PML: Basic Stats and Facts

Major assets

- ~ \$225 million budget [all funding sources]
- ~ 600 employees
- ~ 750 associates
- Principal activities in
 - Gaithersburg, MD
 - Boulder, CO
 - College Park, MD
 - Fort Collins, CO & Kauai, HI

Two collaborative institutes provide opportunities to:

- Attract world class scientists
- Train students and postdocs
- Transfer technology



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Origin of the Metric System

Now known as International System of Units (SI)

- Adopted by Intl. committee on *December 10, 1799*
- Basic principles: Decimalization, open access, ***based on nature***
- **Treaty of Meter established 1875** (U.S.:1878)
- Originally *only* weights (kilogram) and measures (meter)
- In 1921 the Treaty of the Meter is Amended to add:
 - Coordinating measures of electrical units
 - Establishing and keeping standards of electrical units, and their “test copies”
 - Duty to determine the ***physical constants***
 - Coordinating “similar determinations affecting other institutions”
- In 1954 the CGPM *adopts 6 base units (meter, kilogram, second, ampere, Kelvin, and candela)* giving rise to the modern SI – mole added in 1971
- In 1960 adopts the name “Système International d’Unités” (SI)



Survey of the Meridian,
Dunkerque to Perpignan,
1792–1799

The Metric System

- Meant to be *based on nature*
- Meter stick was to be 1/10,000,000 of the distance from North Pole to equator along the meridian passing through Paris
 - Actual meter is .02% too short (0.2mm) due to a miscalculation of the flattening of the earth (distance ended up being 10,001.9657 km)
- The Pt-Ir kg, known as the International Prototype Kilogram (IPK) was based on the weight of 1000 cm³ or 1 l of water. But what water?

Thus, both were in principal *based on nature*, but were in reality artifacts.

Both while artifacts were remarkably good!

Outline

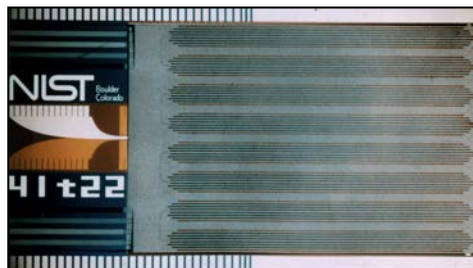
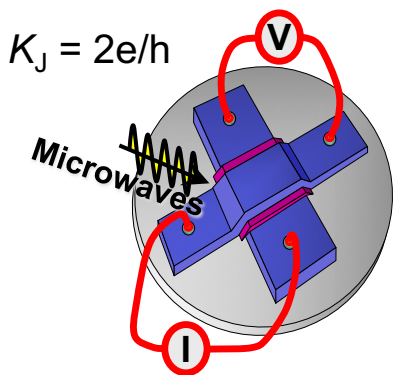
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Toward Redefining the SI

- With the creation of the SI in 1960, the process to revise and improve the units in a way that benefits the system as a whole and makes them ***based on nature truly begins***
- In 1967 the second is defined as the duration of 9,192,631,770 periods of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the two hyperfine levels of the ground state of the ^{133}Cs atom.
- In 1983 the meter was redefined as the length of the path travelled by light in vacuum during a time interval of $1/299,792,458$ of a second.
- Where are we and what remains to be done?
- ***And are our “current” electrical units part of the SI?***

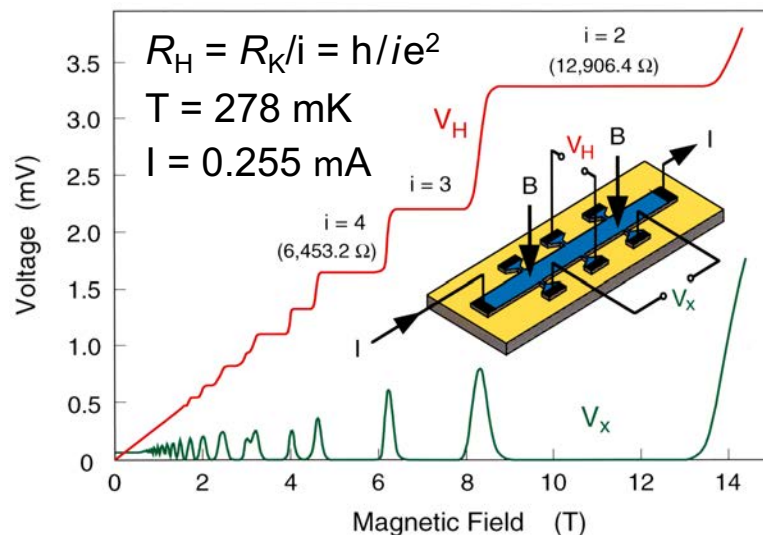
Standards for Electrical Units Since 1990

Josephson Voltage Standard



The "volt" realized by Josephson Junction devices, with $K_{J-90} = 483,597.9 \text{ GHz/V}$

GaAs Quantum Hall Resistance



The "ohm" realized by Quantum Hall Effect devices, with $R_{K-90} = 25,812.807 \text{ } \Omega$ (Graphene QHR underway)

These **quantum standards**, the Josephson effect (1962, Nobel Prize 1973) and the quantum Hall effect (von Klitzing 1980, Nobel Prize 1985) are so robust that in 1987 the CGPM (Resolution 6) established *conventional electrical units!*

What do We Mean by “Quantum SI?”

Consider the History of the Meter:

1889: International Prototype Meter (Artifact)

1960: *The meter is the length equal to 1,650,763.73 wavelengths in vacuum of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the levels $2p_{10}$ and $5d_5$ of the krypton 86 atom.* (11th CGPM, Resolution 6)

1983: *The meter is the length of the path travelled by light in vacuum during a time interval of $1/299,792,458$ of a second.* (17th CGPM, Resolution 1)



GOOD



BETTER

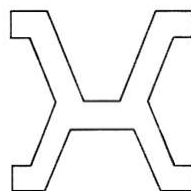
BEST

The Meter

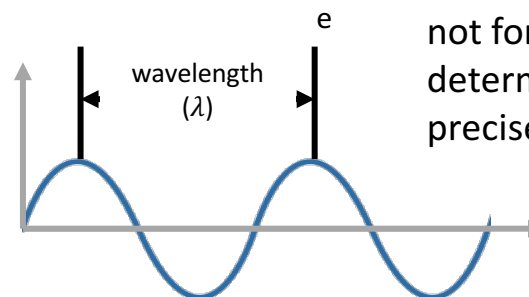
Definition of the Meter	Date	Absolute uncertainty	Relative uncertainty
$\frac{1}{10,000,000}$ part of one half of a meridian, measurement by Delambre and Méchain	1795	0.5–0.1 mm	10^{-4}
First prototype <i>Mètre des Archives</i> platinum bar standard	1799	0.05–0.01 mm	10^{-5}
Platinum-iridium bar at melting point of ice (1st CGPM)	1889	0.2–0.1 μm	10^{-7}
Platinum-iridium bar at melting point of ice, atmospheric pressure, supported by two rollers (7th CGPM)	1927	n.a.	n.a.
1,650,763.73 wavelengths of light from a specified transition in krypton-86 (11th CGPM)	1960	0.01–0.005 μm	10^{-8}
Length of the path travelled by light in a vacuum in $\frac{1}{299,792,458}$ of a second (17th CGPM)	1983	0.1 nm	10^{-10}

NIST Dimensional Metrology Group realizes the meter to a part in 10^{12}

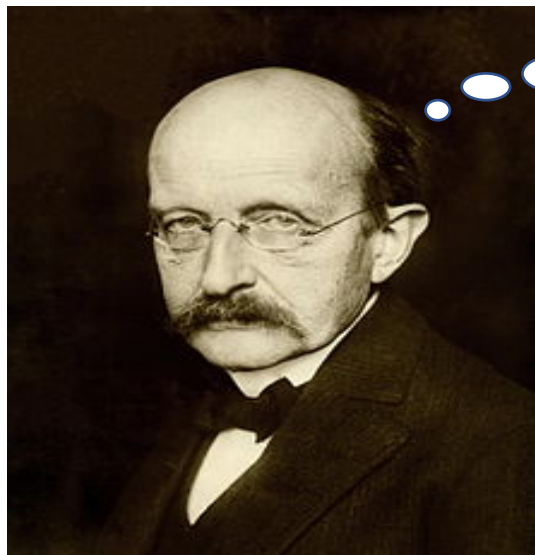
Today, lasers are stable enough that you can get an interference pattern by retro-reflecting a laser off the mirror left on the moon. We can measure time very accurately and if not for the atmosphere determine the distance precisely.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_meter



How new of an idea is the redefined SI?



The two constants [h,k]...which occur in the equation for radiative entropy offer the possibility of establishing a system of units for length, mass, time, and temperature which are independent of specific bodies or materials and which necessarily maintain their meaning for all time and for all civilizations, even those which are extraterrestrial and non-human.*

-- Max Planck, 1900

*Planck uses language similar to that used by the Marquis de Condorcet when he transferred the original French length and mass standards to the Archives de la Republique in 1799. More on the new SI can be found in Dave Newell's Physics Today article, July, 2014.

