

Electrical Metrology

A photograph showing four people sitting on a rocky shore, looking out at a large body of water (likely a lake) at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright reflection on the water's surface. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds. The background is a dense forest of trees along the far shore.

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October, 2013

With many thanks to

Barry Wood

Piotr Filipski

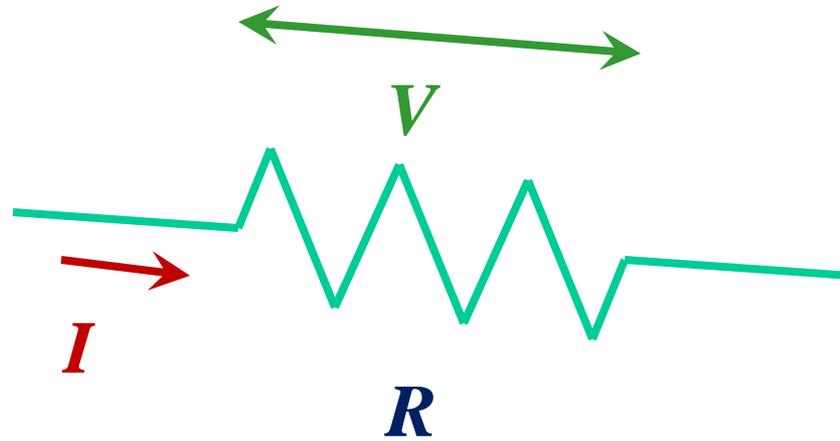
Ken Kochav

**for help with some slides and
photographs.**

Outline

- **Electrical units within the SI**
- **Electrical units in an NMI or DI**
- **Realisation of electrical units**
- **Traceability of electrical units**
- **Measurement methods**
- **Measurement issues.**

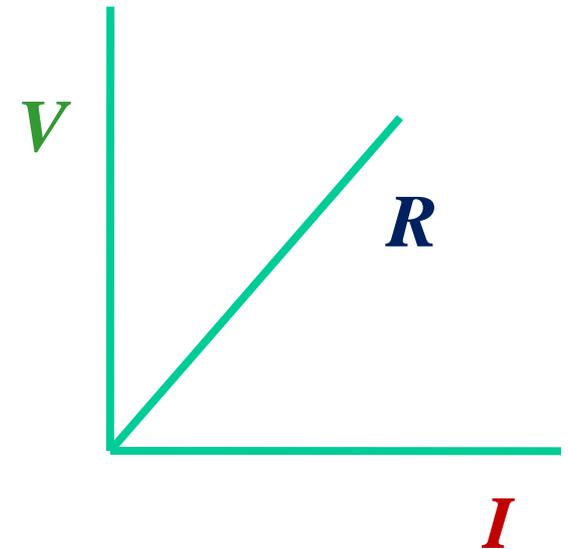
Extra #1



R – resistance

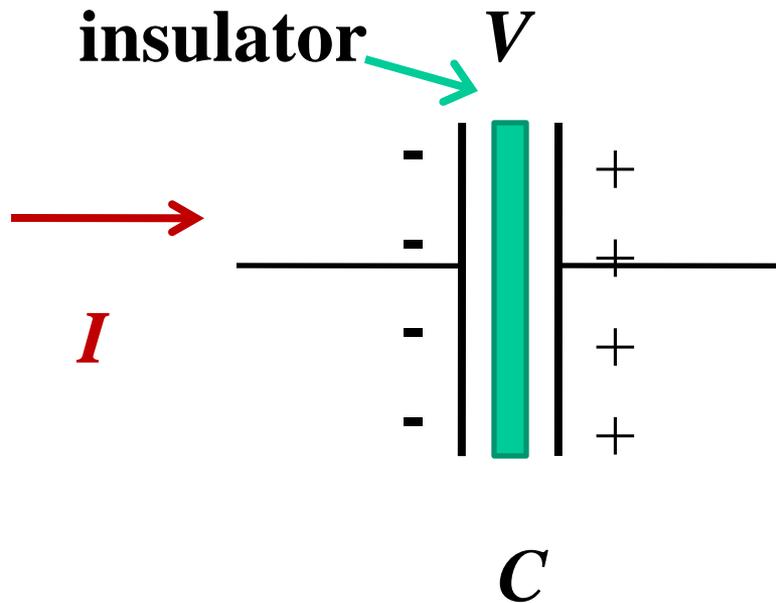
V – potential difference, voltage

I - current



“Ohm’s Law”: $I = V / R$

Extra #2



C - capacitance

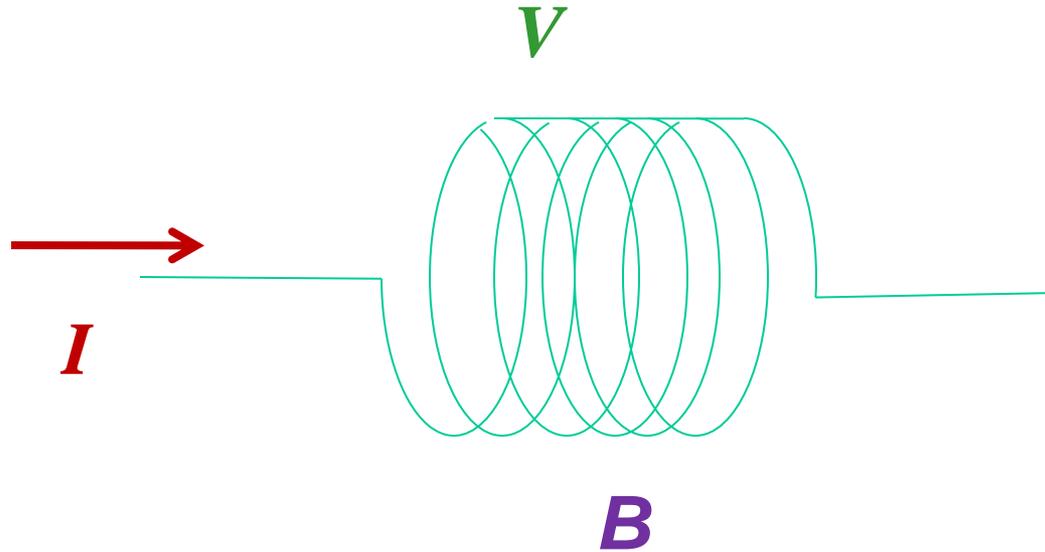
A - area

D - distance

E - permittivity

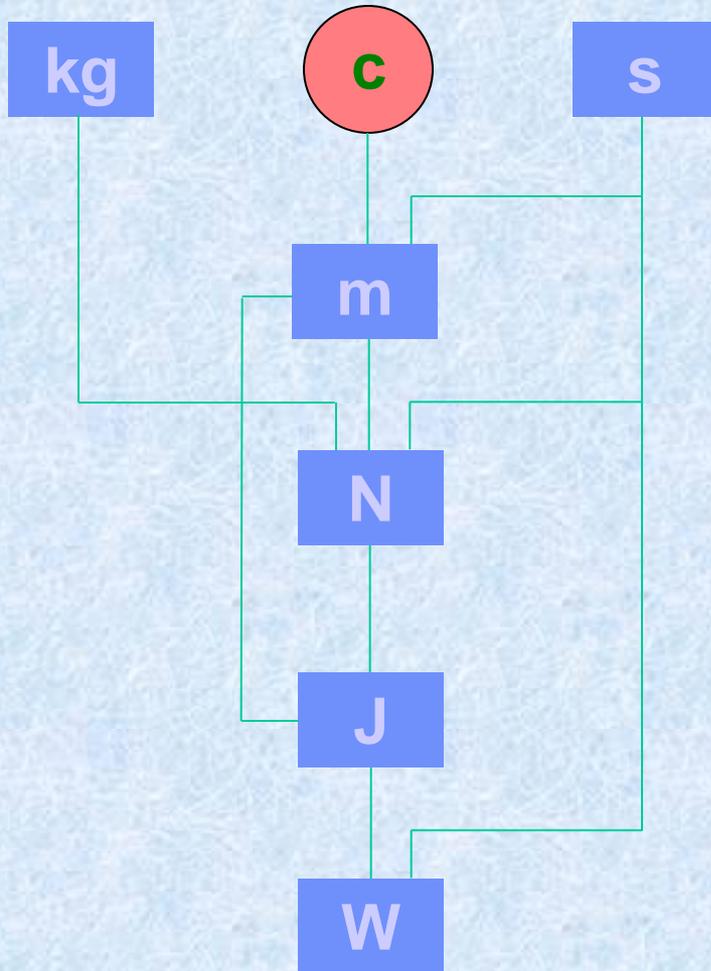
$$C = \epsilon \frac{A}{d}$$

Extra #3



B – the magnetic field induced in the coil, which will oppose the change of current producing it.

