

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

# The Electromagnetic Spectrum

C. Cameron Miller NIST, Sensor Science Division

## The Electromagnetic Spectrum





Frequency (Hz)

## Measurement Scale – SI Units





Credit: ©BIPM

#### May 20, 2019 – Redefinition of the SI Units

Hyperfine structure transition frequency cesium-133 Speed of light Planck constant Elementary charge Boltzmann constant Avogadro constant Luminous efficacy of monochromatic radiation (540 THz)  $\Delta v_{Cs} = 9192631770 \text{ s}^{-1}$   $c = 299792458 \text{ m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$   $h = 6.62607015 \times 10^{-34} \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^2 \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$   $e = 1.602176634 \times 10^{-19} \text{ A} \cdot \text{s}$   $k = 1.380649 \times 10^{-23} \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^2 \cdot \text{K}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-2}$   $N_A = 6.02214076 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$  $K_{cd} = 683 \text{ cd} \cdot \text{sr} \cdot \text{s}^3 \cdot \text{kg}^{-1} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$ 



The candela, symbol cd, is the SI unit of luminous intensity in a given direction. It is defined by taking the fixed numerical value of the luminous efficacy of monochromatic radiation of frequency 540 x  $10^{12}$  Hz,  $K_{cd}$ , to be 683 when expressed in the unit  $\text{Im} \cdot \text{W}^{-1}$ , which is equal to  $\text{cd} \cdot \text{sr} \cdot \text{W}^{-1}$ , or  $\text{cd} \cdot \text{sr} \cdot \text{kg}^{-1} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{3}$ , where the kilogram, meter and second are defined in terms of h, c and  $\Delta v_{cs}$ .



Credit: Hans Michel/Courtesy BIPM

#### Primary Source - Blackbody



**Plank's Law**  $L_{b}(\lambda) = \frac{2hc^{2}}{n^{2}\lambda^{5}} \frac{1}{\exp(hc/(n\lambda k_{B}T)) - 1}$ 

*h* = Plank's constant

*c* = speed of light

 $n(\lambda)$  = index of refraction of medium

 $k_{\rm B}$  = Boltzmann's constant

 $\lambda$  = wavelength of light

*T* = temperature

Gold-point Blackbody 1337.33 K





#### **Primary Source - Synchrotron**





# Primary Detector – Cryogenic Radiometer NST

#### **Electrical Substitution Radiometer**



## Measurement Scale – Summary





Wavelength (nm)	Expanded Uncertainty ( <i>k</i> =2) %
200	1.07
250	0.95
300	0.97
350	0.99
400	1.04

Wavelength (nm)	Expanded Uncertainty (k=2) %
200	4.7
250	1.8
300	1.0
350	0.82
400	0.60

Wavelength (nm)	Expanded Uncertainty (k=2) %
250	1.74
350	1.27
450	0.91
555	0.77
900	0.57