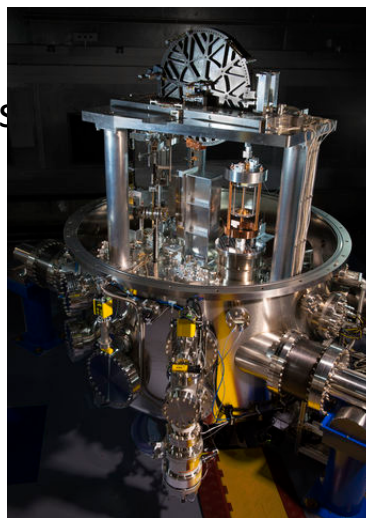
From the SI to the Quantum SI

20 May 2019 – World Metrology Day



- **Quantum SI**
 - Quantum phenomena
 - Fundamental constants
- Tying metrology back to fundamental physics (nature)
 - Removing artifacts as defining the SI

NIST Kibble Balance



- **kilogram**
 - Planck constant
- **kelvin**
 - Boltzmann constant
- **ampere**
 - Elementary electric charge
- **mole**
 - Avogadro constant



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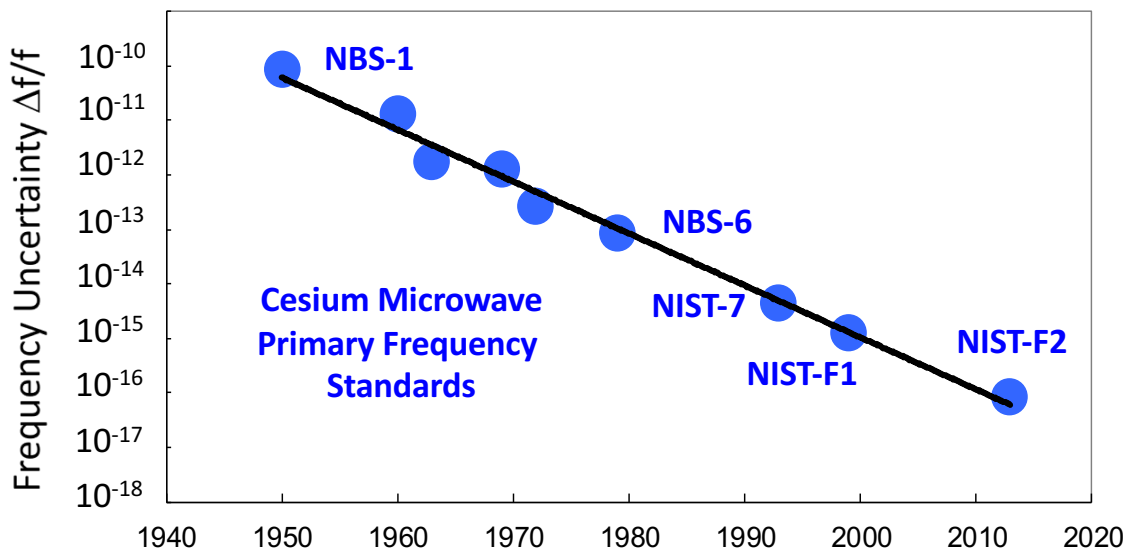
The Power of One Quantum Bit: NIST-F2

1 second is defined as the duration of 9,192,631,770 cycles of the cesium hyperfine transition.

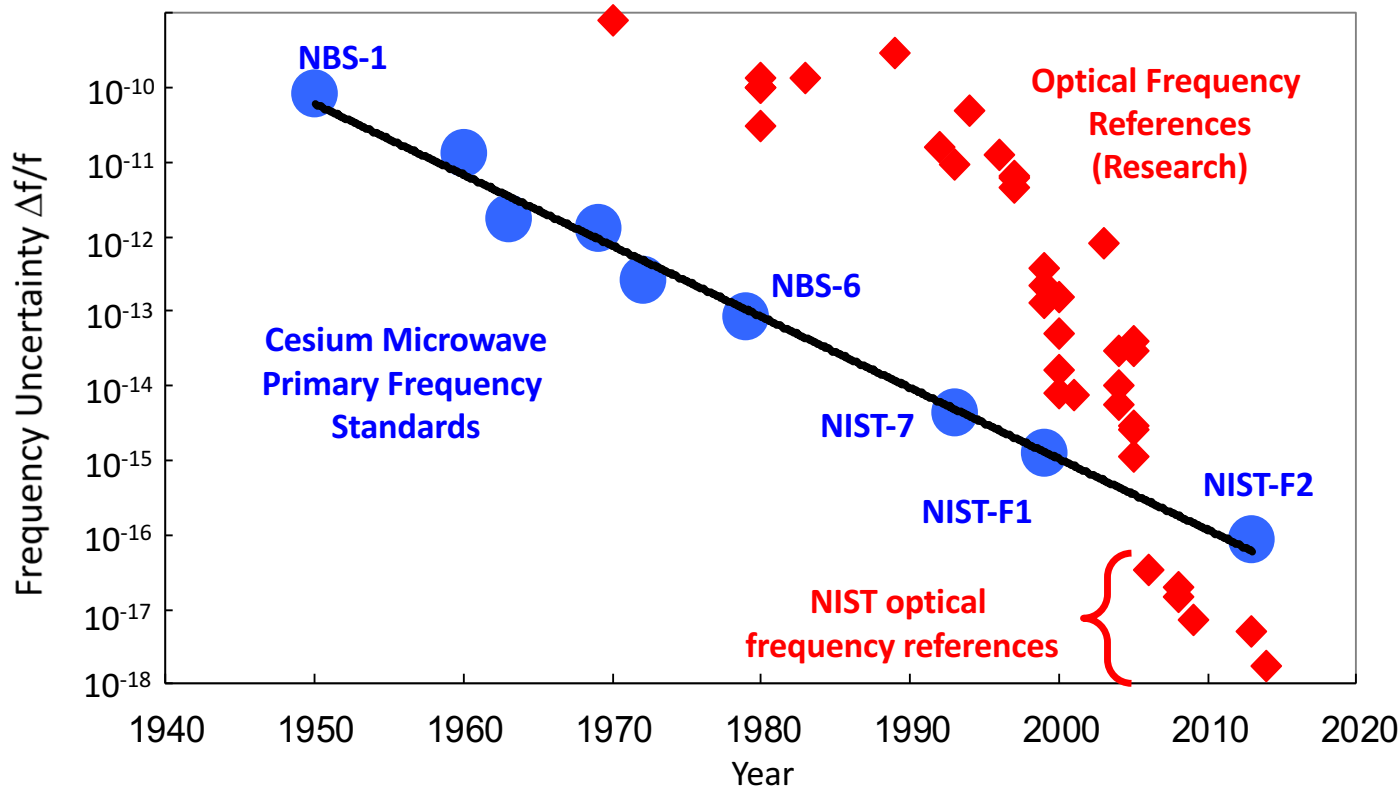
- Frequency uncertainty: $\Delta f/f = 1 \times 10^{-16}$
- 1 second in 300 million years.
- Enabled by laser cooling and trapping.



NIST-F2 laser-cooled fountain standard atomic clock



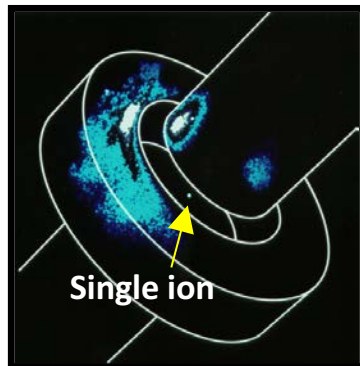
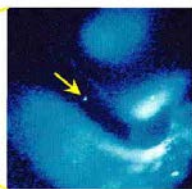
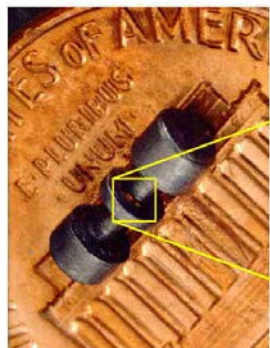
Optical Frequency Standards



Since 2005 optical frequency standards have shown better fractional uncertainty and estimated systematic uncertainty than primary standard

Possible redefinition of time now being discussed for 2026

Optical Frequency Standards



$\Delta f/f \sim 10 \times 10^{-18}$

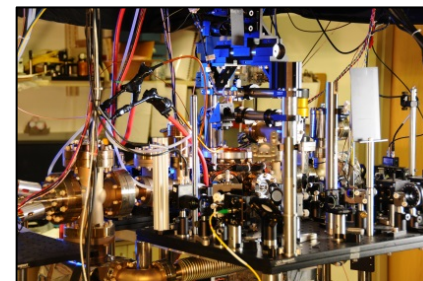
Single mercury ion trap

- High-frequency optical clocks outperform microwave (cesium) clocks.
- Potential to perform ~ 100 times better than best cesium clocks
- Many years before SI second redefined to optical standard(s) (*est. now 2026*)