SI Unit Hierarchy - Mechanical Units



Fundamental Constants

c - speed of light

SI Mechanical Units

kg - mass of Ptlr at BIPM

s - hyperfine splitting of Cs

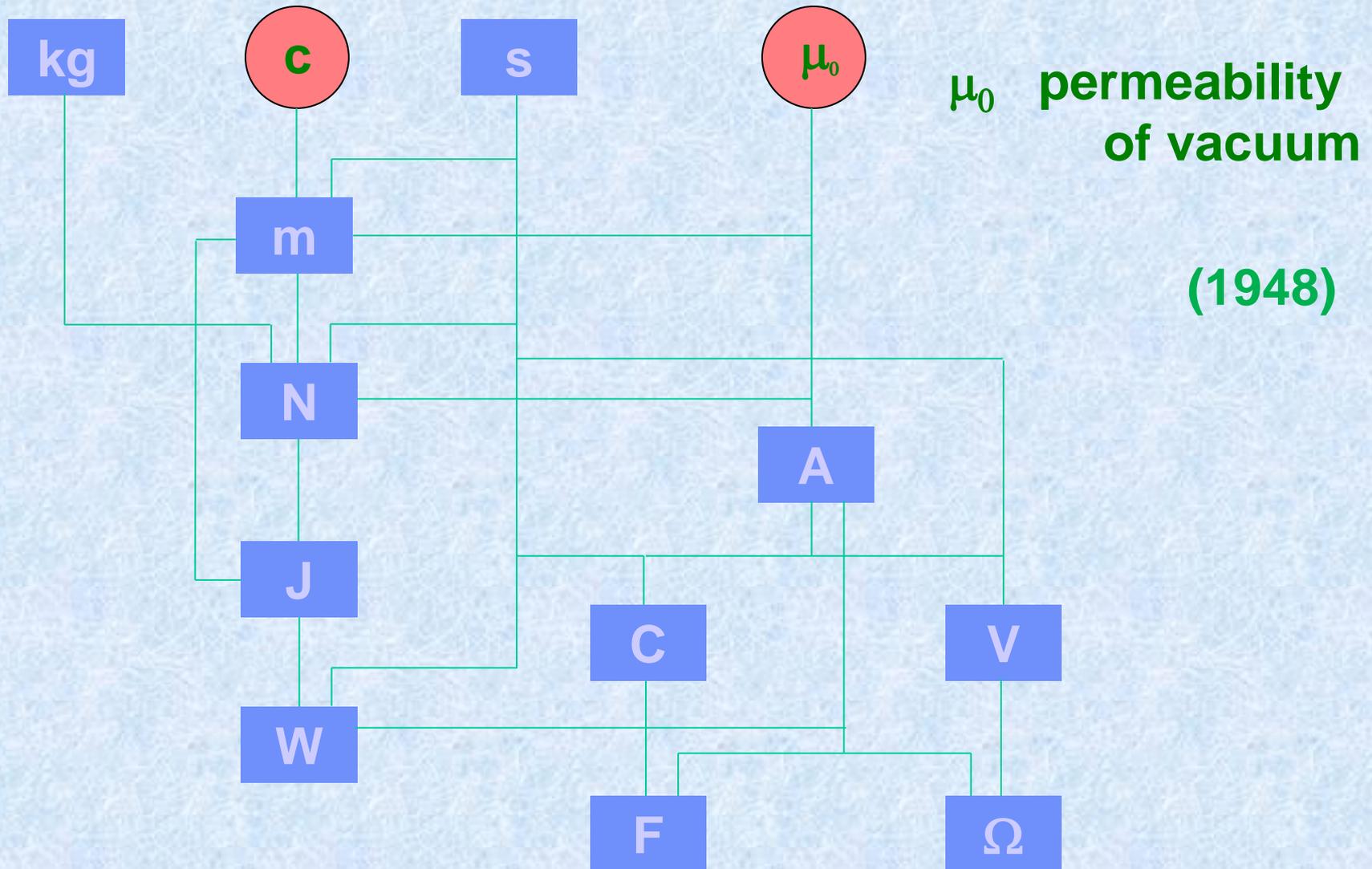
m - meter of length

N - newton of force

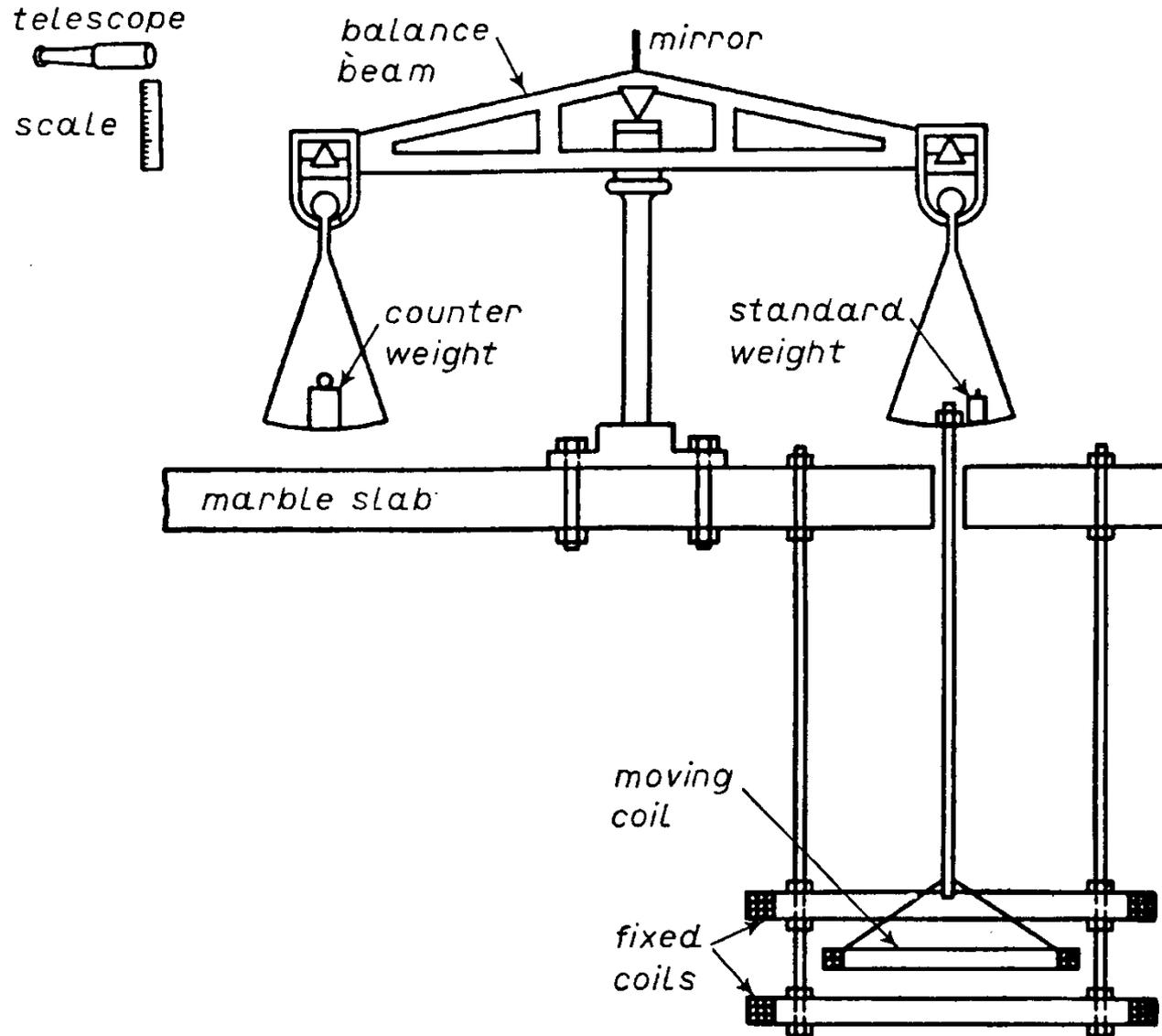
J - joule of work

W - watt of energy

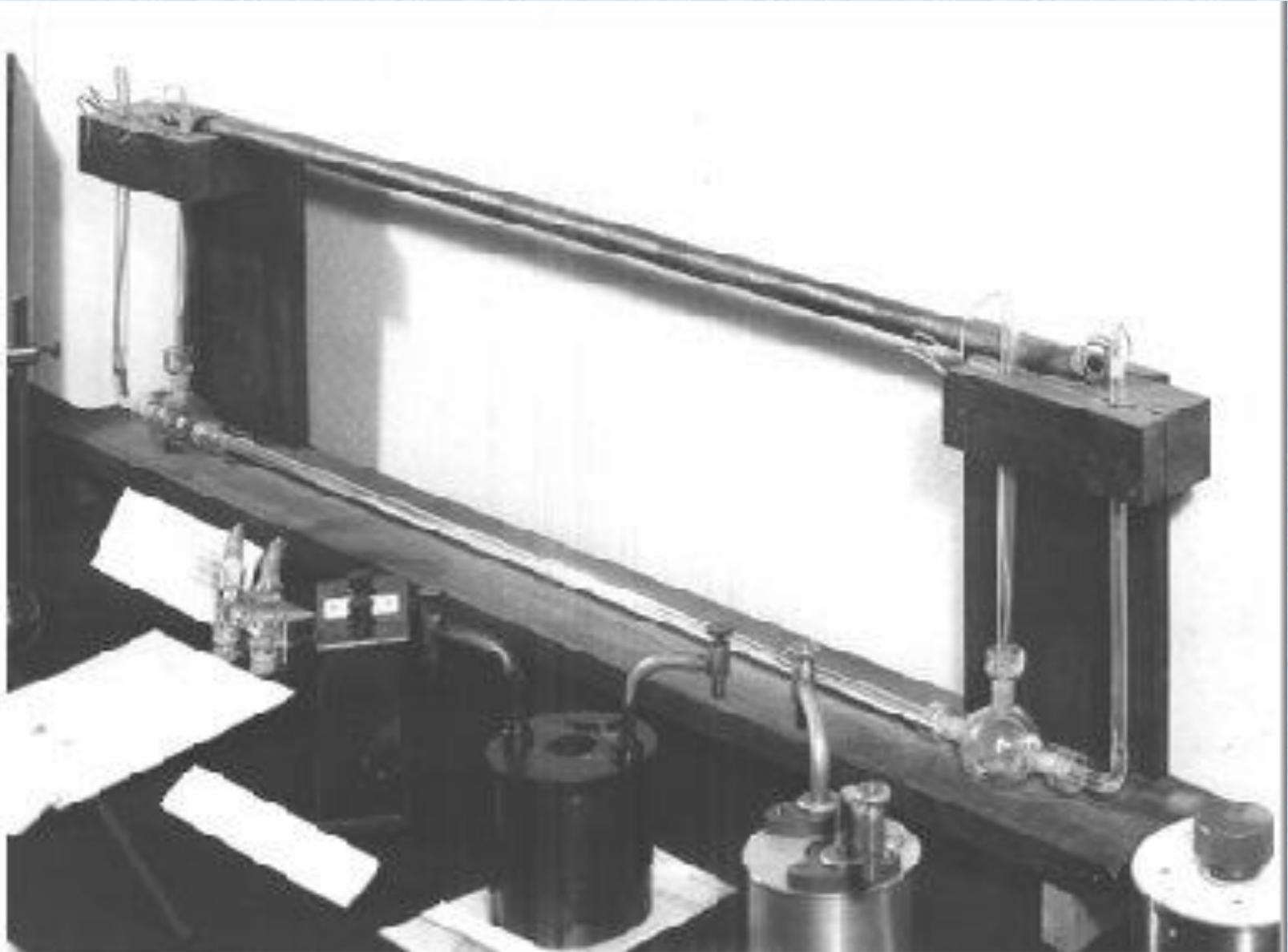
SI Unit Hierarchy & Electrical Units



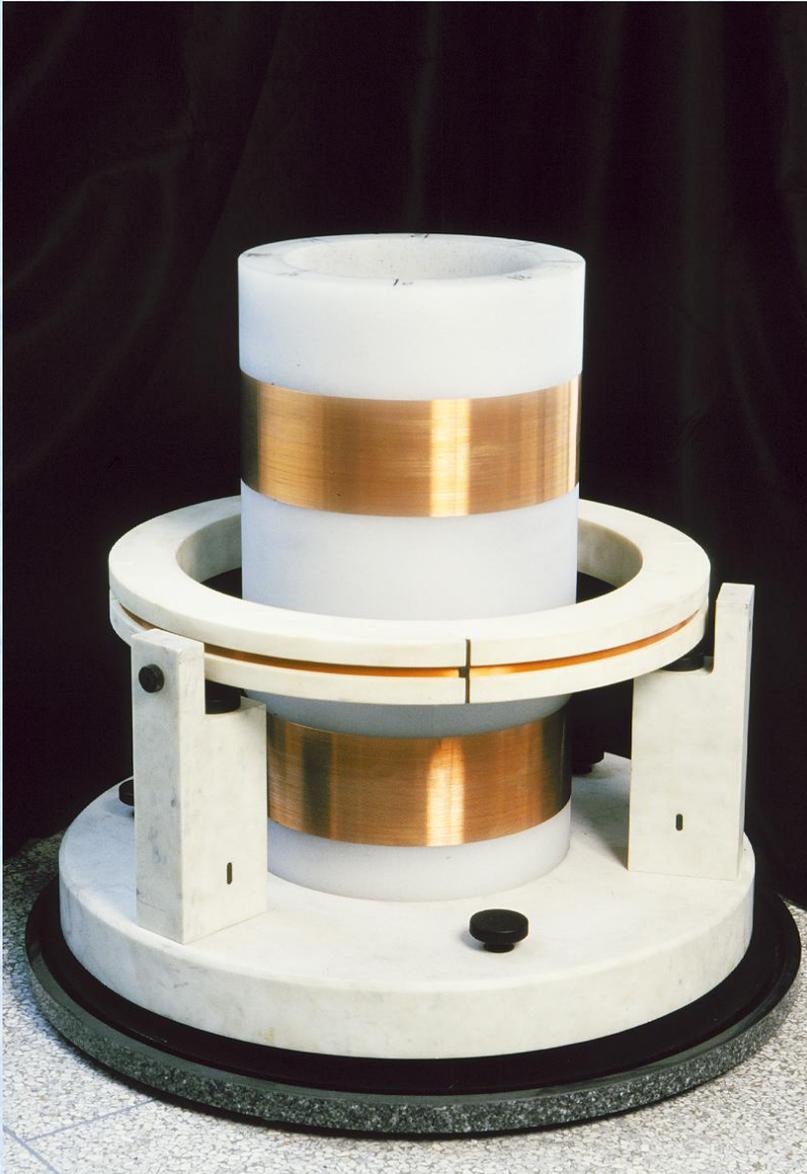
Rayleigh Ampere Balance



Mercury column - 1908 Absolute Ohm



Campbell Mutual Inductor 1950s



1907 a calculation of inductance from dimensional properties

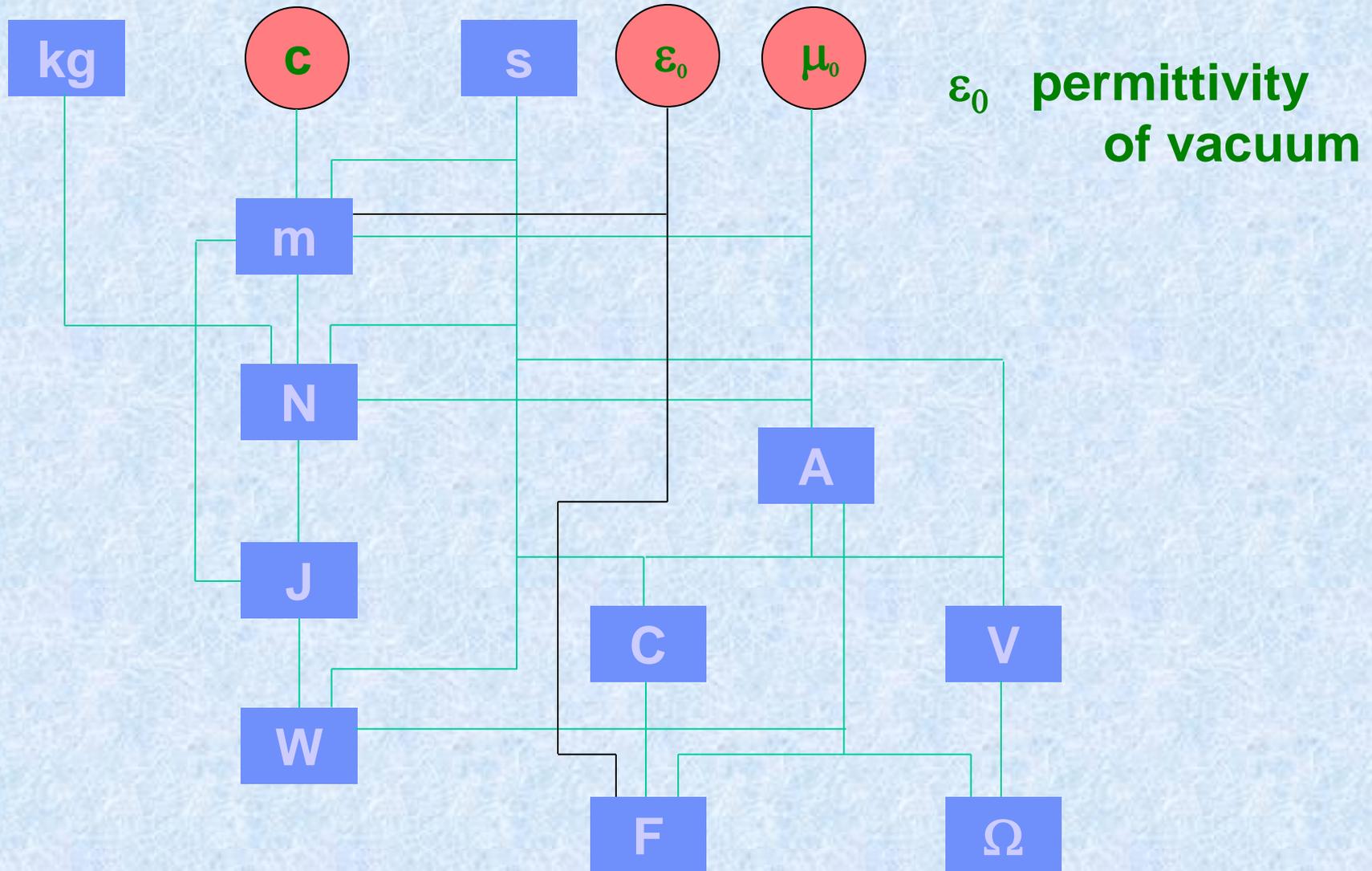
Ratio techniques to relate to the ohm

Popular in the 1950-60s

Problems with current distribution, distortion of wire,...

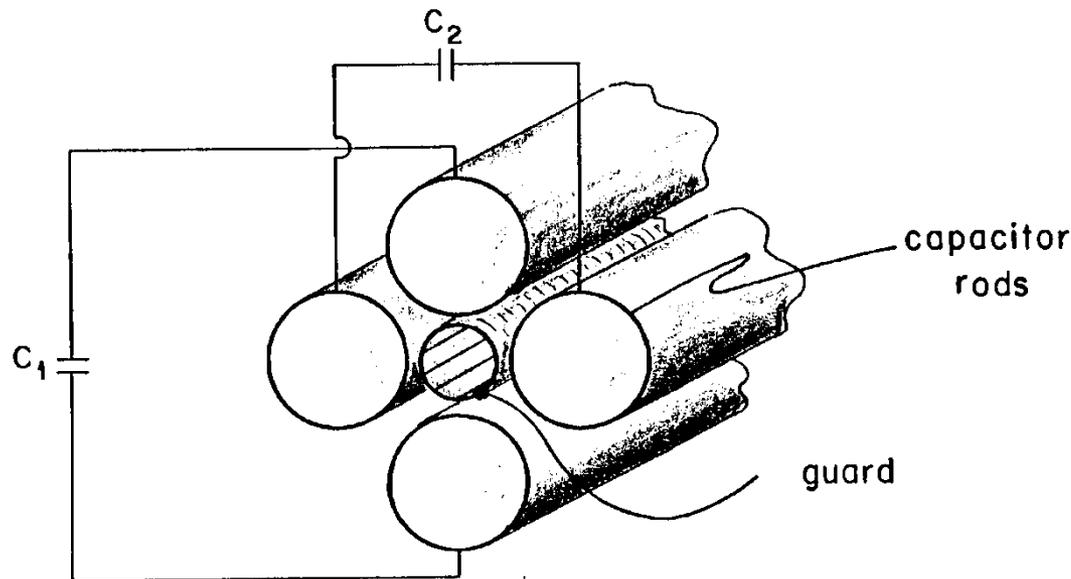
A few ppm accuracy

SI Unit Hierarchy & Calculable Capacitor



Calculable Capacitor 1970 -

Thompson Lampard 1956



Calculable Capacitor

$$C = \frac{\epsilon_0}{\pi} \ln(2) \quad F / m$$

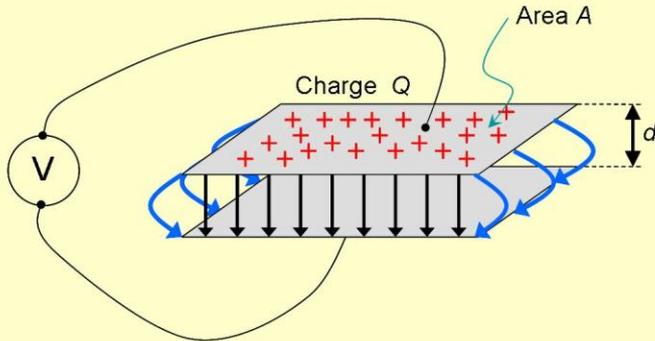
**Quadrature bridge -
resistance**

10pF @ ~ 0.01 ppm

**Now used mostly
for capacitance**

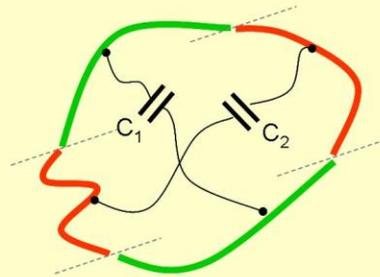
Difficult to build

**1 kHz, $\Delta l \approx 0.2$ m, $\Delta C \approx 0.4$ pF
(but see *NIST* special)**



Simple parallel Plate capacitor

$$C = Q/V \quad C = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d}$$

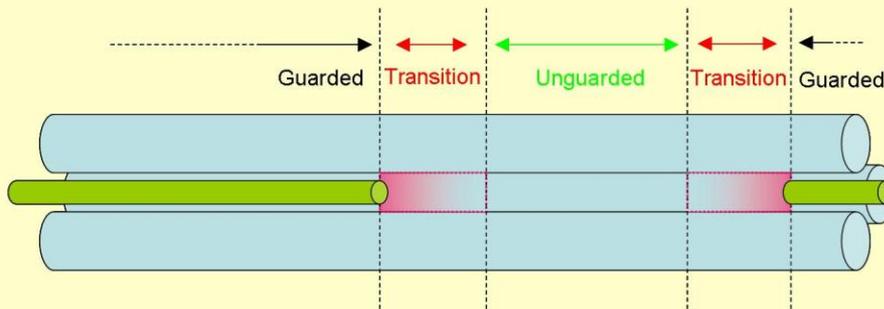


Thompson Lampard Theorem:

System of infinite parallel conductors
 C_1 and C_2 are cross capacitances per unit length

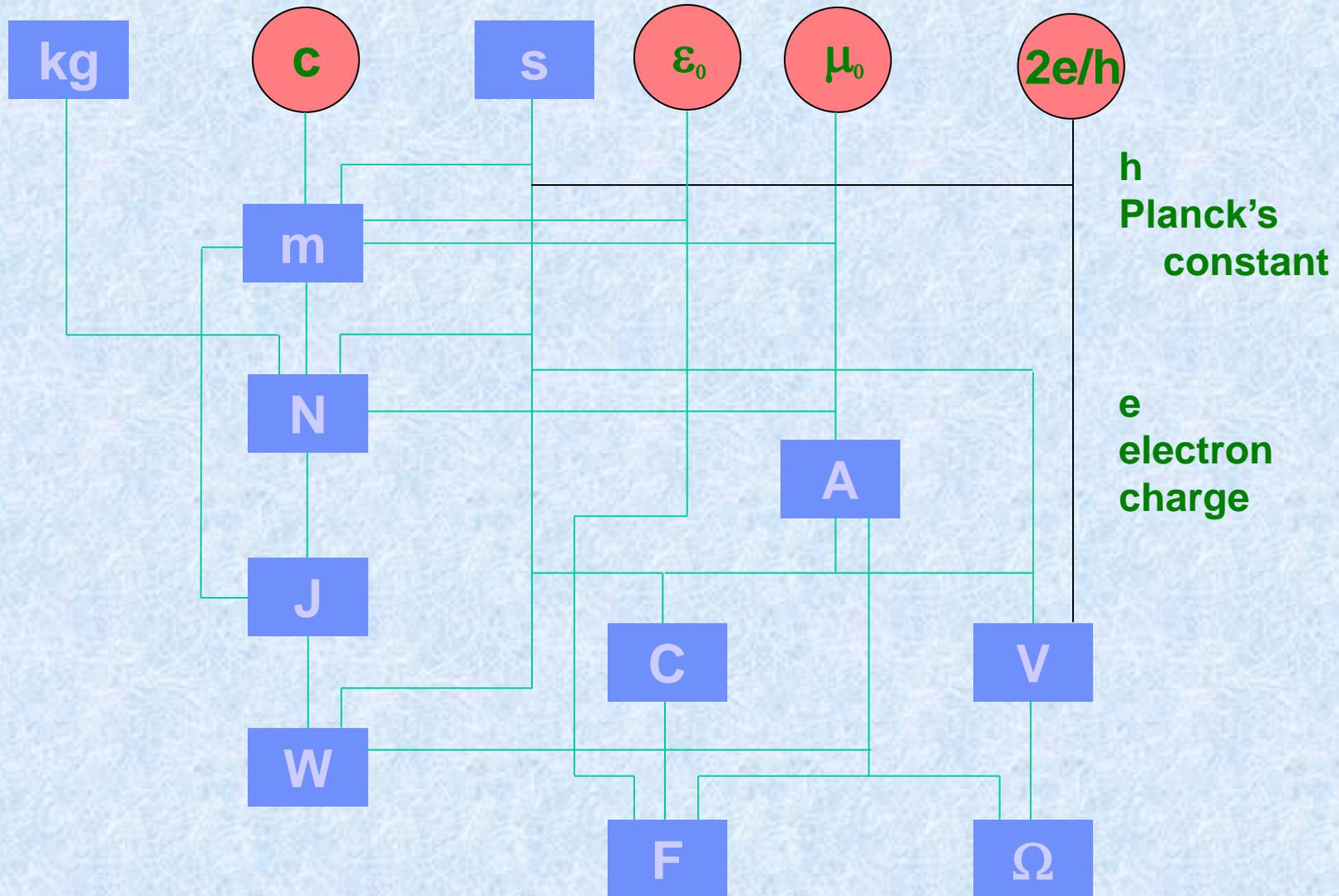
$$\exp(-\pi C_1/\epsilon_0) + \exp(-\pi C_2/\epsilon_0) = 1$$

Practical realisation of a calculable cross capacitor



4 cylindrical bars and a central guard bar

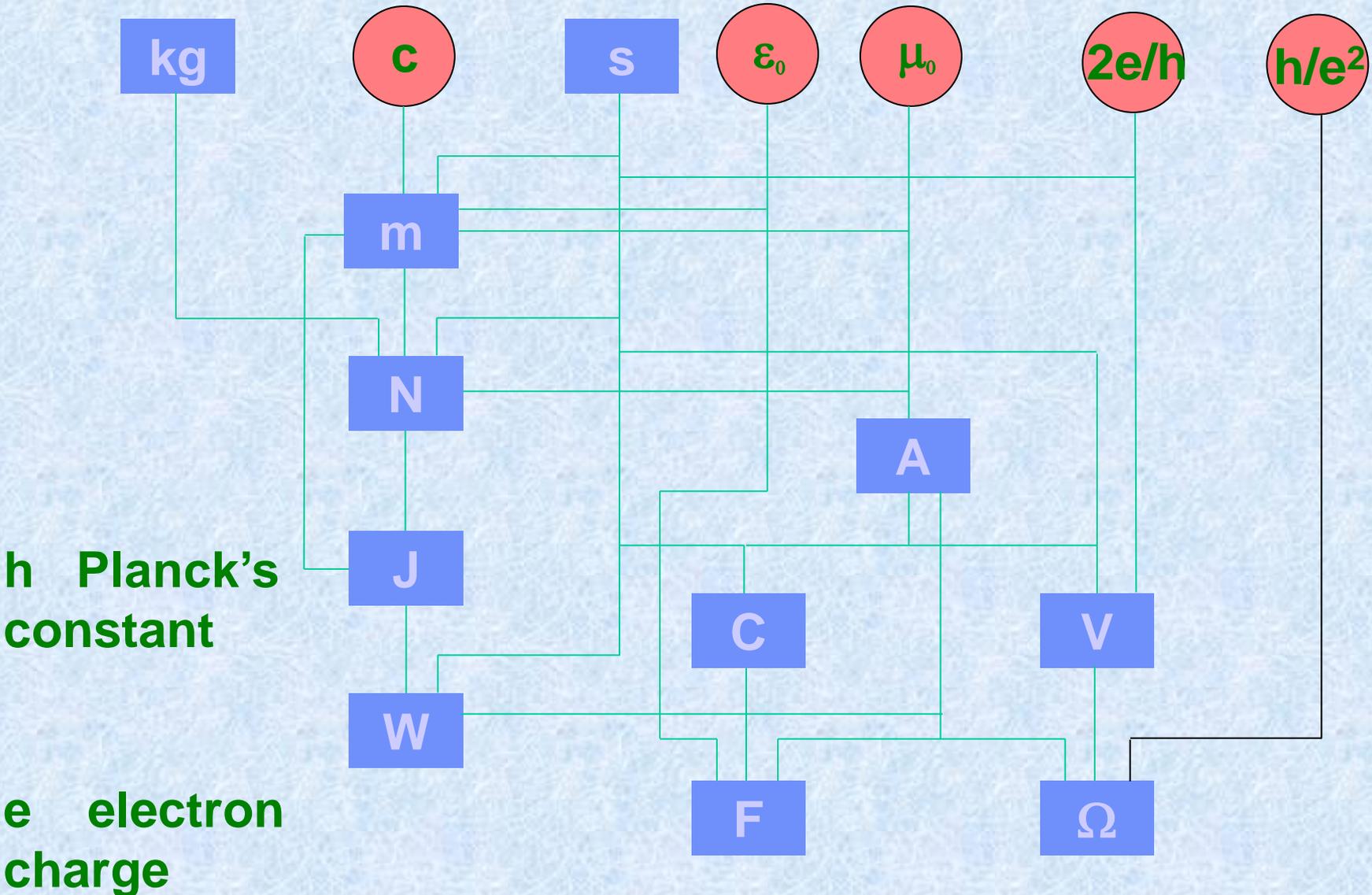
SI Unit Hierarchy & Josephson Effect



The Josephson representation of the SI volt

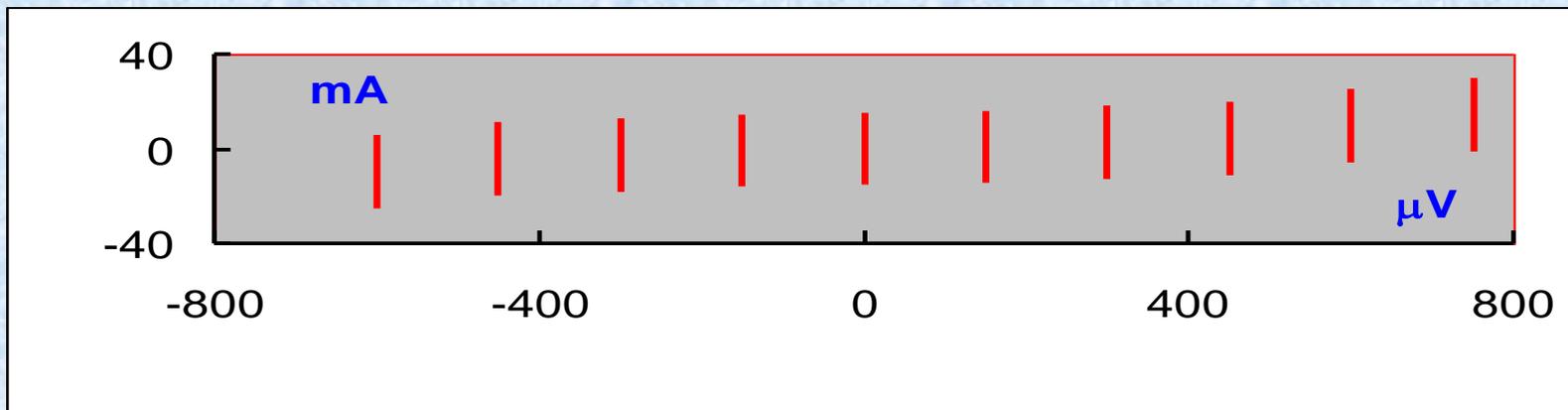
SI Unit Hierarchy today

ϵ_0 permittivity of vacuum

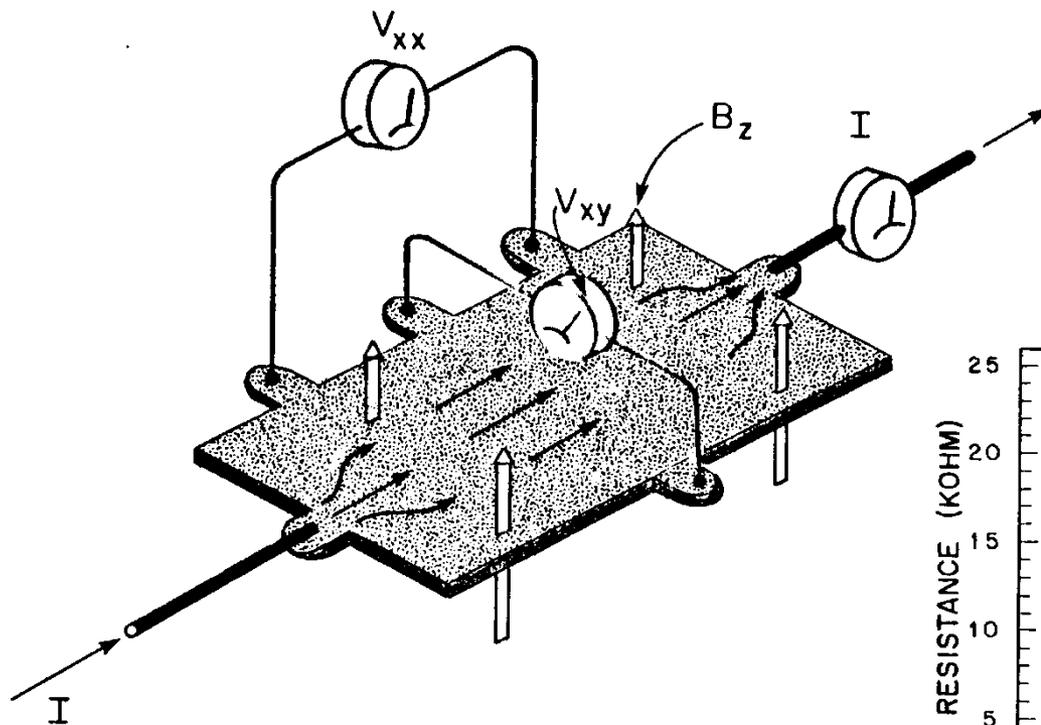


Josephson Effect Voltage Standard

- A Josephson junction is formed when two superconductors are separated by a weak link, which allows tunneling of electron pairs
- A bias current is applied, and the junction is irradiated with microwave radiation
- I/V curve for the junction shows a series of regularly-spaced steps in the voltage



Quantum Hall Resistance 1990-

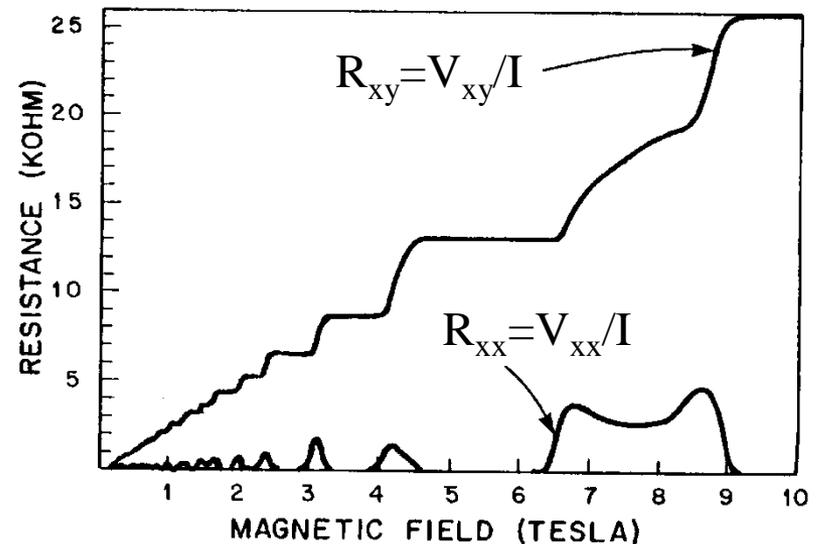


Internationally accepted

Easier to realize

Accurate < 0.003 ppm

$$R_{K-90} = 25812.807 \Omega$$



VOLTAGE

DC Voltage: 0 → 1000 V

Josephson Voltage Representation (1990)

Standard cells, zeners

Calibrators, DVMs,

(Hamon divider for scaling)

The Josephson Voltage Standard

$$V_n = n \cdot (h/2e) f \quad 2e/h = \text{Josephson constant}$$

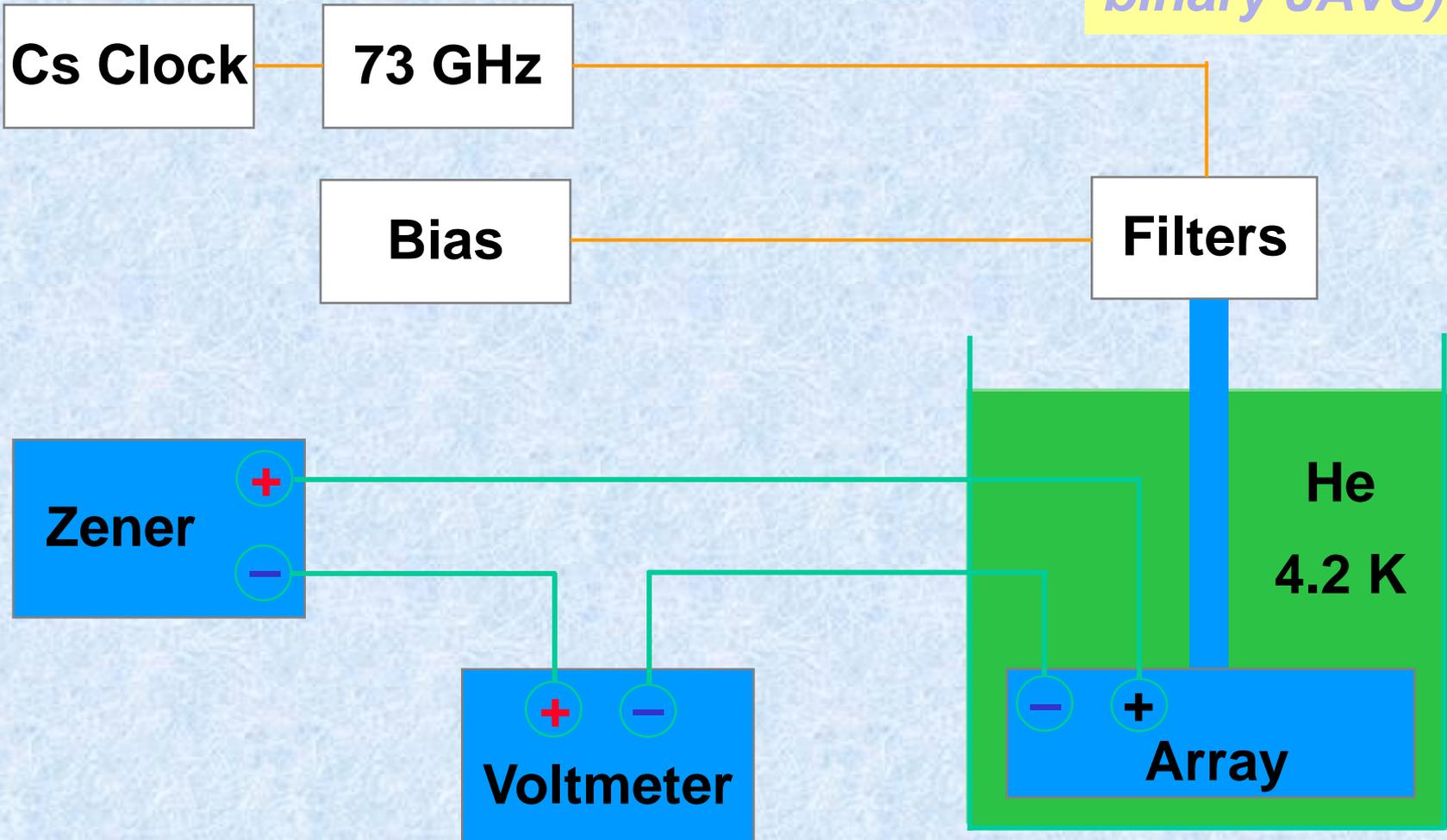
$$K_{J-90} = 483597.9 \text{ GHz/V}$$

- Steps are vertical, no thermal EMF's in the JJ, no IR drops within the JJ.
- Independent of JJ size, construction, temperature ...
- Many steps; $V_n = 150 \mu\text{V}$ @ 75 GHz, adjustable to the same resolution as the frequency, f .

The Josephson effect is believed to be independent of correction to about 10^{-17}

The NRC JAVS Schematic

0 – 10 V
Zeners, DMMs
(Also acJAVS,
binary JAVS)



Secondary Voltage Standards

Standard cells used to be primary standards but are gradually falling into dis-use.

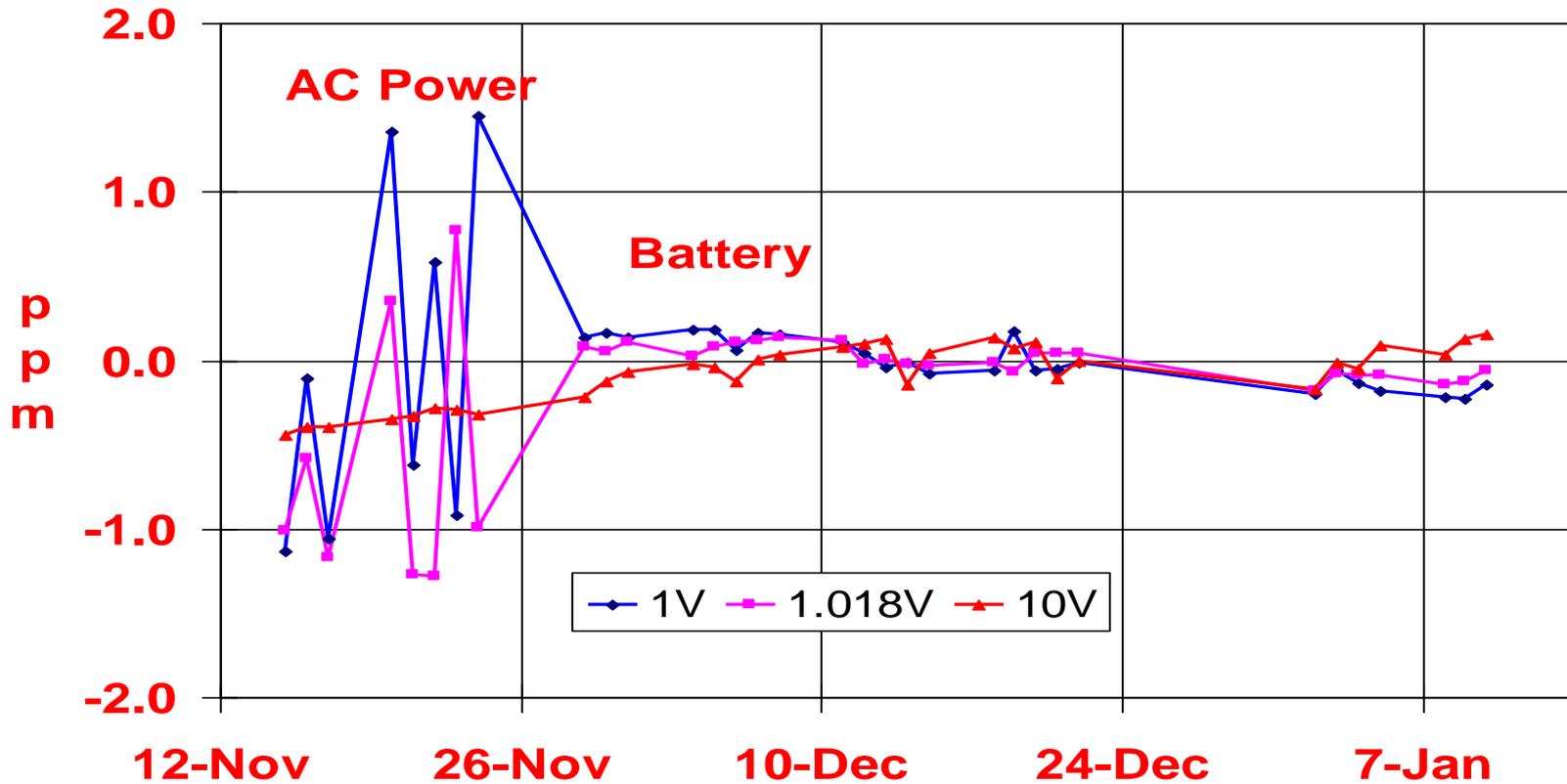
Zeners are now the most common voltage standards.