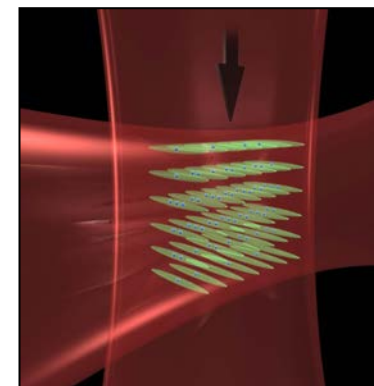


$\Delta f/f \sim 8 \times 10^{-18}$

Aluminum ion logic clock

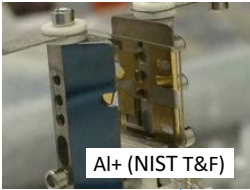


$\Delta f/f \sim 2 \times 10^{-18}$

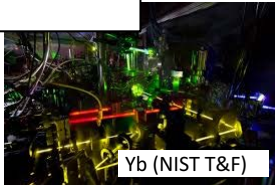


Strontium or Ytterbium optical lattice clocks

Quantum Metrology in an Optical Clock Network



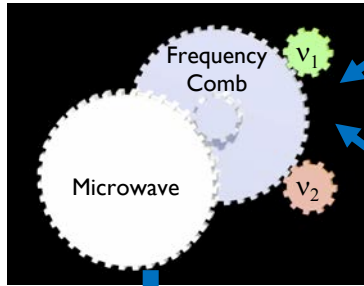
Clocks: $\sim 10^{-18}$
Clockwork: $\sim 10^{-20}$



Boulder Optical Clock Network

- Re-definition of the SI second & optical atomic timescales
- Relativistic geodesy, VLBI telescope, navigation
- Fundamental science (tests of relativity, search for dark matter and gravitational waves, time variation of fundamental constants, ...)
- Correlation and entanglement to reduce classical & quantum noise

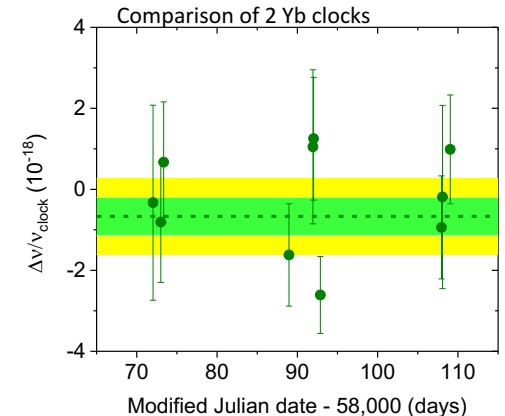
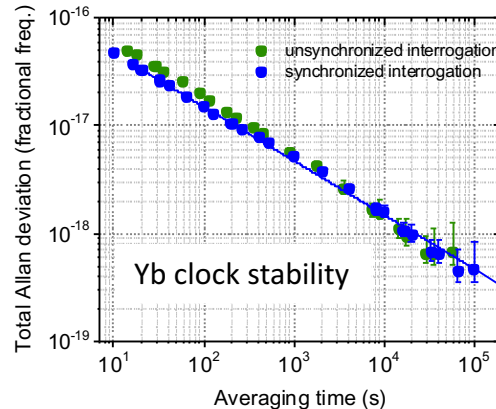
Stability and Accuracy at 1×10^{-18} level



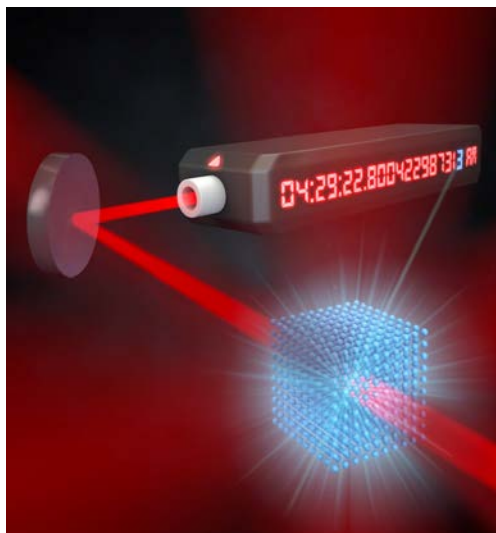
Clocks: $\sim 10^{-18}$
Clockwork: $\sim 10^{-20}$



H-masers, NIST Timescale, UTC and the SI second



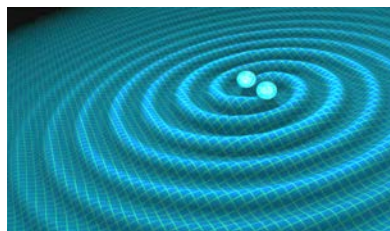
Quantum Degenerate Fermi Gas 3D Optical Lattice Clock



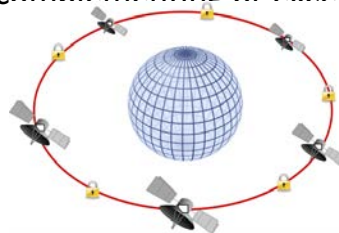
- Quantum-enhanced precision measurements.
- Dramatically improve “traditional” timing applications: navigation/location, telecom, etc.
- Improve measurements of gravity, EM fields, force, etc.
- Tabletop fundamental physics complementing or exceeding multibillion dollar “big physics” experiments:



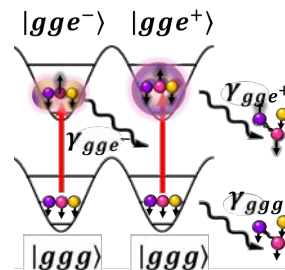
Dark matter detection/measurement



Gravity wave measurement at frequencies inaccessible to LIGO/VIRGO



Global network of precision clocks (10^{-21}) for secure quantum communications networks, long-baseline astronomical observation, etc.



Study of multi-body $SU(N)$ interactions in atomic systems: Probe details of Standard Model on tabletop. (June 2018)

- First application of a quantum degenerate gas to improve a “practical” measurement.
- On path to precision 3×10^{-20} in one second in near future, 10^{-22} in a few years.

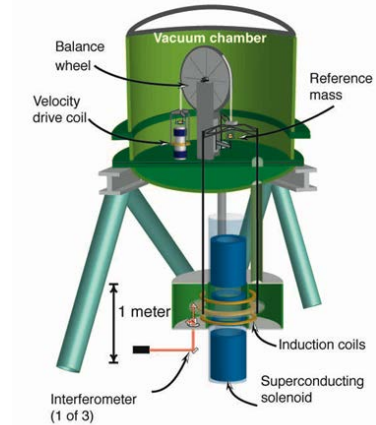
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Primary Realization of the Kilogram

- **Watt Balance:** Equates mechanical quantity of power to the corresponding electrical quantity when the latter is measured in terms of quantum electrical effects.
- **Avogadro Project:** Compares a macroscopic mass to the mass of a single atom of a specified isotope.
- Approaches are complementary - Either can be used to realize the definition of the kilogram.
- SI kilogram realized in vacuum.

$$N_A h = \frac{M(e)}{m(e)} \cdot h = \frac{M(e)c \alpha^2}{2R_\infty}$$



How to count 10^{23} atoms? PTB

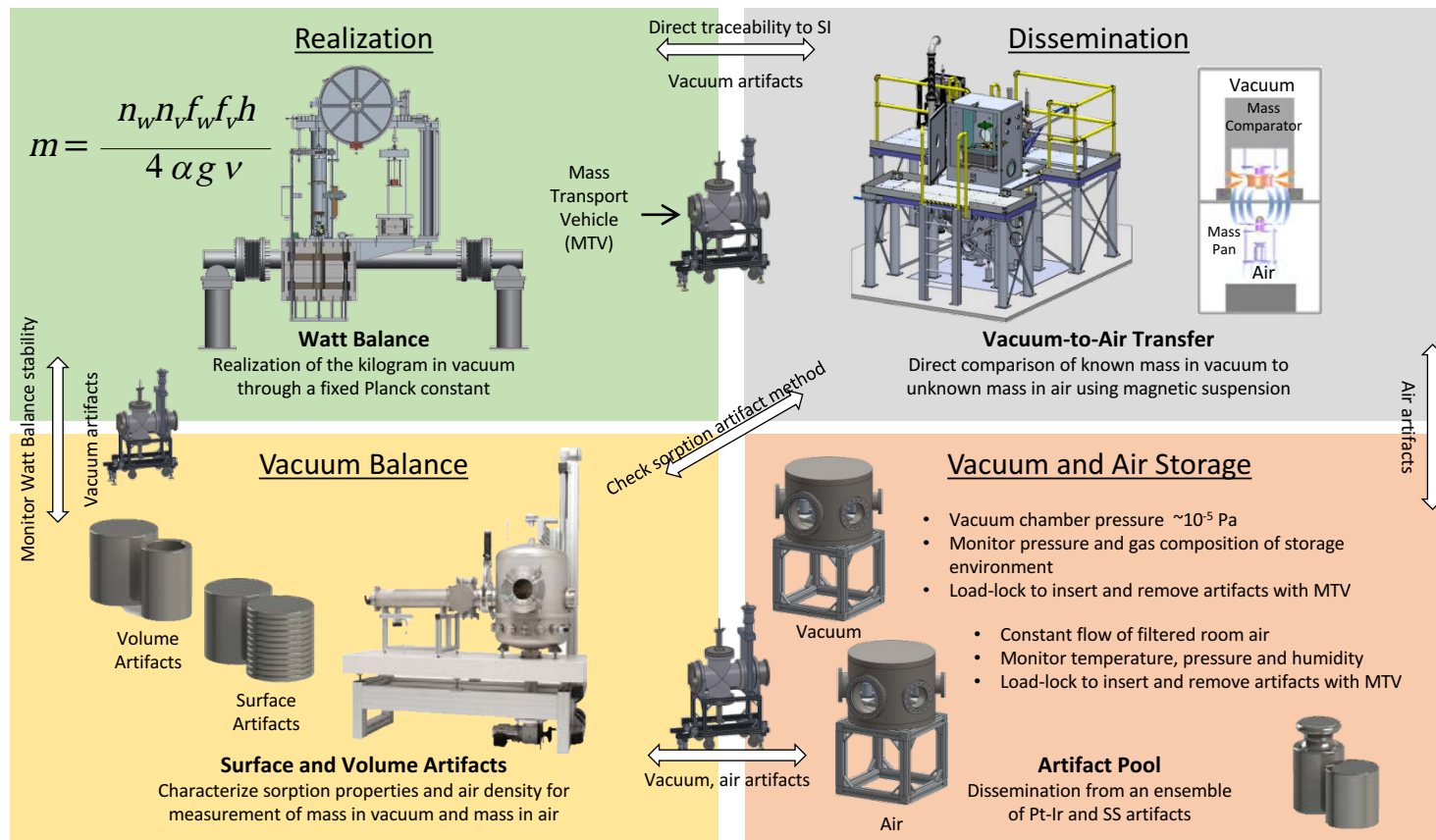
With a crystal!