Increasingly industry uses calibrators and DVMs with internal zeners for primary dc voltage reference.

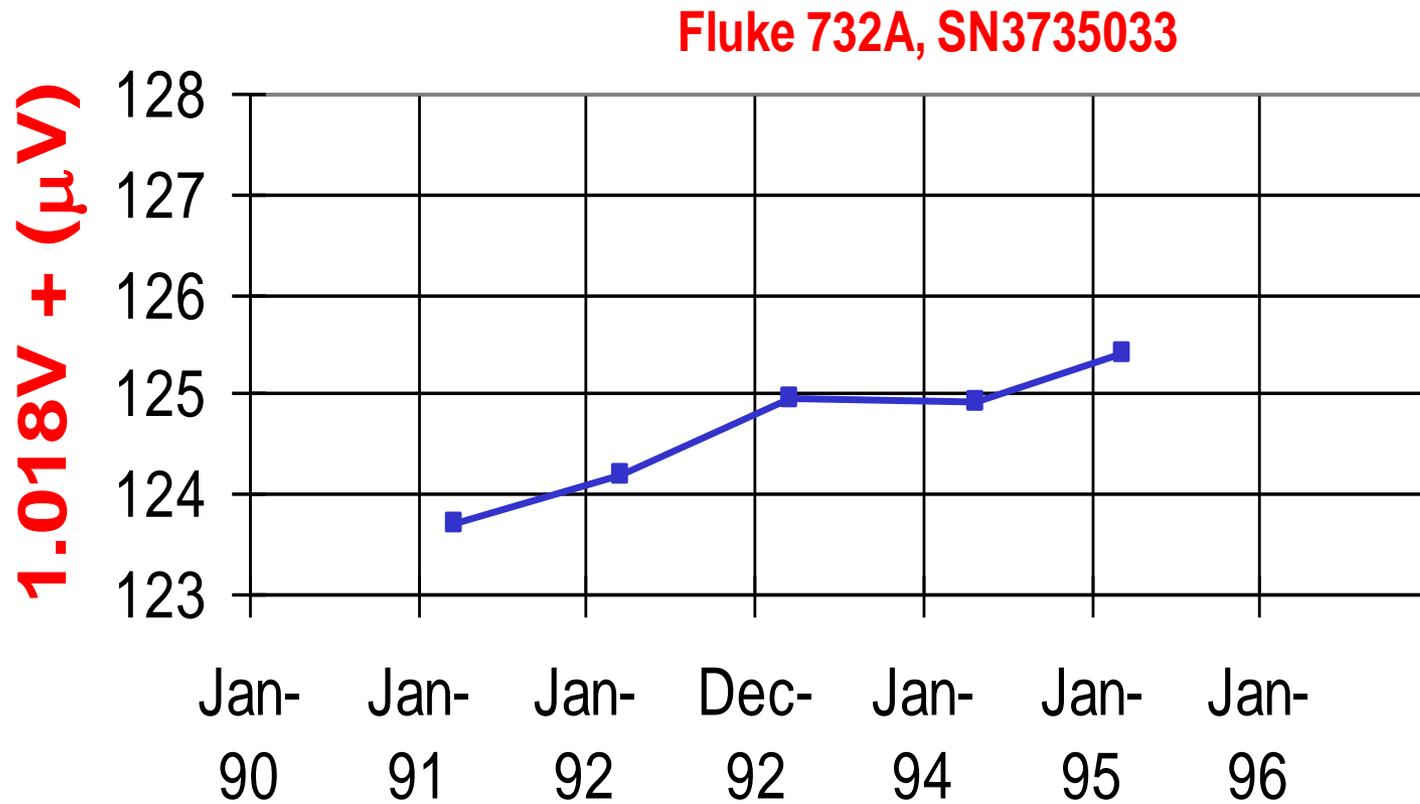


Zener stability - AC Power or Battery

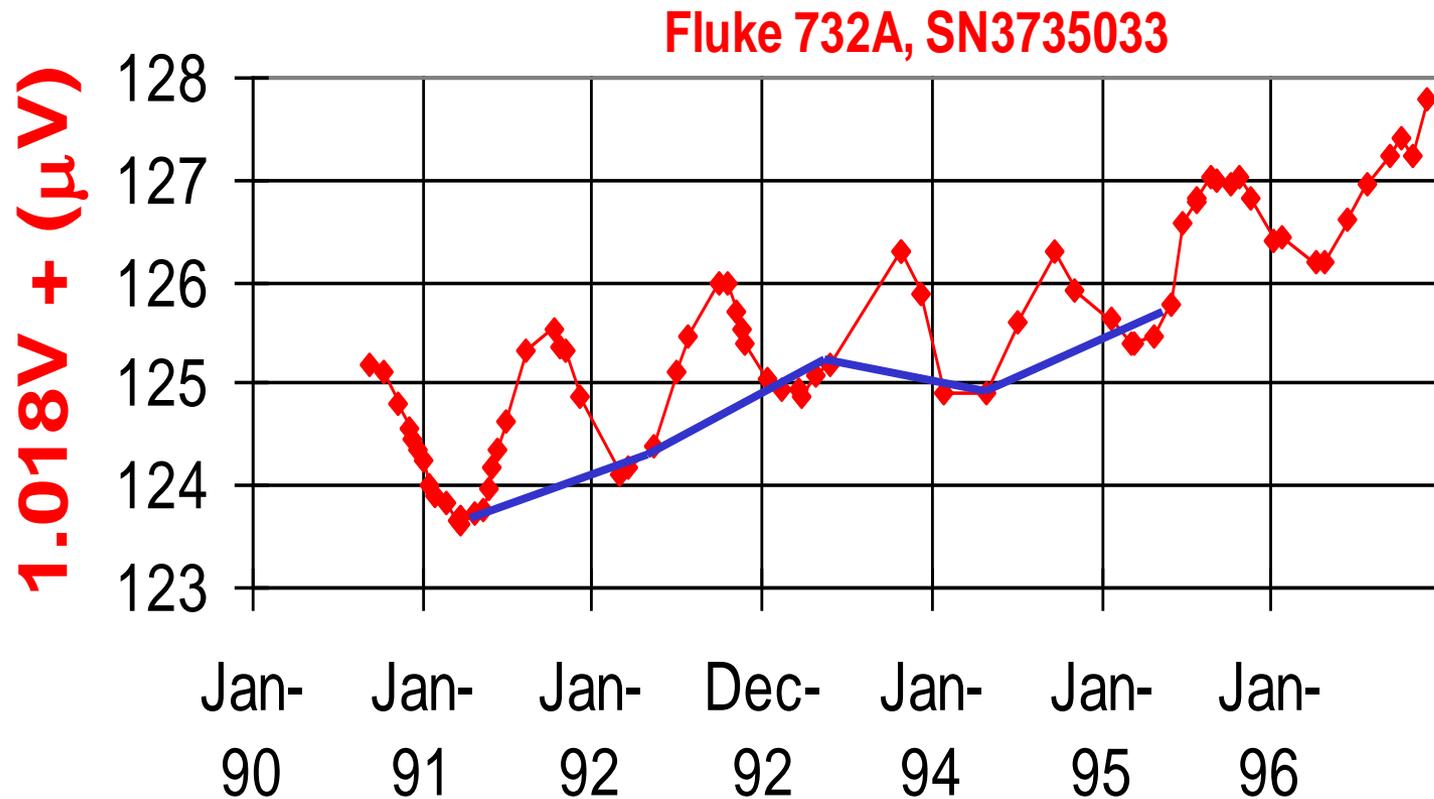
Fluke Model 732A



Zener stability - time



Zener stability - time



DC Voltage Summary

Primary standards Josephson Arrays 10 V (0.001x10⁻⁶)

Secondary standards standard cells, zeners(Fluke 732B),
DVMs and calibrators
1 mV to 1000 V (1x10⁻⁶ – 0.02x10⁻⁶)

Detectors EM Amplifiers,
HP3458A, Keithley NanoVoltsmeters

Scaling JJ Arrays to 10V,
Resistive Dividers, Bootstrap
techniques for higher voltages

Scaling to 1 MV is possible

RESISTANCE

Resistance

- Easily realizable **10 $\mu\Omega$ to 10 P Ω**
(10^{22} orders of magnitude)

Teflon $10^{13} - 10^{18} \Omega\text{cm}$

Sapphire, Quartz $10^{15} - 10^{18} \Omega\text{cm}$

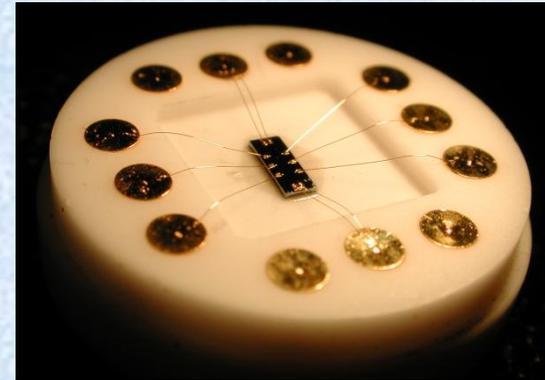
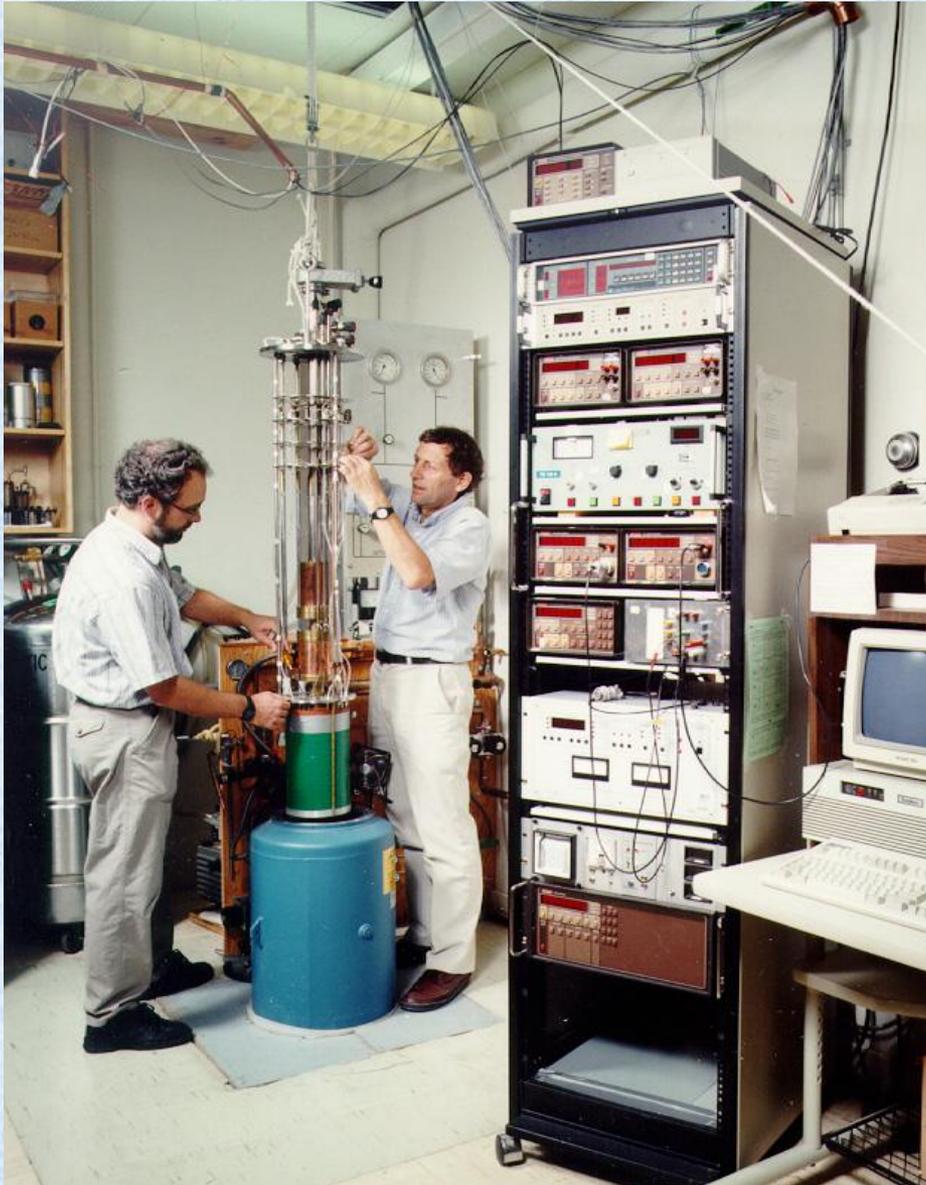
Cu $1.67 \cdot 10^{-6} \Omega \text{ cm}$ $0.0068 /^\circ\text{C}$

Pb $20.6 \cdot 10^{-6} \Omega \text{ cm}$ $0.0034 /^\circ\text{C}$

Evanohm $134 \Omega\text{cm}$ $0.00001 /^\circ\text{C}$

- Sensors: temperature, pressure, force, optical intensity, strain

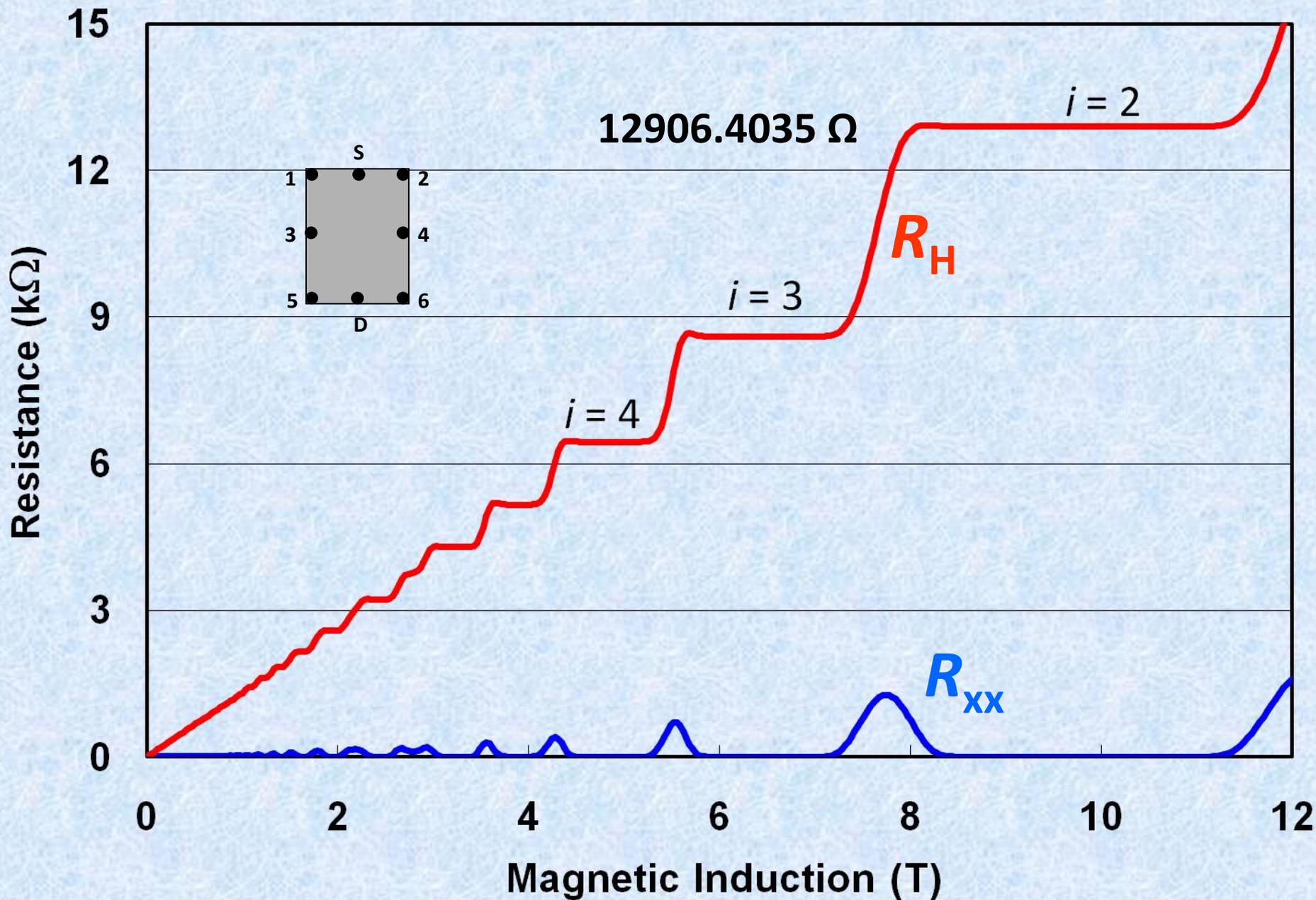
DC Quantum Hall



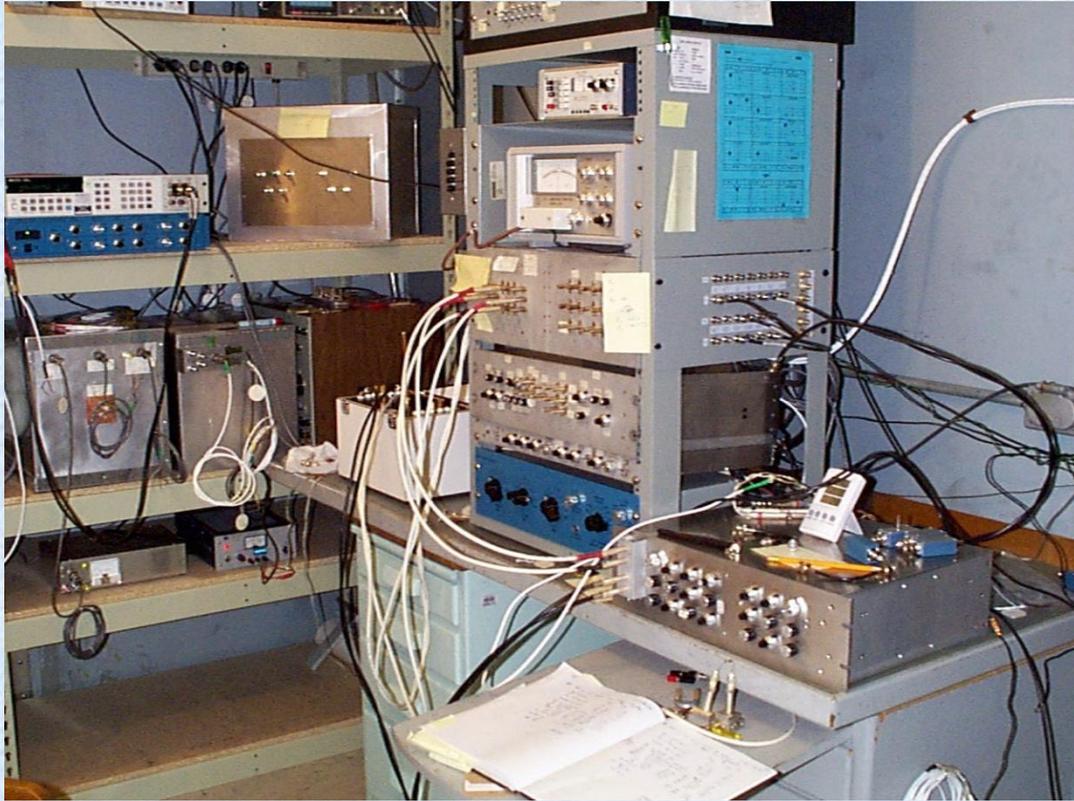
Primary Representation

- **GaAs/AlGaA**
heterostructure
- (also Si Mosfet, II-IV
structures, graphene)
- 14T magnet
- Pumped helium cryostat
- CCC Bridge, JAVS
potentiometer...

NRC V0054a : 0.32K : 10 μ A



CCC Resistance Bridge



Primary resistance ratio bridge
measures QHR on steps 2,3,4 & 6..
ratios of 1:1, 10:1, 100:1 and others
0.1 Ω - 100k Ω

In many NMIs the CCC resistance bridge is the primary dc ratio bridge

- for the QHR to resistors
- but scaling 0.1 Ω - 1M Ω
- Noise optimized for step #2 to 100 Ω .
- Bridge leakage effects are exceptionally small.
- Redundant ways to get the same ratio.

Secondary Standards of Resistance



Coil or thin film

2 or 4 terminal

Oil: 25 C, air 23C, or

$10 \mu\Omega - 1 \Omega$

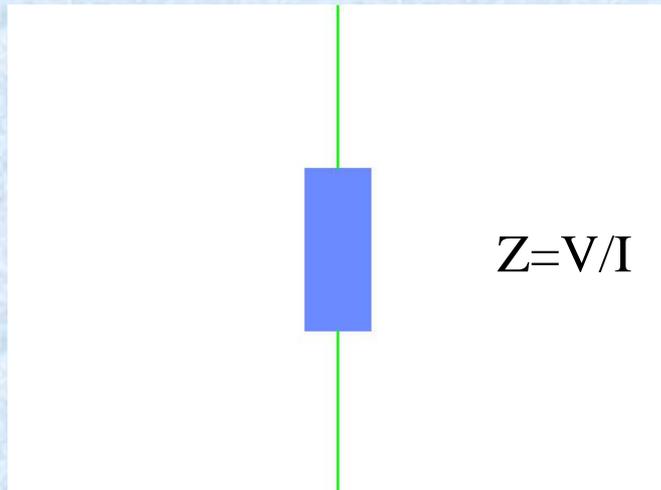
$1 \Omega - 100 \text{ k}\Omega$

$100 \text{ k}\Omega - 10 \text{ P}\Omega$



Impedances

2 terminal impedance



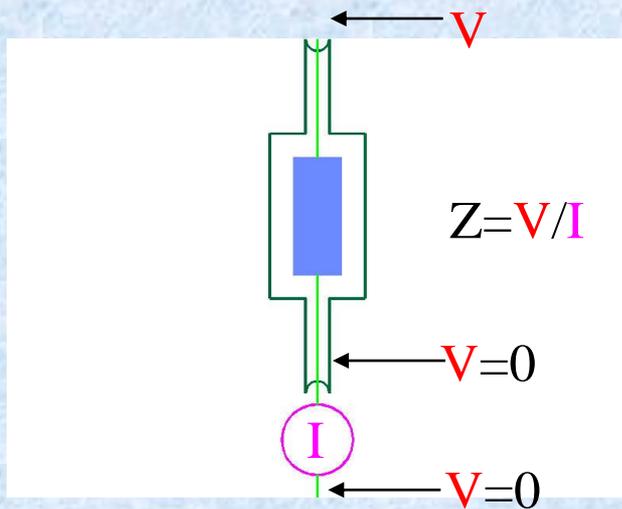
Voltage across and
Current through

Internally impedances are 2-terminal devices.

Choice of materials determines external influence on the element: temperature, pressure, humidity.

External parameters, generally electrical, can also have a significant effect in improving the accurate and repeatable measurement of impedance.

3 Terminal Impedances



Voltage across and
Current out

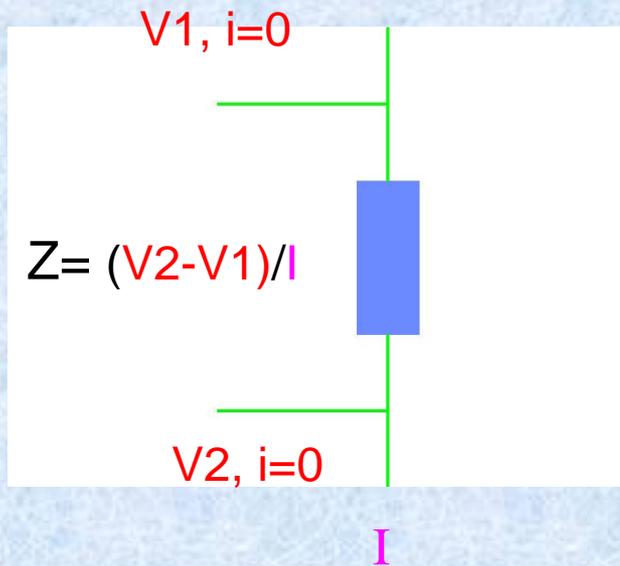
High value impedances are very susceptible to currents from the environment, instruments...

A conductive electrostatic shield surrounding the impedance and connected through a low impedance to a fixed (preferably 0) potential eliminates any external currents and stabilizes internal leakage currents.

This '3 terminal' impedance is defined as the voltage across the impedance divided by the current out of the lower potential lead. It is used for most capacitance and high value resistance measurements.

4 Terminal Impedances

4 terminal impedance



Voltage across and
Current through

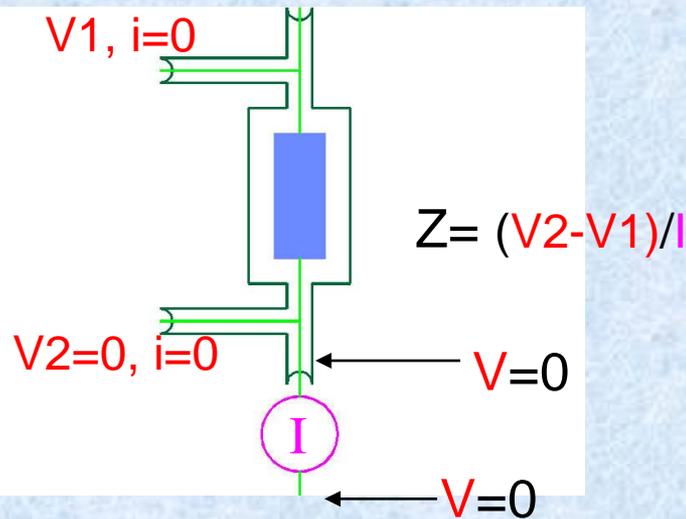
Low value impedances suffer from poorly defined potentials, especially if current is flowing along the leads that are measuring the potential.

Measure the potential with leads that carry no current. Define the potential junction to the impedance with low impedances that are invariant to the current.

This is a '4 terminal' impedance and is commonly used for resistances less than 100 k Ω .

4 Terminal Impedances: Electrostatic Considerations

4 terminal coaxial pair impedance



Voltage across and
Current out

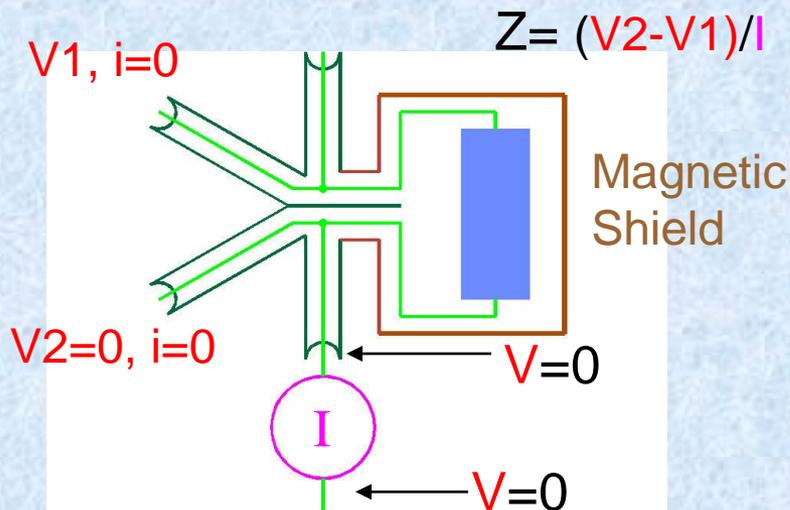
Combines last 2 concepts

- improved potential definitions
- electrostatic shielding
- stable internal leakages to the shield

4 Port impedances are used for resistances $< 100 \text{ k}\Omega$ and capacitances $> 100 \text{ pF}$ where the highest accuracy and frequency dependence are important.

4 Terminal Impedances: Magnetic Considerations

4 Terminal Impedance



Voltage across and
Current out

For highest accuracy & frequencies < 100 kHz, control the magnetic leakages as well.

- Coaxial cables with equal and opposite currents in the inner and outer conductors \Rightarrow magnetically astatic
- Use magnetic shields wherever the coaxial features are lost.
- Orthogonal current and potential lead placement \Rightarrow magnetically astatic



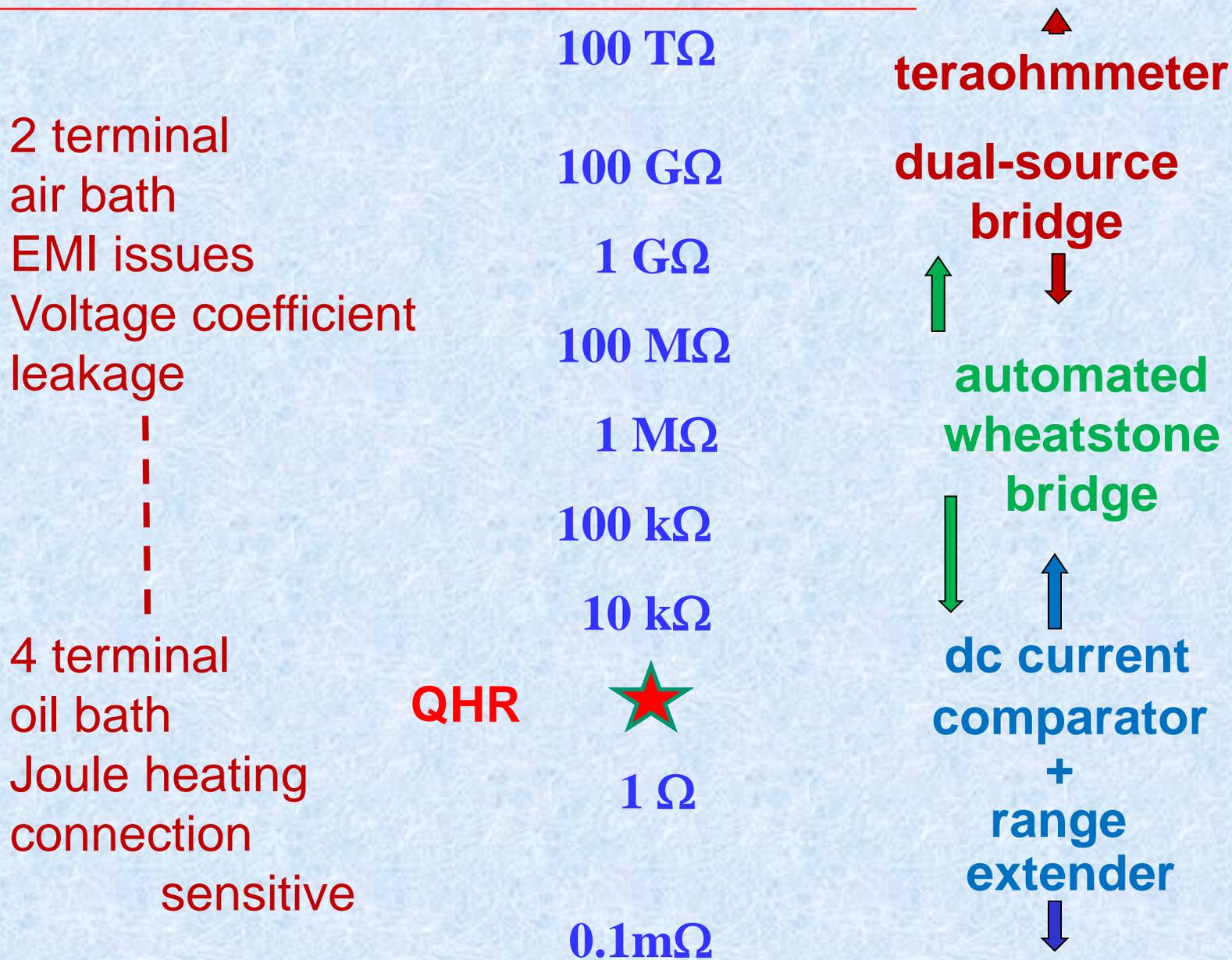
OVERLOAD
OVERLOAD

Power Source
34

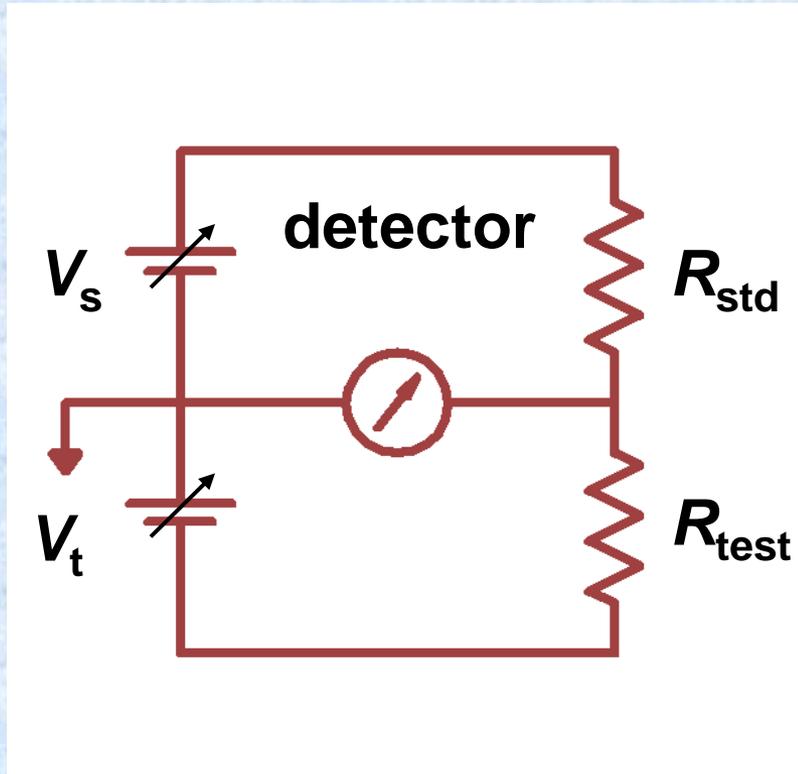
NOM
OVER

Programmer Manual

Secondary Standards of Resistance



Resistance Bridge



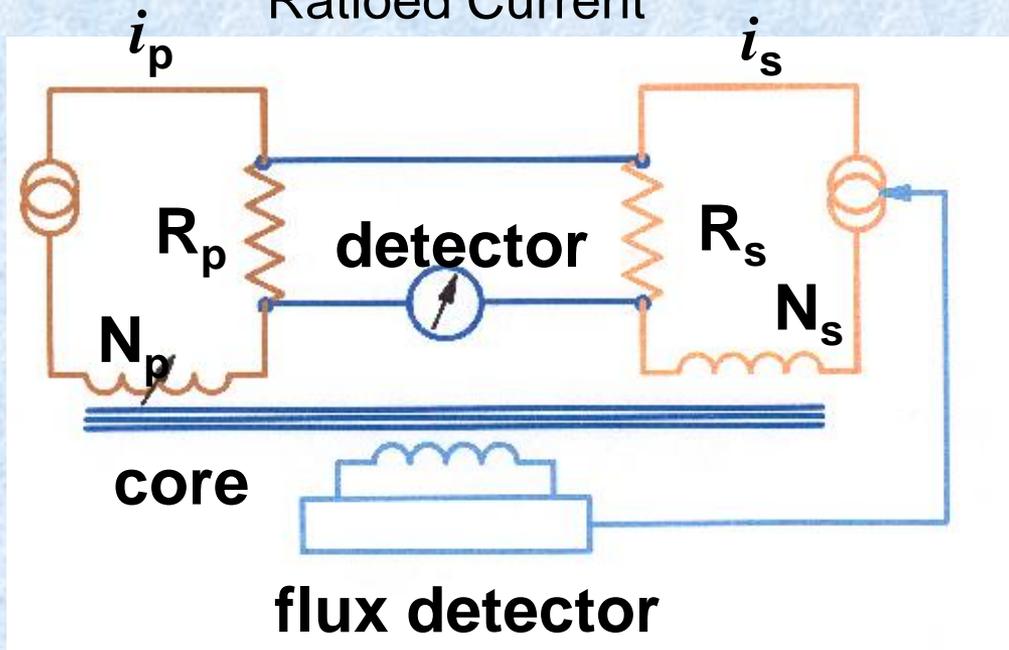
For precision values,
unknown compared with
known resistor