1. Volume a_0^3 of the unit cell
2. Volume of an atom: $a_0^3/8$
3. Volume V of a sphere
4. Number n of the atoms

$$N_A = \frac{8V}{a_0^3} \cdot \frac{M_{\text{mol}}}{m_{\text{sphere}}}$$

The Perfect Artifact!

Mise en Pratique at NIST

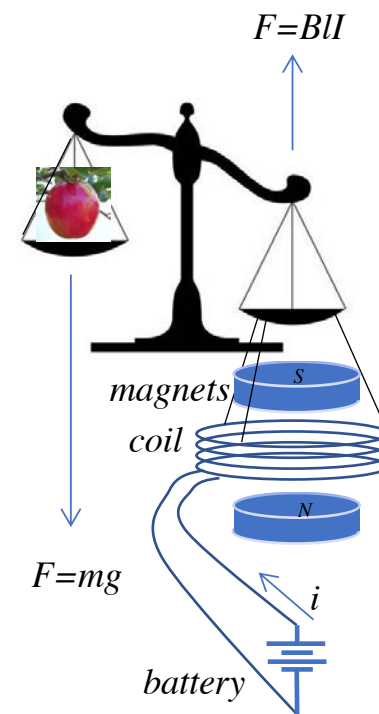


You can Weigh an Apple with a Scale



One usually weighs apples using a scale to compare their gravitational force to that of a known artifact

With a watt balance electromagnetic scale (see magazine cover below) one compares the apple's gravitational force to that of a *calculable* force that is known in terms of physical invariants, like the figure on the right



Kibble Balance Basics

- **Weighing or Force mode:** An unknown weight mg is balanced by an electromagnetic force on a horizontal coil of wire-length L in a radial magnetic field of flux density B when a current I flows through the coil

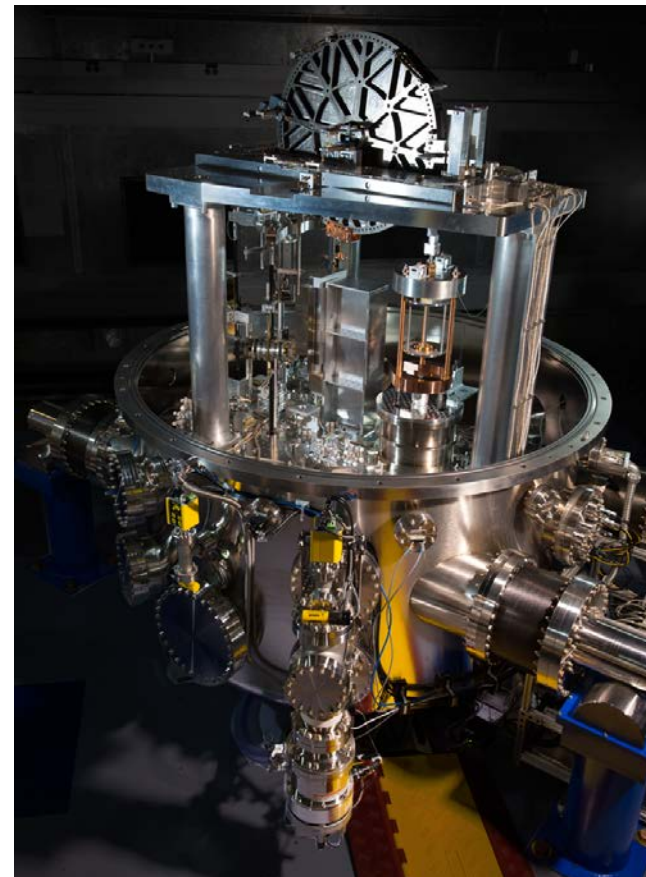
$$mg = BLI$$

- **Calibration or Velocity mode:** The magnet's strength BL is measured by moving the coil at a velocity v while recording the voltage V across the coil terminals

$$BL = \frac{V}{v}$$

- The two modes can compare mechanical and electrical power, hence the name, watt balance

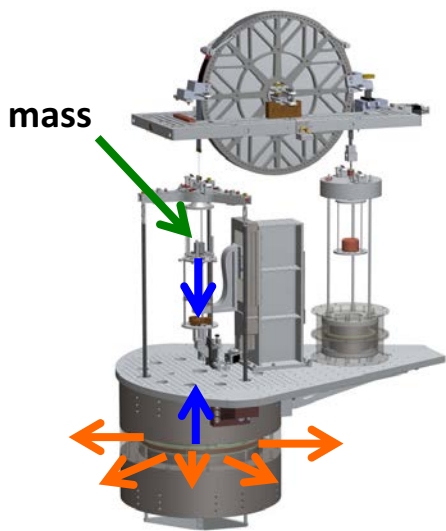
$$mgv = VI$$



NIST-4 Kibble Balance

Watt Balance Principles

Force mode



$$mg = BLI$$

$$BL = \frac{mg}{I}$$

$$\frac{mg}{I} = \frac{V}{v}$$

$$mgv = VI$$

$$mgv = \frac{V_1 V_2}{R}$$

$$mgv = \frac{n_1 f_1 \frac{h}{2e} n_2 f_2 \frac{h}{2e}}{\alpha \frac{h}{e^2}} = \frac{n_1 n_2}{4\alpha} f_1 f_2 h$$

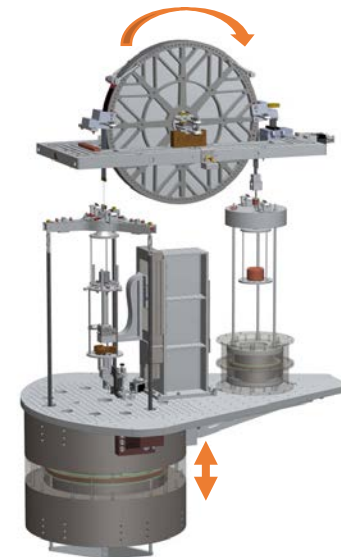
$$h = \frac{4\alpha}{n_1 n_2} \frac{gv}{f_1 f_2} m$$

before redefinition

after redefinition

$$m = \frac{n_1 n_2}{4\alpha} \frac{f_1 f_2}{gv} h$$

Velocity mode



Small Mass Metrology

Electrostatic Force

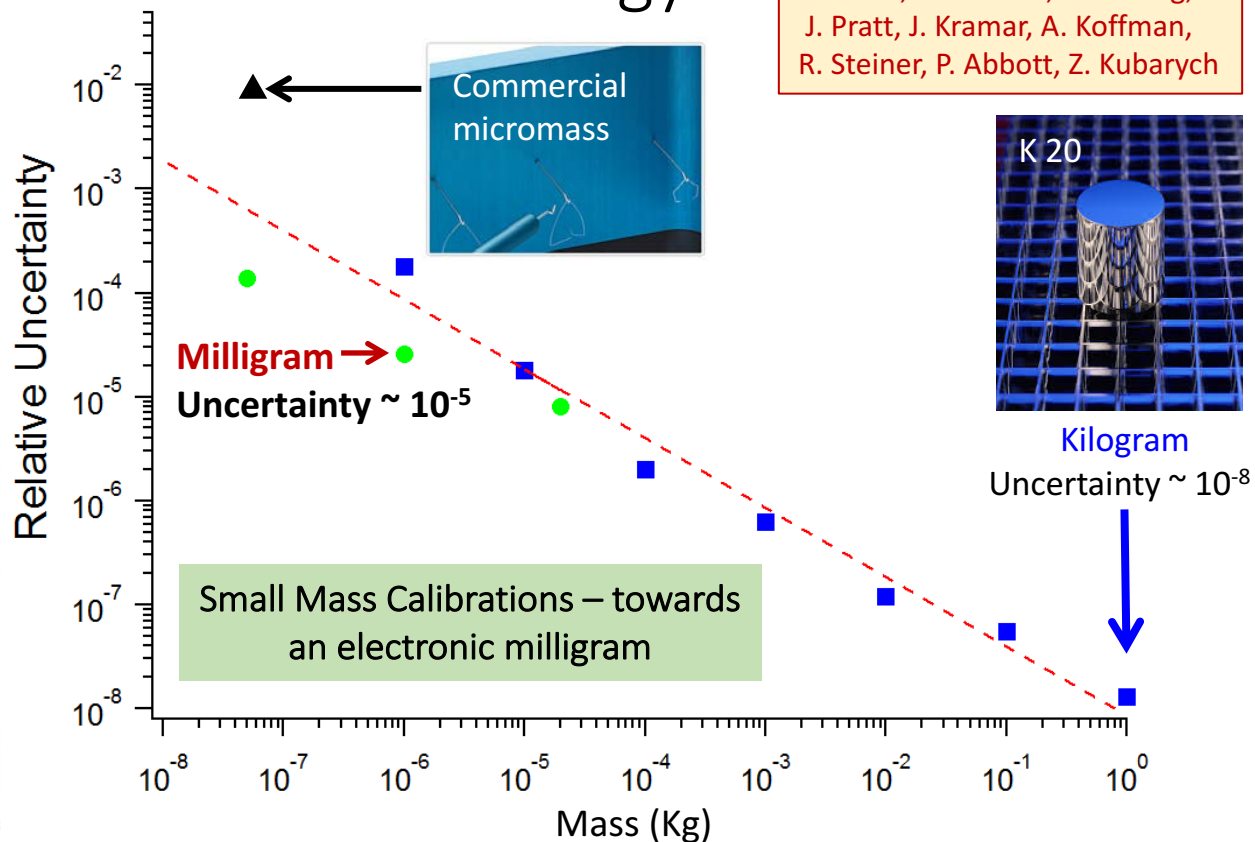
NIST Electrostatic Force Balance (EFB) provides a reduction in uncertainty of 1-2 orders of magnitude at milligrams

$$F = mg = \frac{1}{2}(dC/dz)V^2$$

Capacitance: C Position: z
Voltage: V

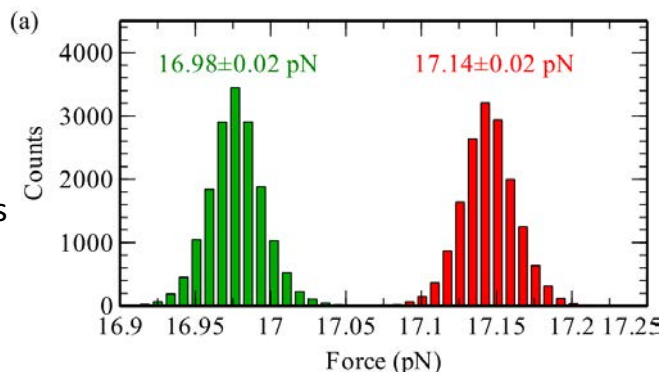
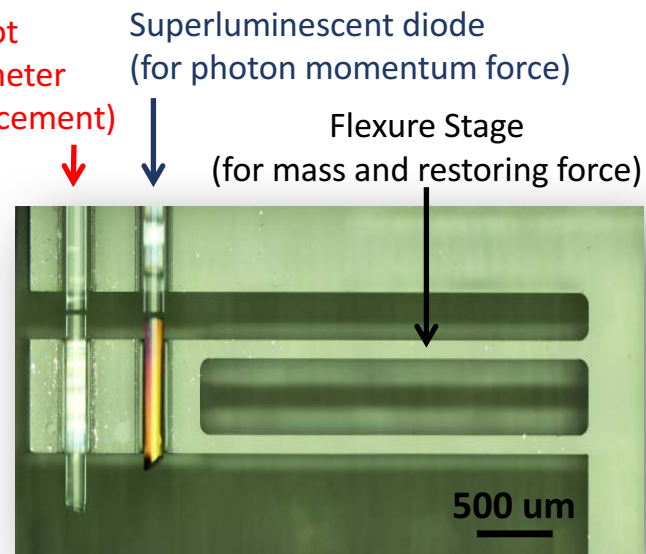
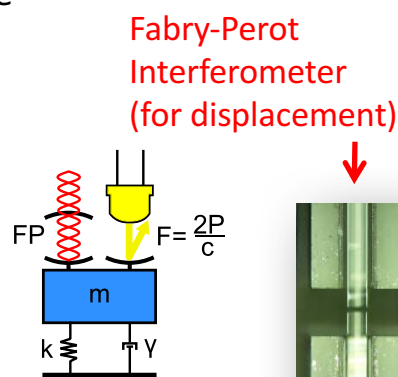


G. Shaw, J. Melcher, J. Sterling, J. Pratt, J. Kramar, A. Koffman, R. Steiner, P. Abbott, Z. Kubarych



Linking SI Mass, Force, and Laser Power

- Self-calibrating optomechanical system can balance mechanical force with photon pressure force
- Integrated interferometer and calibrated light source
- Optical power standards provide low uncertainty for small force measurements
 - Scales down to the single photon level
 - Femtonewton resolution
- Calibration of atomic force microscopy



Measured RMS force for two different amplitudes of modulated laser power with a resolution of 14 fN

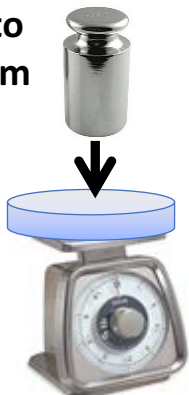
See: J. Melcher, et al., "A self-calibrating optomechanical force sensor with femtonewton resolution," *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **105**, 233109 (2014).

Measuring Radiation Force: Concept

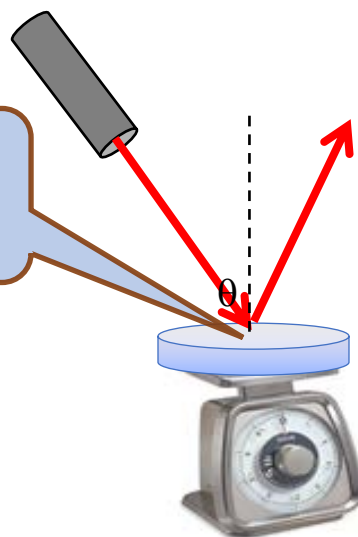
A precision scale with a mirror can measure the radiation force of light.

Minimal absorption,
power-scalable, no
thermal recovery time.

Traceable to
the kilogram



Calibration
done with a
standard mass.



laser light
still
available
for use

$$F = (2P / c)r \cos \theta$$

F = Force (Newtons)

P = optical power (Watts)

c = speed of light (m/s)

$r = R + (1-R)\alpha/2 \rightarrow$ reflectivity

θ = angle of incidence

$$P = F \cdot (c / 2r \cos \theta)$$

Williams, *et al.*, Optics Letters **38**, 4248-4251 (2013)

Measuring Radiation Force: Sensitivity

Laser power	Application	Equivalent mass	Comparable mass
10 W	marking	6.7 microgram	eyelash
1 kW	welding/cutting	670 microgram	grain of sand
100 kW	Research / Defense	67 milligrams	two staples



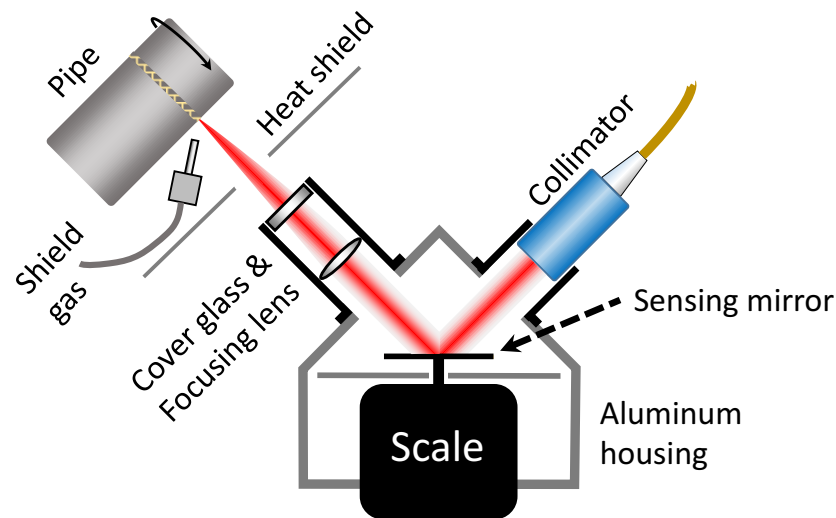
Conversion factor (for normal incidence and perfectly reflecting mirror):

$$k = 6.67 \times 10^{-9} \text{ N/W} \longrightarrow 670 \mu\text{g} / \text{kW}$$

“The photonic mole:” One mole of photons at wavelength of 1 μm is approximately 120 kW

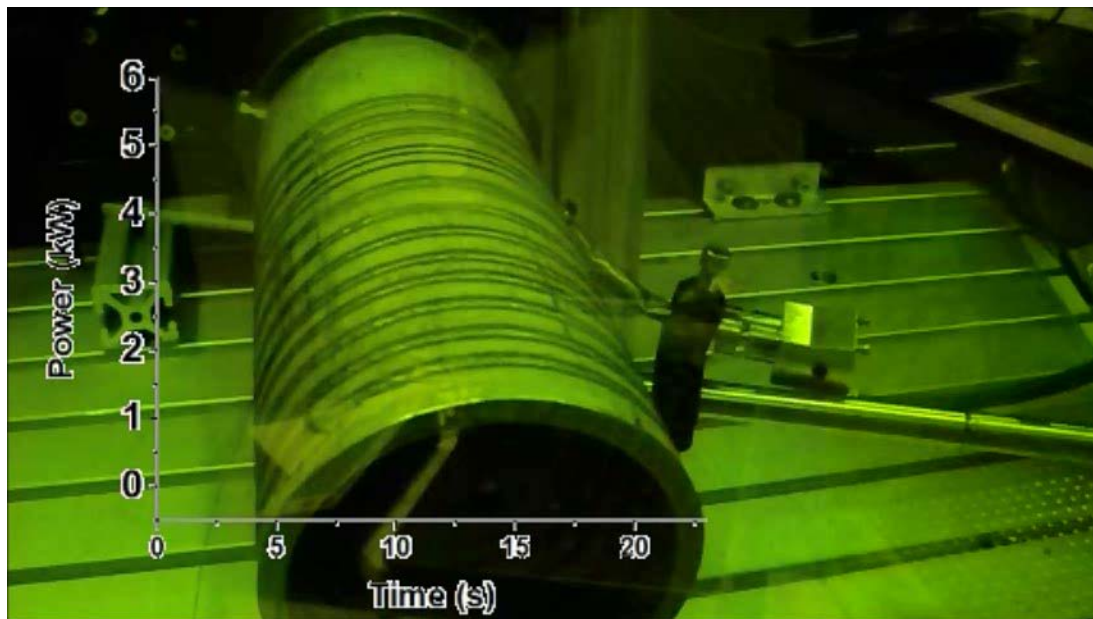
Towards a Calibrated Laser Weld

- First real-time, calibrated laser power measurement during a laser weld
- New radiation pressure technique measures the very small force of light as it reflects from a mirror
 - Force is proportional to laser power
 - Laser beam not absorbed, also used for the weld
 - Force measured with sensitive, commercial scale