voltages to 1100V

null detector, grounded
reversing sources nulls
offsets

DC CURRENT COMPARATOR

Equal Voltage &
Ratioed Current



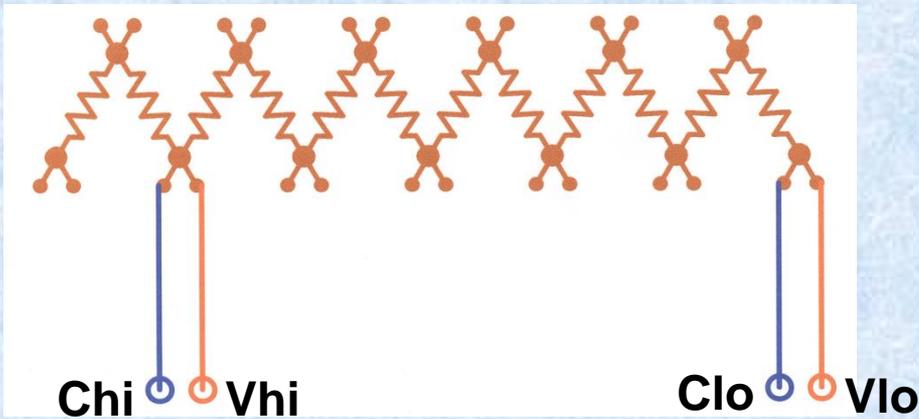
- N_p varied to zero the difference in voltage drops across resistors
- Then $i_p R_p = i_s R_s$, hence $R_s/R_p = N_s/N_p$
- 4 terminal resistance ratio bridge
- Good linearity - depends on numbers of turns
- $1 \Omega \rightarrow 10 \text{ k}\Omega$
- Range extender (high current source) down to $<10 \mu\Omega$
- Commercial bridges available and are extensively used in NMIs and industry.



Hamon Resistor – series & parallel configurations

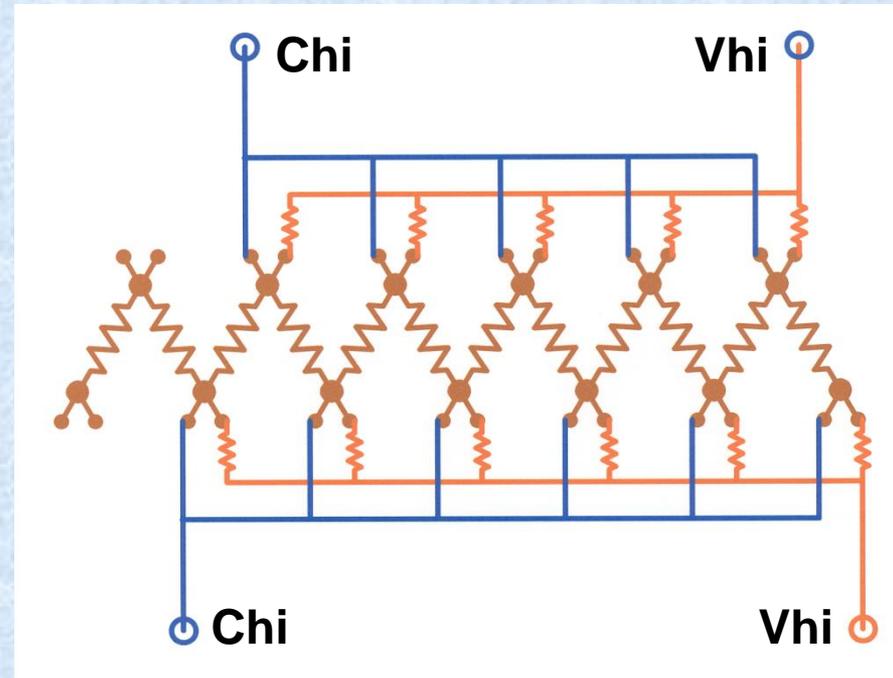
Series

$$\text{Total Resistance} = nR + \Sigma\delta R$$



Parallel

$$\text{Total Resistance} = \frac{R}{n} + \frac{\Sigma\delta R}{n}$$



$$\text{Ratio of Series/Parallel} = n^2 \delta^2$$

Hamon Resistor – Applications

Available from $1\ \Omega \rightarrow 1\text{G}\Omega$

- Voltage Ratios, especially to $>1\text{kV}$
- 10:1 and 100:1 Resistance Ratios
- high resistance as ratio standards
(in the last decade replaced by CCC)
- Power Coefficient determinations

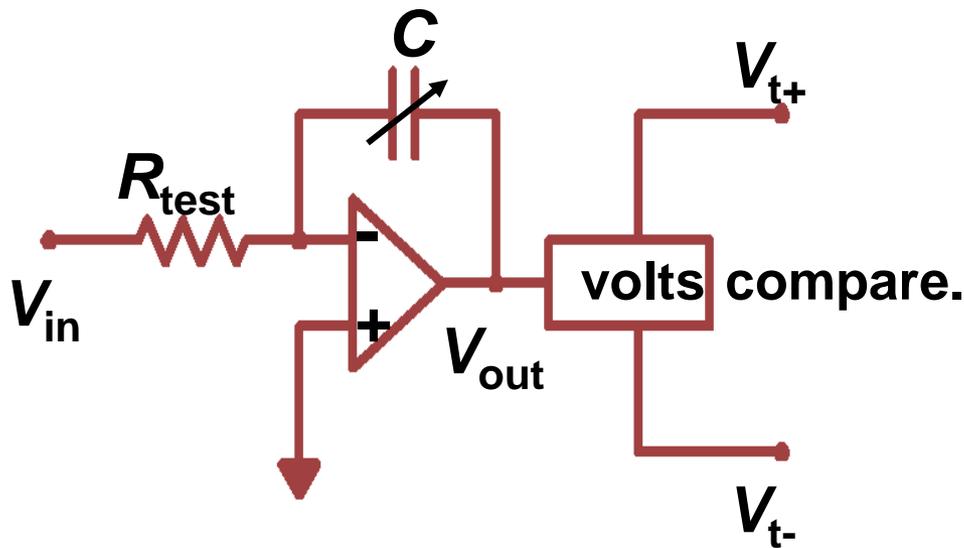
the power per Hamon element resistor, R , is kept constant and with a current independent 10:1 bridge yields the power coefficient.