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 - Force measured with sensitive, commercial scale



B. Simonds, P. Williams, J. Sowards, J. Hadler

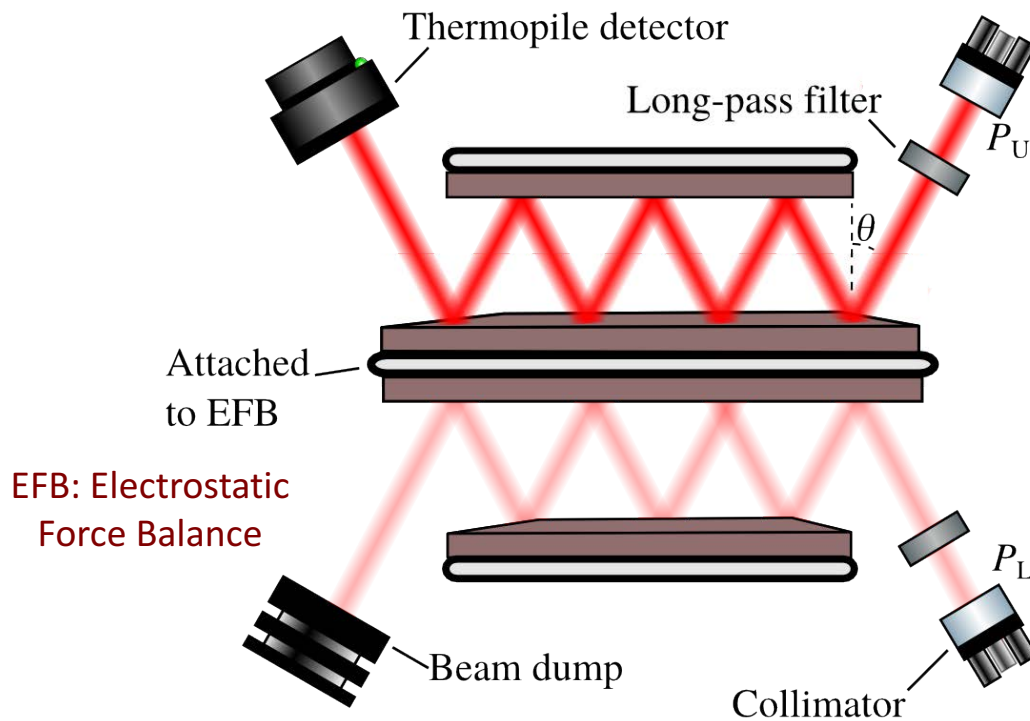
Laser Power from Electrostatics

Comparison of 3W laser power used measuring electrostatic forces and a conventional thermopile detector

- Laser power from force and reflectivity

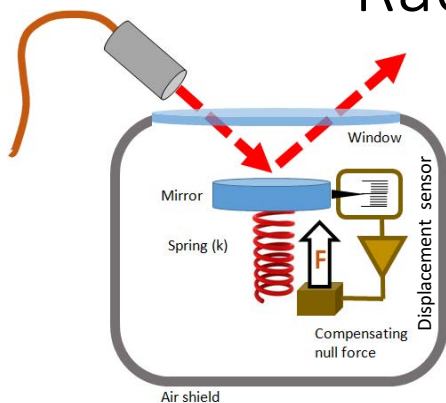
$$P = \frac{cF}{2R}$$

- Optical switch to switch between upper and lower collimators
- Two 4-bounce etalon cavities between central mirror on balance and two fixed mirrors – multiplies force

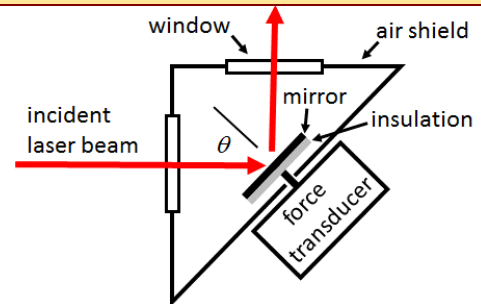


G. Shaw, J. Stirling, J. Lehman, P. Williams, R. Mirin

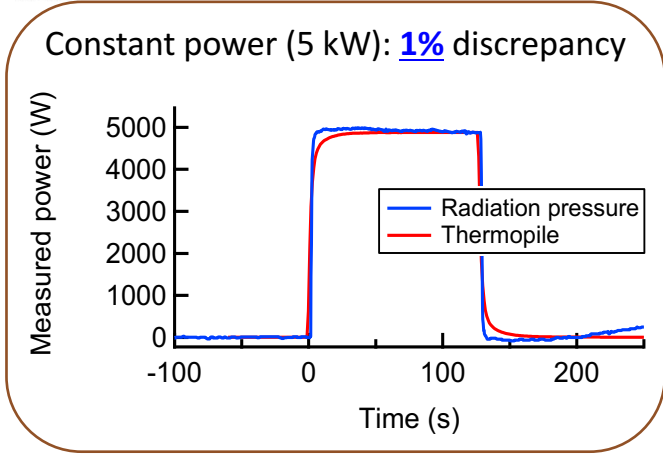
Radiation Pressure Power Meter



With Scientech, Inc., Boulder, Colorado



Comparison with traditional-thermopile power measurement at 5 kW (equivalent mass ~ 2.4 mg)

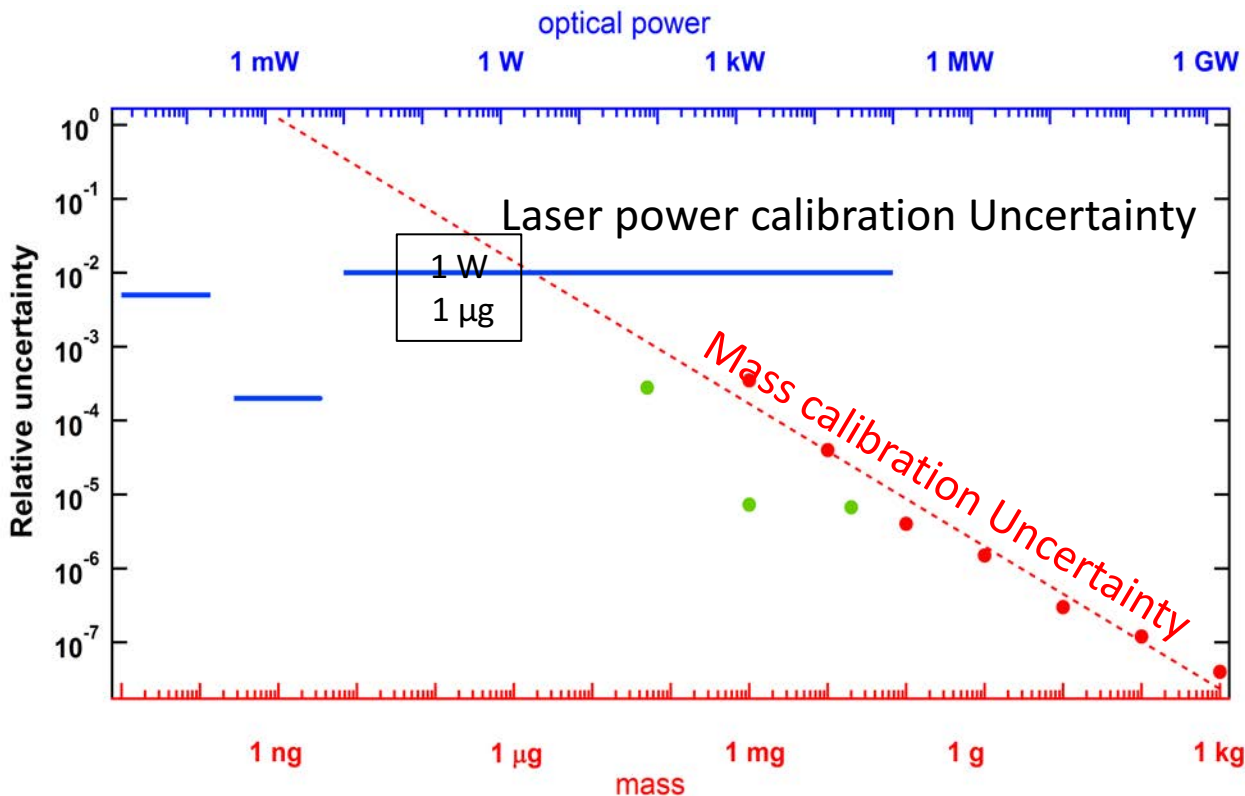


Specifications	
Dimensions:	30x30x30 cm ³
Power:	
Noise-equivalent power	100 W/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$
Calibrated and validated (1.6 %, 2U)	1 – 10 kW
Early prototype measurement	92 kW
Non-NIST intracavity measurement	500 kW
Response time:	
Settling time	5 s

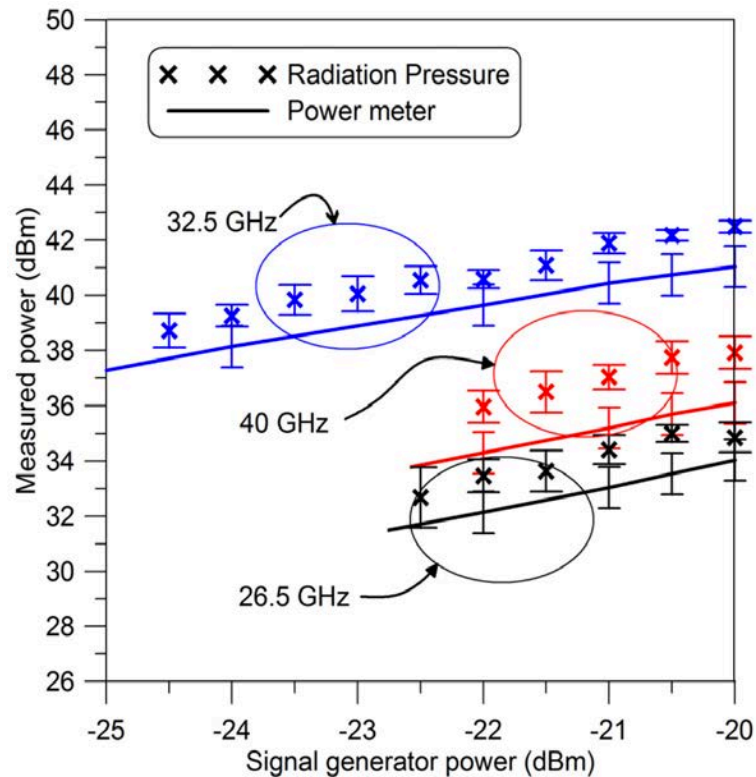
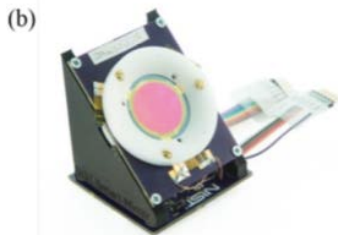
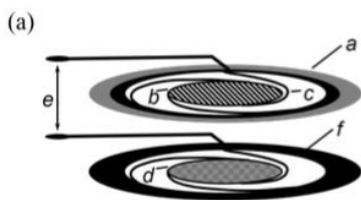
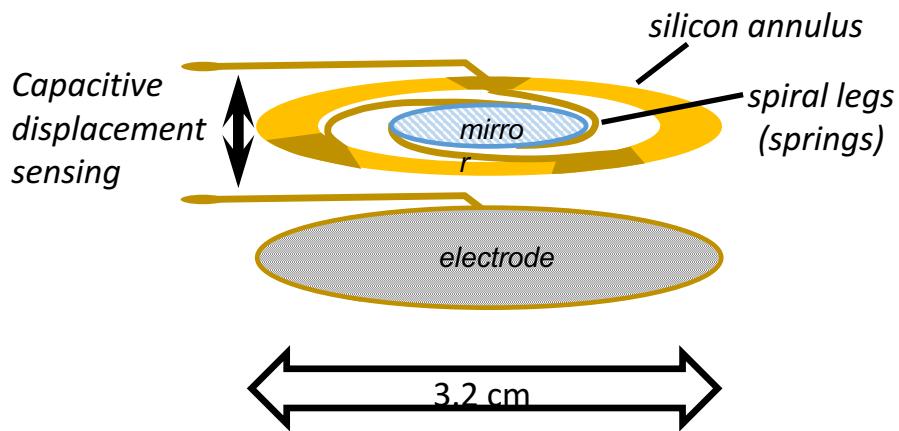
P. Williams, et al., *Optics Express*, **25**, 4382 (2017)

Tying Together Mass, Force, and Power

Low-power with Commercial Mass Scale at 15 GHz



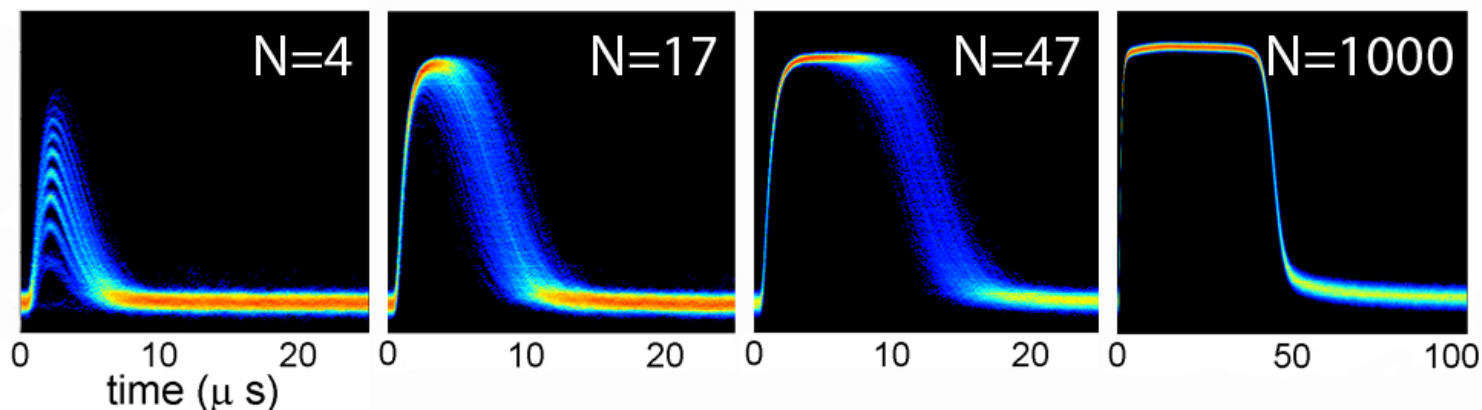
Smart Mirror: Laser Power Metrology



C. Holloway, et al., *App. Phys. Lett.*, **113**, (to appear, 2018)

Determining Photon Number in a Weak Pulse

Transition edge sensor (TES) is capable of counting the number of as many as 1,000 photons in a single pulse of light with an accuracy limited mainly by the quantum noise of the laser source.



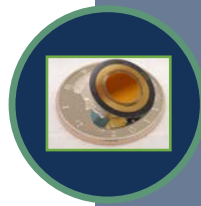
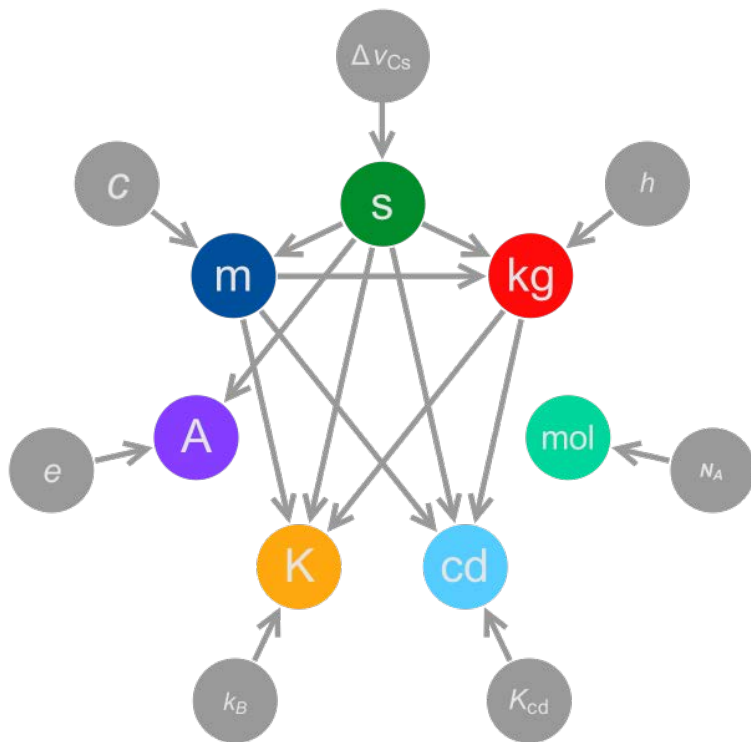
This series of data read-outs shows how the TES relaxation time increases with photon number. For $N=4$ photons, the TES returns from the elevated-resistance state to the edge of the transition region in less than 10μ s. At $N=47$ photons, it takes around 15μ s. And when the count is 1000, the relaxation time is approximately 50μ s.