Fluke 752A
Reference
Divider



Teraohmmeter

A timed capacitive charging technique



100 G Ω \rightarrow 10 P Ω

$$R_{test} = \frac{V_{in} \Delta t}{C \Delta V_t}$$

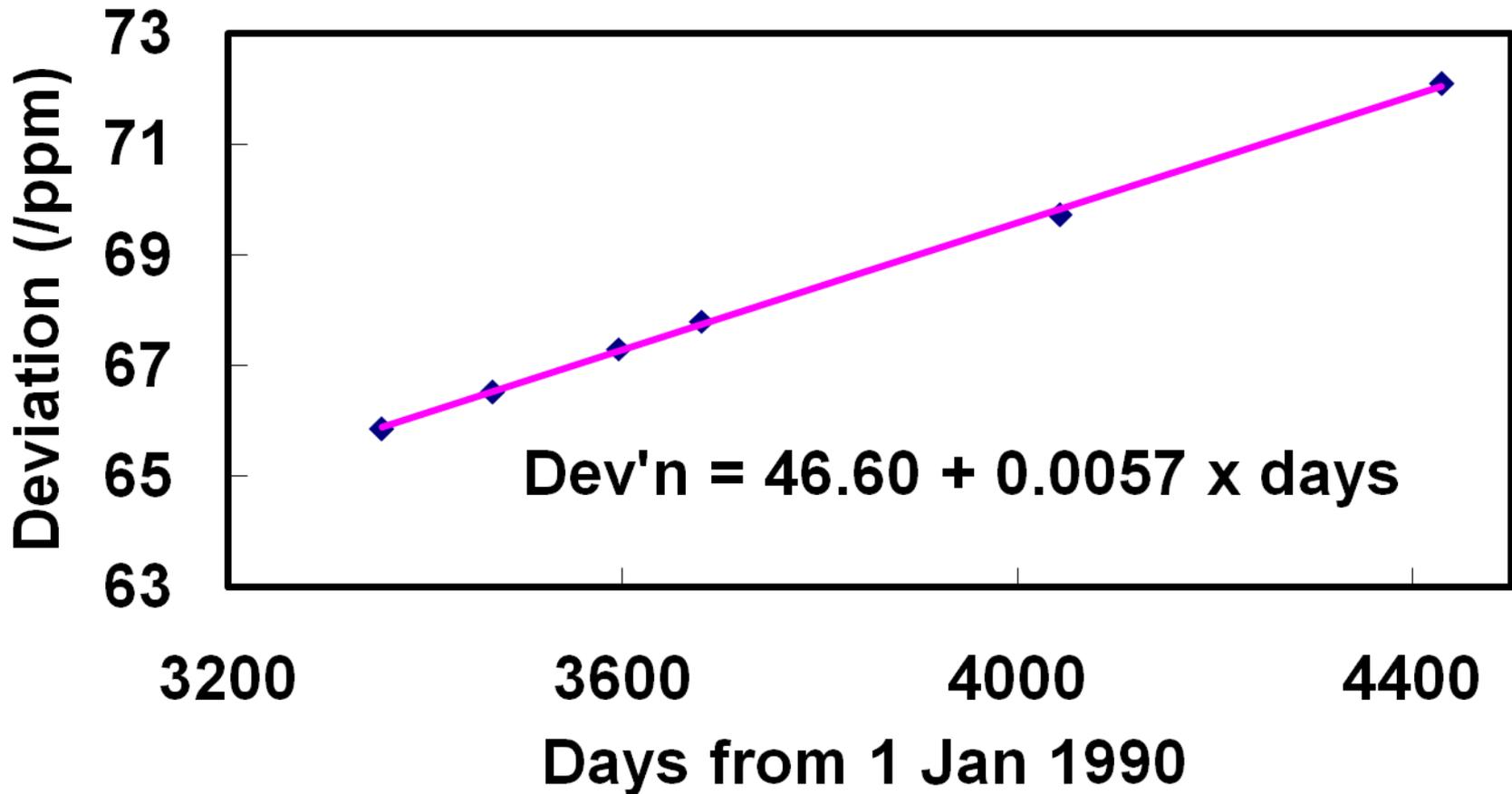
$V_t = 0.1, 1.0$ or 10 V

$C = 27, 270, 2700$ pF



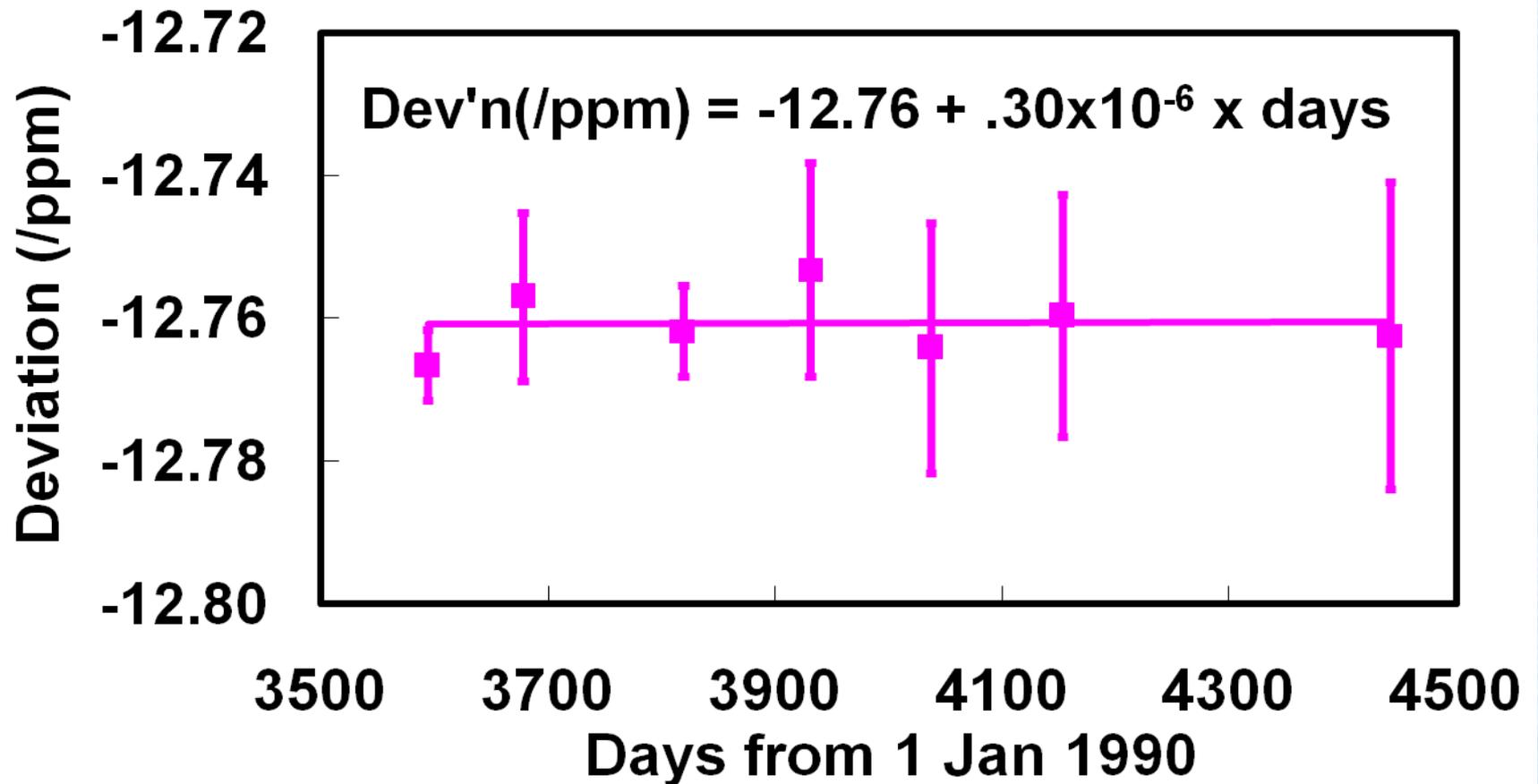
Temporal shift of resistance

Dev'n of G50551 , since Jan 1998

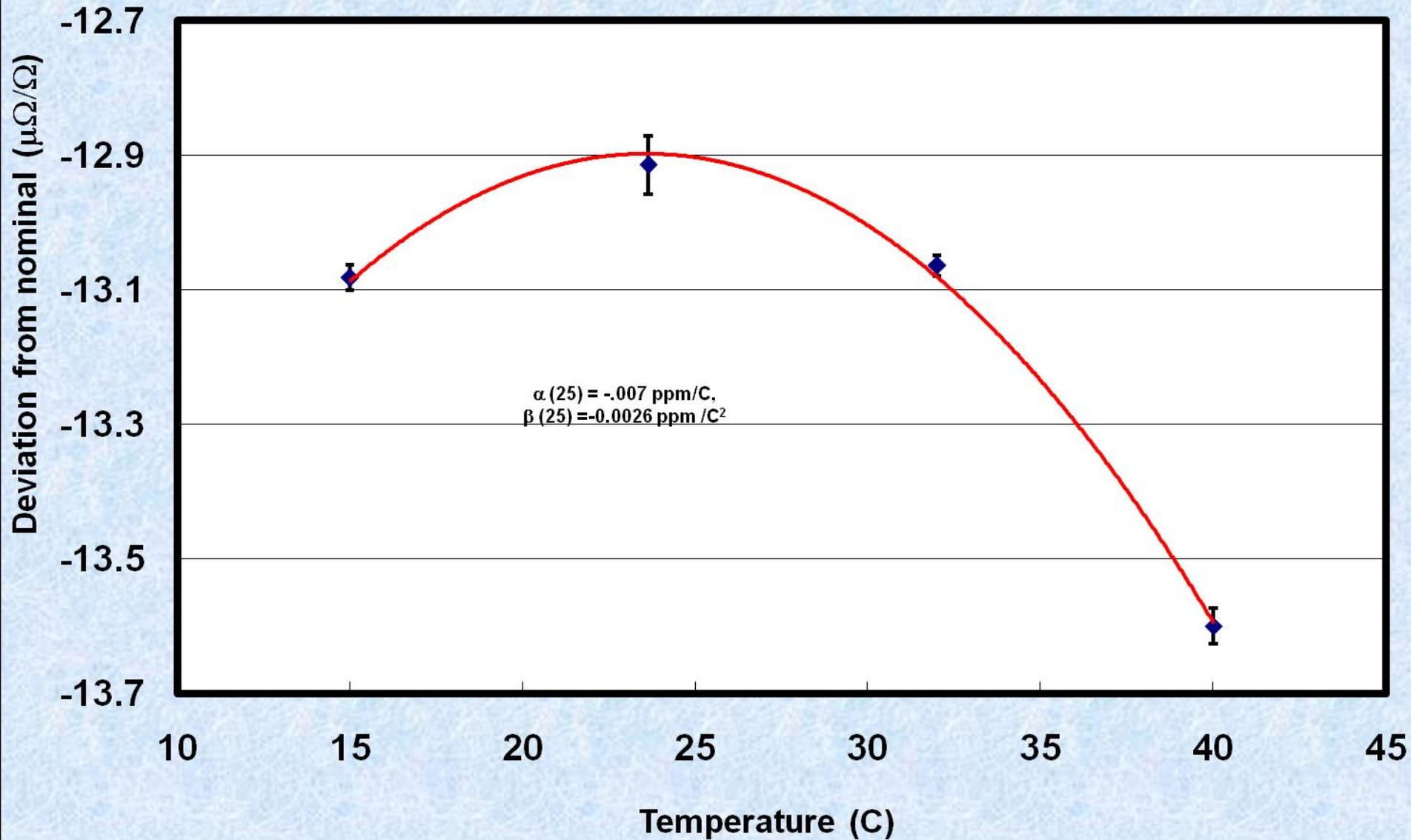


Temporal shift of resistance

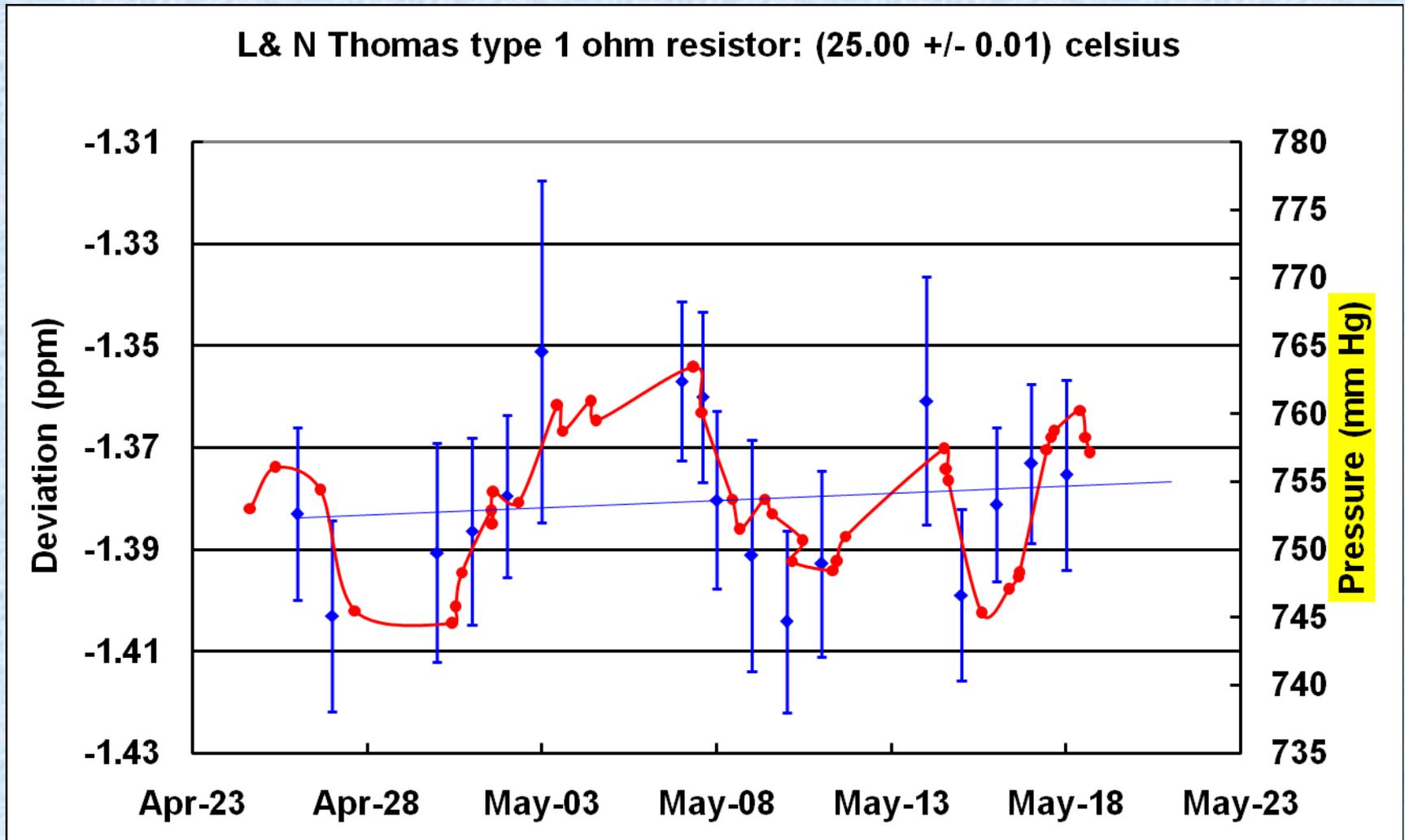
NML64150: dev'n from nominal value



Thermal deviation of NML64150 from nominal



Pressure variation of resistance



Capacitance

Capacitance

Primary standard - calculable capacitor

Calculable capacitors to a ~ 0.01 pp

Direct 0.02-1 pF from

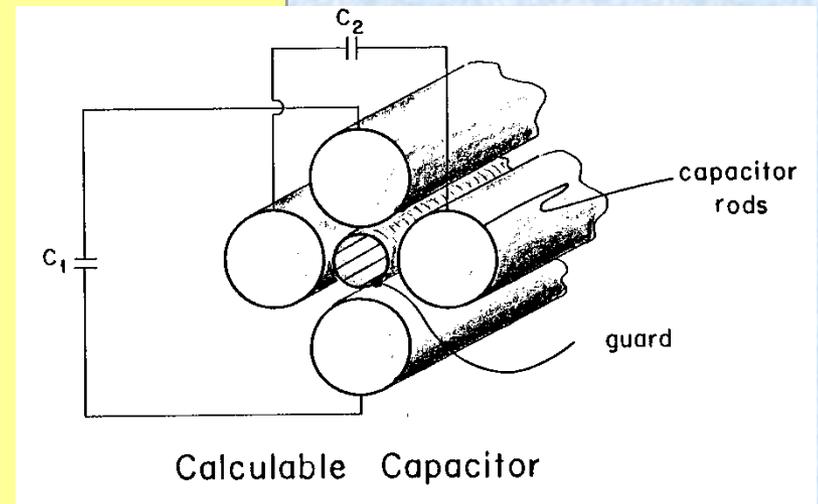
length measurements

NML, NIST, LNE, BIPM

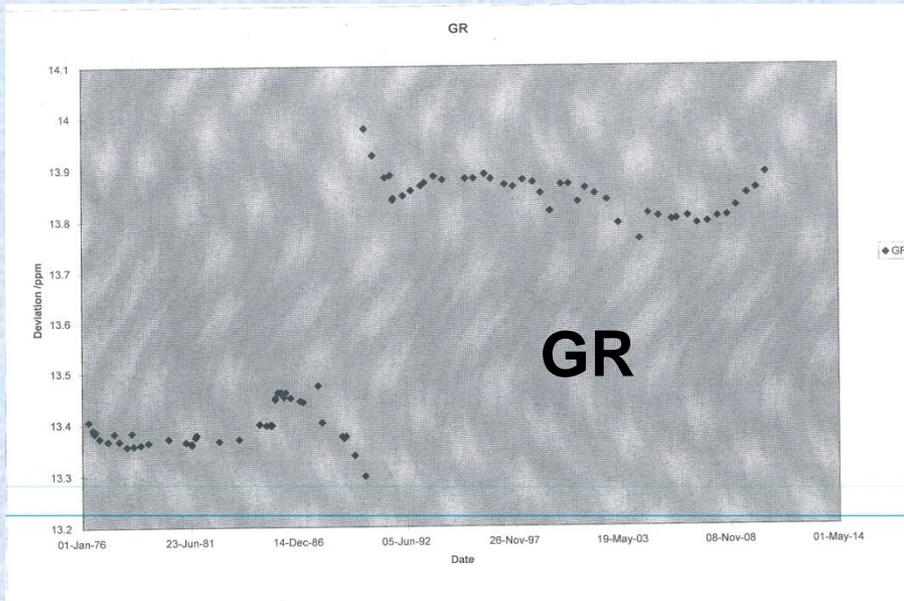
(NIM, NRC)

Secondaries at 10, 100 pF

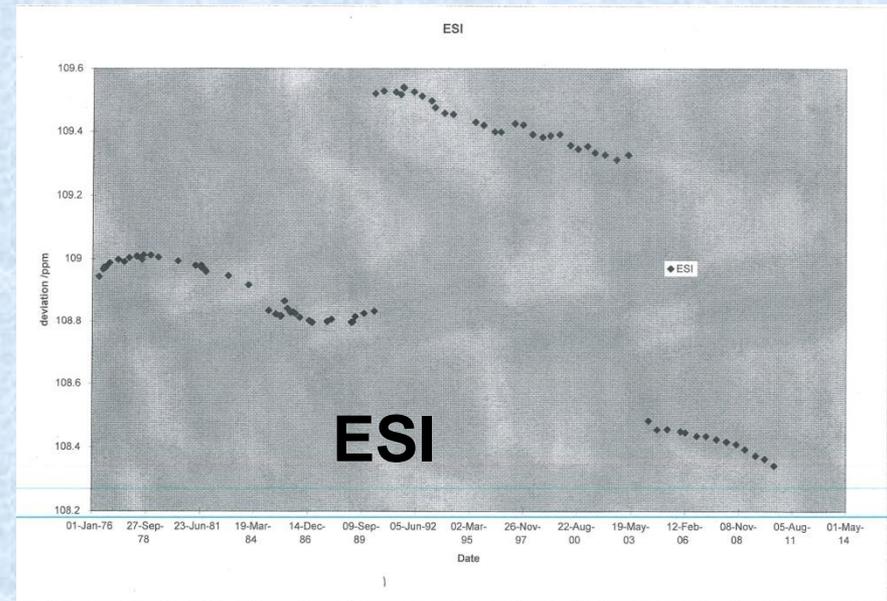
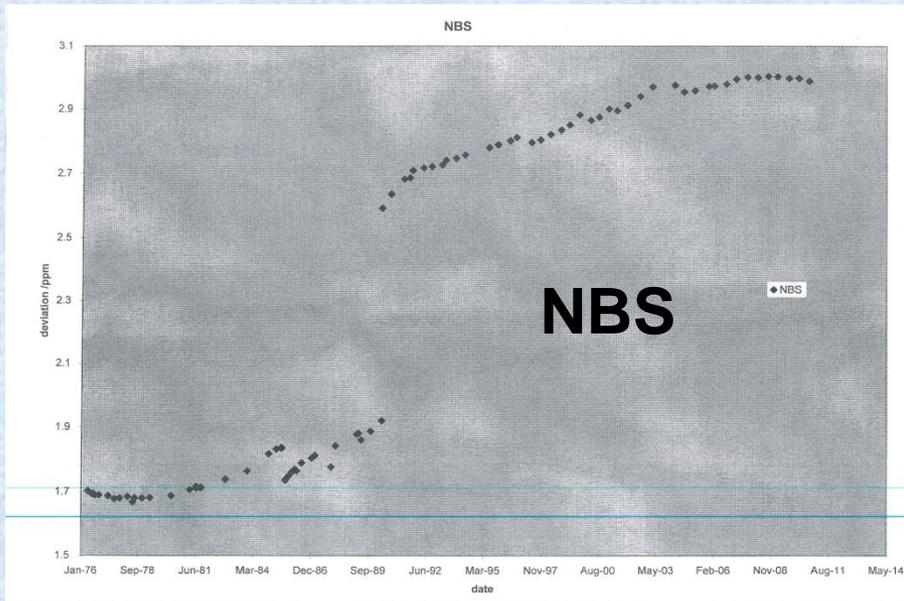
Since 1990 determination via QHR has been an option



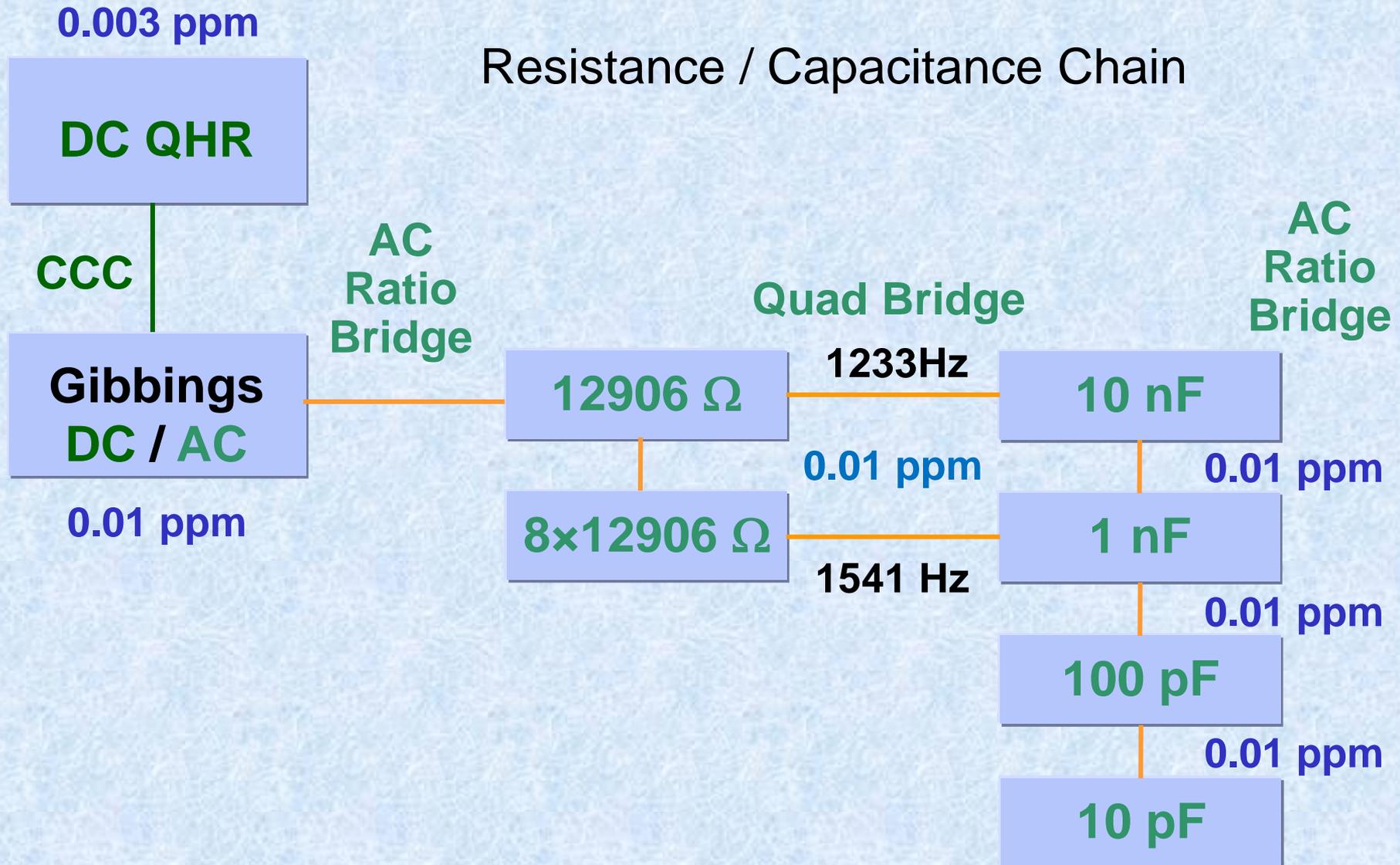
Primary standards : stability with time, and temperature



3 x 10 pF
Controlled airbath
35 yrs drift:
GR 0.2 ppm
NBS 0.9 ppm
1990 step is SI change
ESI drop – 2003 power outage



Capacitance traceability via the QHR



Changing from DC Bridges to AC Bridges

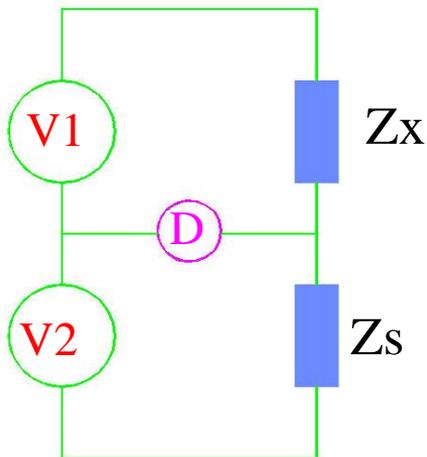
Voltage sources - transformers and IVDs

Null current detectors - injection/detection transformers

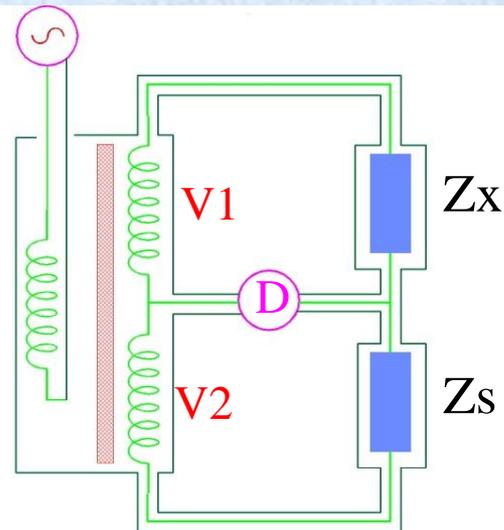
Single wires - coaxial cables perhaps with current equalizers
(coaxial chokes)