Outline

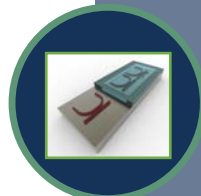
- NIST and the Physical Measurement Laboratory (PML)
- The Metric System and the Origin of the SI
- Quantum Standards and Movement Toward Redefining the SI
- Quantum Standards and Quantum Metrology Today
- Mass and Force Metrology and the SI Tomorrow
- **Towards Democratization of the SI: Embedded Measurements**

Quantum SI

New SI



Traceability directly to the SI

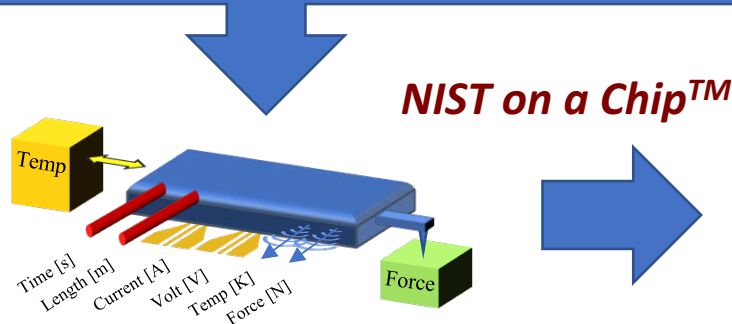
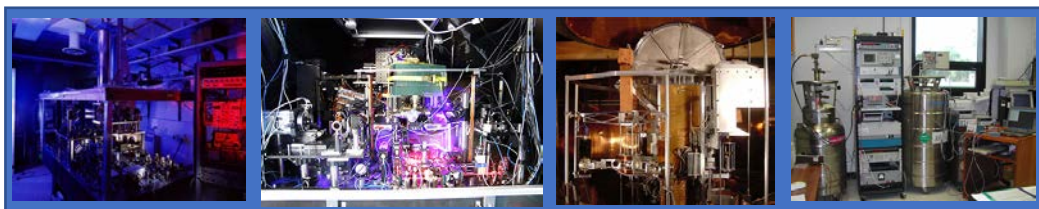


Zero-length traceability chain



Democratizing Metrology

Democratization: Toward Embedded Standards



- Direct SI-traceable measurement capability built into instruments
- Goals: flexible, useful, reliable, manufacturable, deployable
- Get rid of the middle-man (us!)

SI Dissemination Methodologies in Practice



**Send us an artifact;
We'll measure it and return it.**

Example shown here: Gauge blocks and other artifacts used as dimensional metrology standards. Other examples: masses, resistors and other electrical devices.



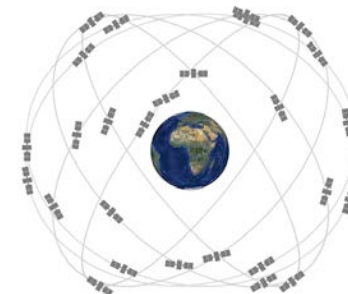
**Send us an instrument;
We'll calibrate it and return it.**

Example shown here: Proving ring for force metrology. Other examples: thermometers, pressure gauges, photodiodes (e.g., for optical power).



**Don't send us anything;
Buy one, and we'll ship it to you.**

Example shown here: Ocean Shellfish Radionuclide Standard (SRM 4358). Other examples: certain lamps and photodiodes for photometry and radiometry.



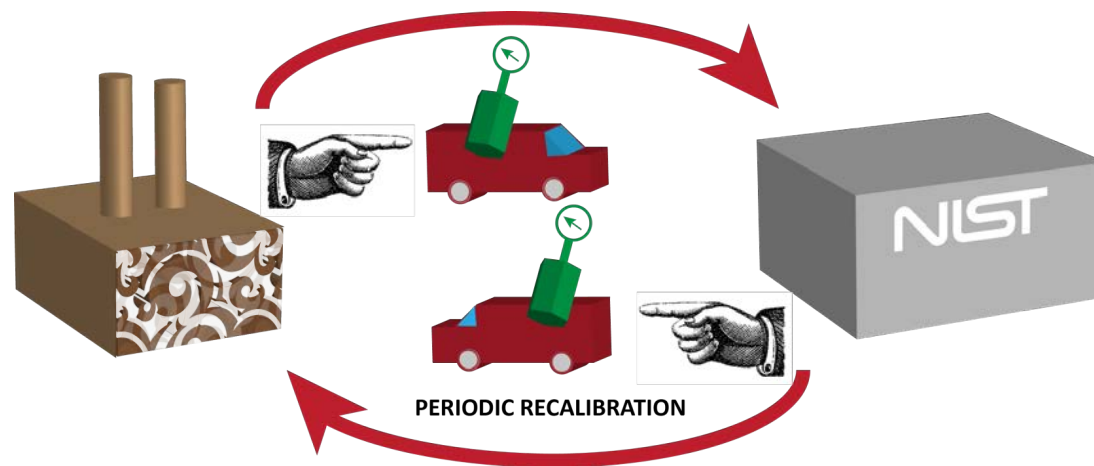
**Don't send us anything; We'll
observe something together.**

Example shown here: GPS satellite constellation (atomic clocks on orbit). Satellite common-view used to transfer precision time and frequency standards.

Classical Calibration Dissemination Method: How NMI's Work Now ...



Delivery guy:
He likes things as they are



Routine shipment of artifacts
and instruments for calibration

Over 14,000 artifacts per year – Expensive modality

Advanced Measurement: Quantum SI Dissemination



He's got less work to do



Technology transfer

- Dual platform standards and sensors
- SI realization outside the walls of NIST
- New faster/lower cost calibration services – on factory floor
- Enhance economic impact through elimination of waste in industrial processes
- Number of calibrations approaches zero
- Traceability more complex

But the measurements are used everywhere . . .



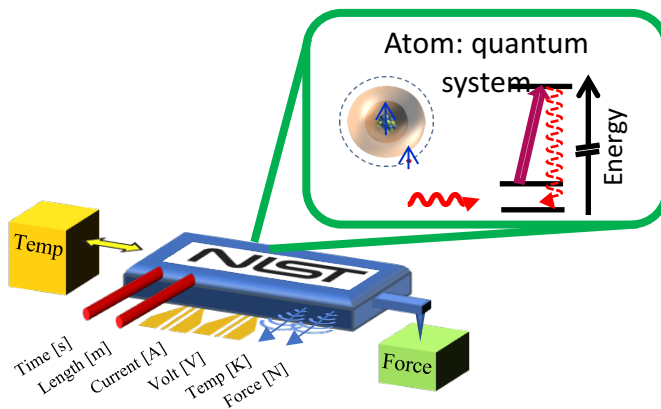
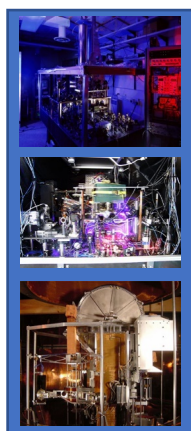
Goal: NMI-quality measurements and physical standards available directly where the customer/user needs them.

Chip-Scale Quantum Technologies

NIST on a Chip™

- Quantum-based physical standards on a chip would allow accurate realization of SI units with low power and low cost

Large laboratory instruments



Compact embedded chips

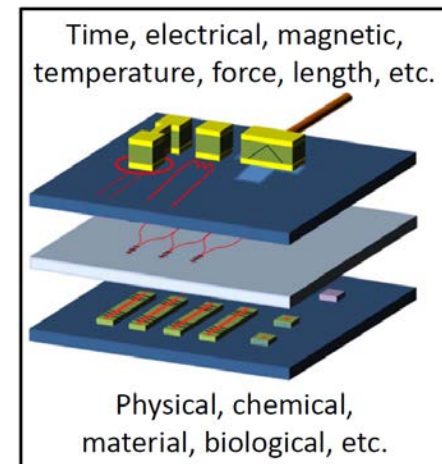
- Embedded, SI-traceable calibration built into instruments
- Goals: **flexible, useful, manufacturable, deployable**

Key idea: use quantum properties of atoms to realize accurate and reliable measurement tools in a manufacturable, chip-scale format

Embedded Standards

Develop SI-traceable measurements and physical standards that are:

- **Deployable** in a factory, lab, device, system, home, anywhere...
- **Usable**: Small size (usually), low power consumption, rugged, easily integrated and operated
- **Flexible**: Provide a range of SI-traceable measurements and standards (**often quantum-based**) relevant to the customer's needs / applications
 - One, few, or many measurements from a single small form package
- **Manufacturable**:
 - Potential for production costs commensurate with the applications
 - Low cost for broad deployment; or
 - Acceptable cost for high-value applications



Emerging Technologies Enable Disruptive Change

- Solid state lasers (e.g., VCSELs)
- Microelectromechanical systems (MEMS)
- Miniaturized Combs and Microresonators
- Micro- and Nano-fabrication
 - Nanoelectronic
 - Microfluidics
 - Integrated photonics
- Superconducting systems
- Quantum-based standards and phenomena
 - Fundamental atomic and molecular properties
 - New material properties
 - Ultracold systems

A 21st century toolkit can enable the development of a new generation of artifacts and instruments with capabilities that far exceed those traditionally used for traceability

In some cases, they might rival the capabilities of NMI!

Metrology Adapts to Needs and Technology

- Metrology is not “just status quo”
 - Realization, Maintenance, and Dissemination of Units
- Constantly evolving to meet the ever changing needs of industry
- Infra-technology that drives innovation and supports the global economy (80 % of all global

Metrologists represent about 0.0001 % of the world's population and need to foreshadow where technology should evolve!



Thank you!

Any questions?

carl.williams@nist.gov



NIST

NIST
**National Institute of
Standards and Technology**
U.S. Department of Commerce



PML