Voltage null detectors - phase sensitive Lock-in amplifiers

DC 2 Port Ratio Bridge



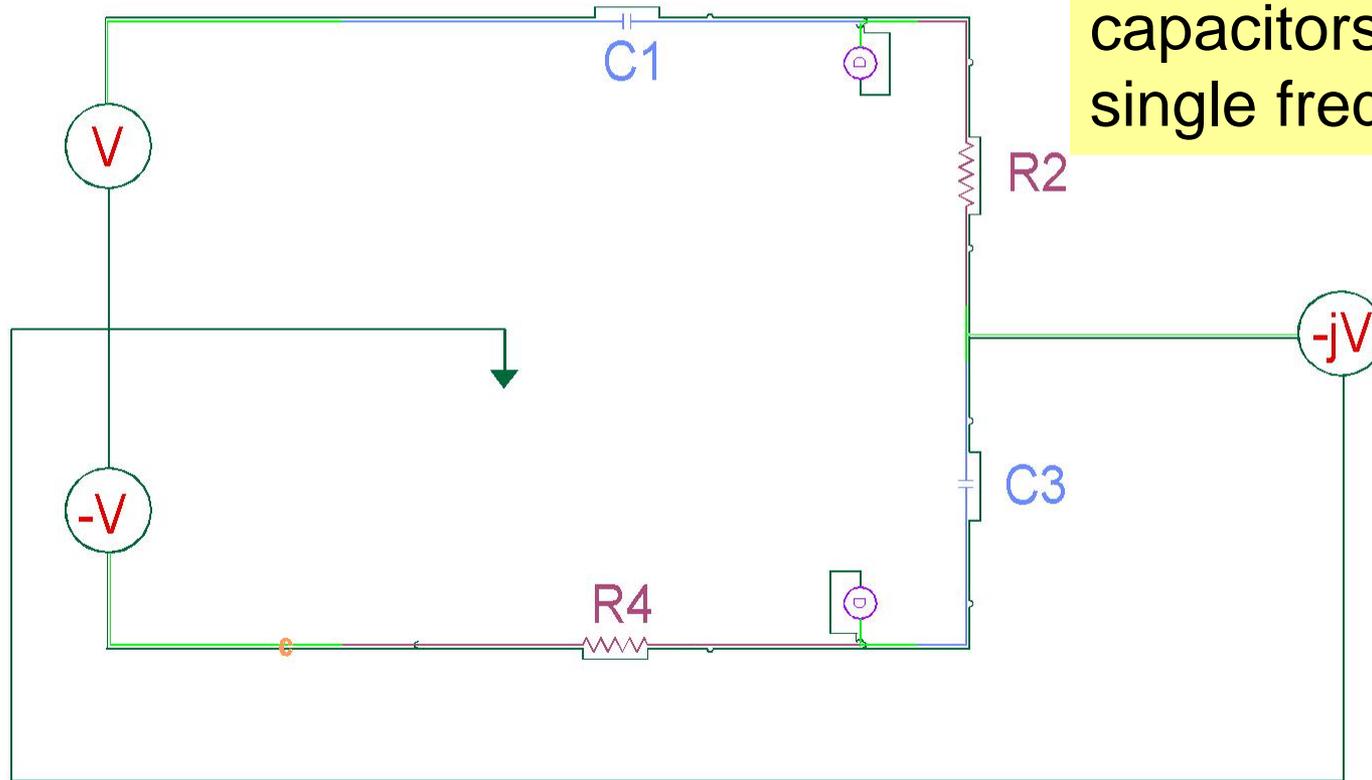
AC 2 Port Ratio Bridge



AC Quadrature Bridge

A Simple Quadrature Bridge Schematic

$$\omega^2 C1 R2 C3 R4 = 1$$



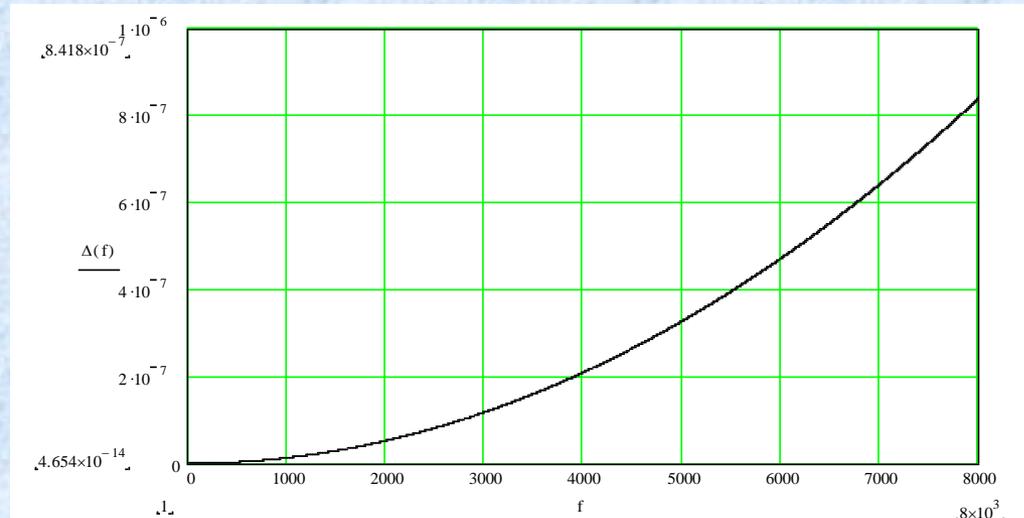
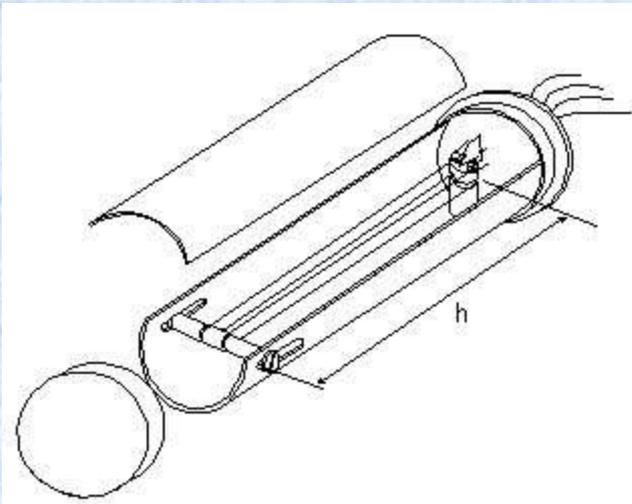
V, -V, -jV bridge
2 null detectors

compares 2
resistors and 2
capacitors at a
single frequency.

Frequency Calculable Resistors

There are frequency dependence models for two common types of precision resistors; the coaxial or Haddad type and the reversed quadrifilar or Gibbings type.

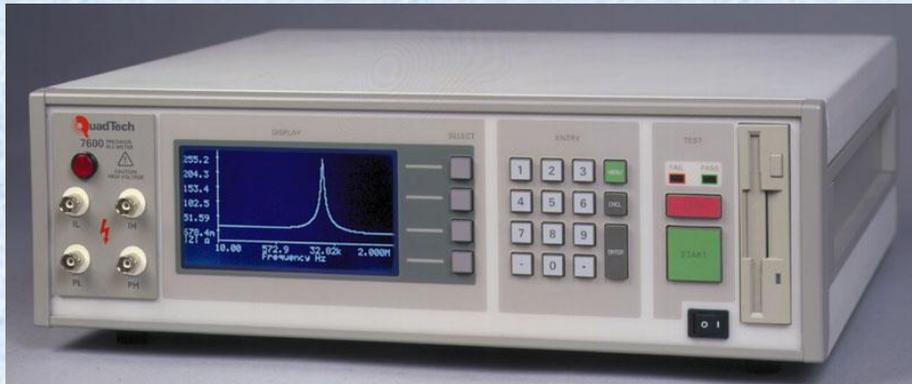
Comparisons of different designs show that, these models and their resistors can be used up to 10 kHz and for resistors $< 20 \text{ k}\Omega$. At 1592 Hz / $1 \text{ k}\Omega$ the accuracy can be $< 0.01 \text{ ppm}$



Commercial Capacitance Bridges



Andeen Hagerling 2700A
50 Hz – 20 kHz, 5 ppm, 8
digits

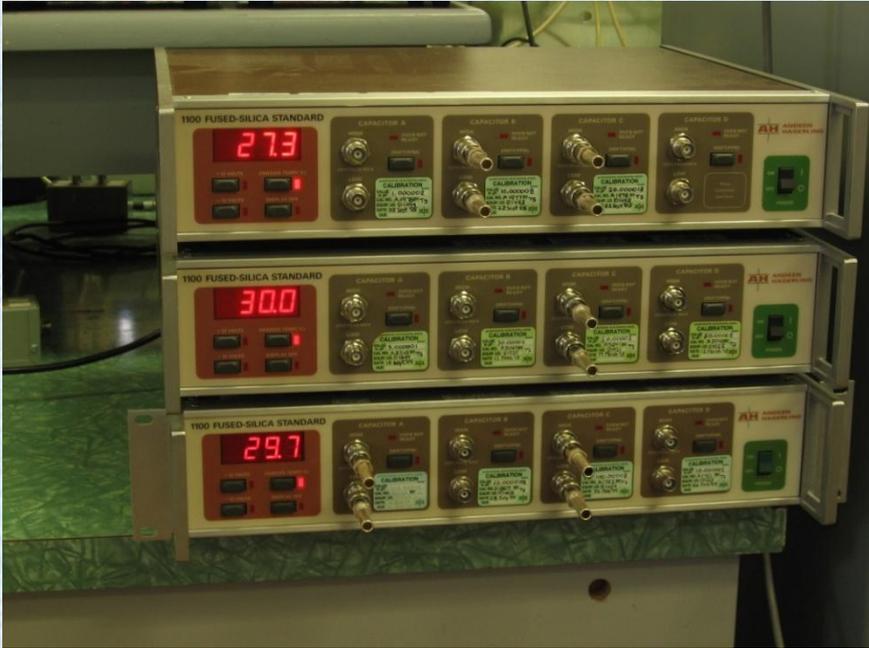


QuadTech 7600 10Hz –
2MHz
0.05% accuracy, 7 digits



Agilent 4284A 20Hz – 1MHz
0.05% accuracy, 6 digits

Capacitance – secondary standards



Fused Silica
oven to stabilise
1 kHz, 0.4 ppm
Drift 1×10^{-7} over 10
years

Decade values, air or mica
(GR1409)

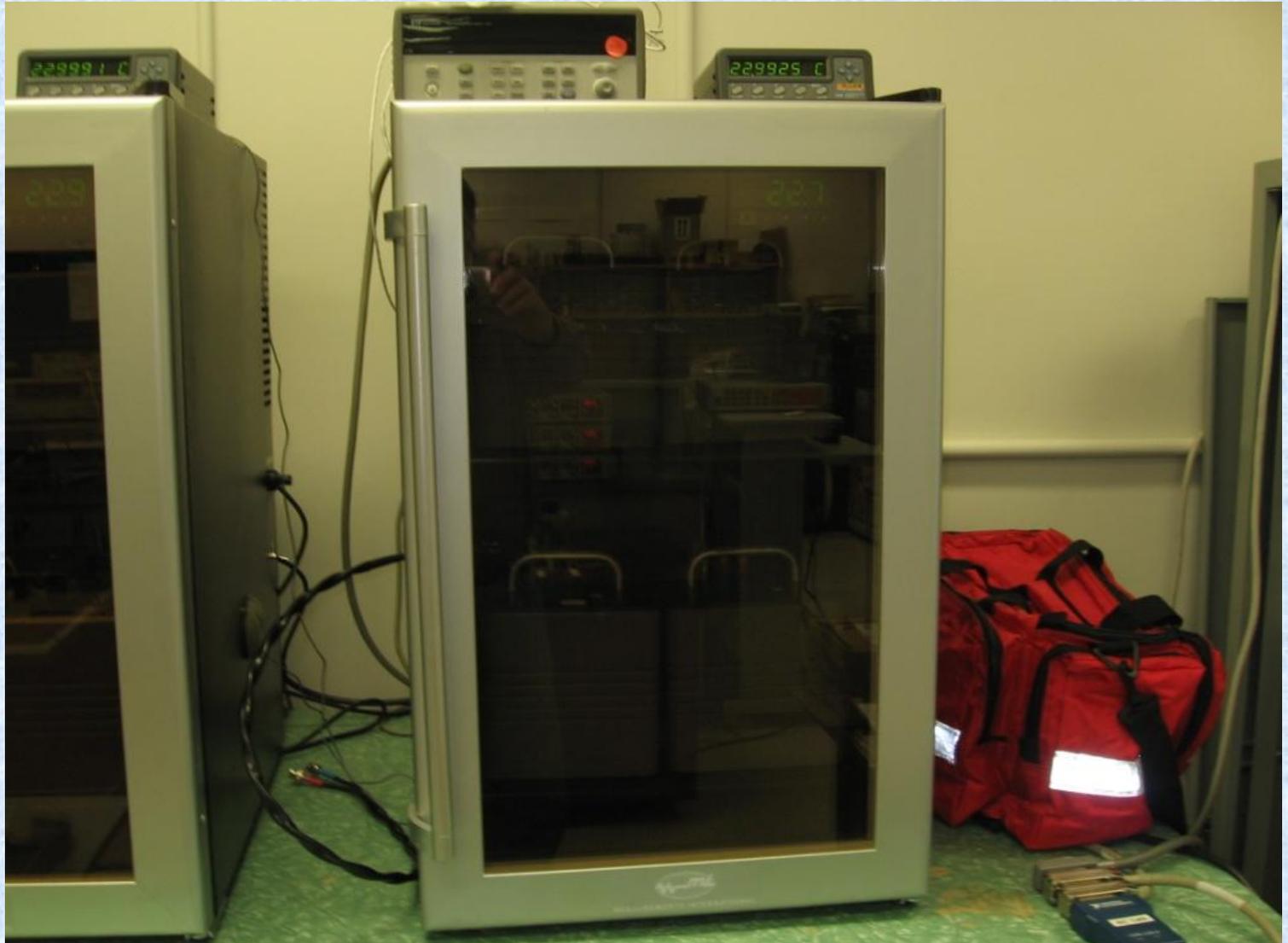
Thermally unstable

Air 1 pF (15V) 3.2 ppm

1 μ F (0.25 V) 100 ppm



Capacitor stabilisation



Inductance

Calibration of inductors

Link to SI using Maxwell-Wien bridge; with traceable capacitors and resistors
Calibrate clients with commercial LCR meter

100 μH (ohms)
→ 10 H (kohms)
Measure resistance
(HP3458A) – use with temperature dependance
Use LCR meter as transfer standard
Gives 100 ppm at 1 mHm
500 ppm at 10 H

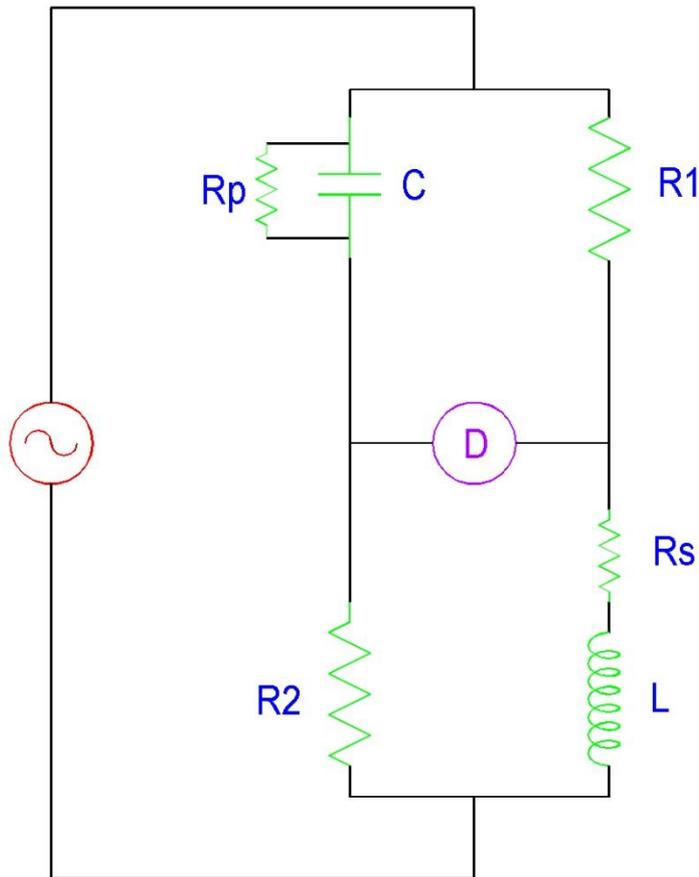
1 mH

2 mH



50 μH

Maxwell-Wein Bridge - Inductance



Determines the value and equivalent series resistance (or Q) of an inductor from 2 resistors, a capacitor and the frequency.

$$\frac{R_p (R_s + j\omega L)}{1 + j\omega C R_p} = R_1 R_2$$

Usually operated as a 2 port bridge.

ac/dc transfer

AC/DC Transfer

The equivalence of DC and AC quantities is achieved when they produce the same electrical power which in turn must be equivalent to mechanical power. Thus temperature is a good and unambiguous indicator of this equivalence.

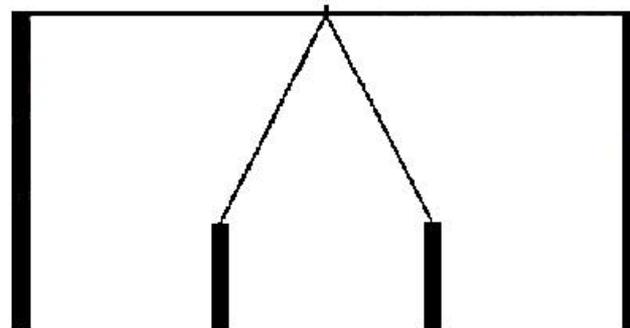
ac JAVS are being developed : limited range of voltage and frequency to date. Very few in operation yet.

Primitive Schematic of a Thermal Voltage Converter

A centrally placed thermocouple
on a fine heater wire

Vacuum

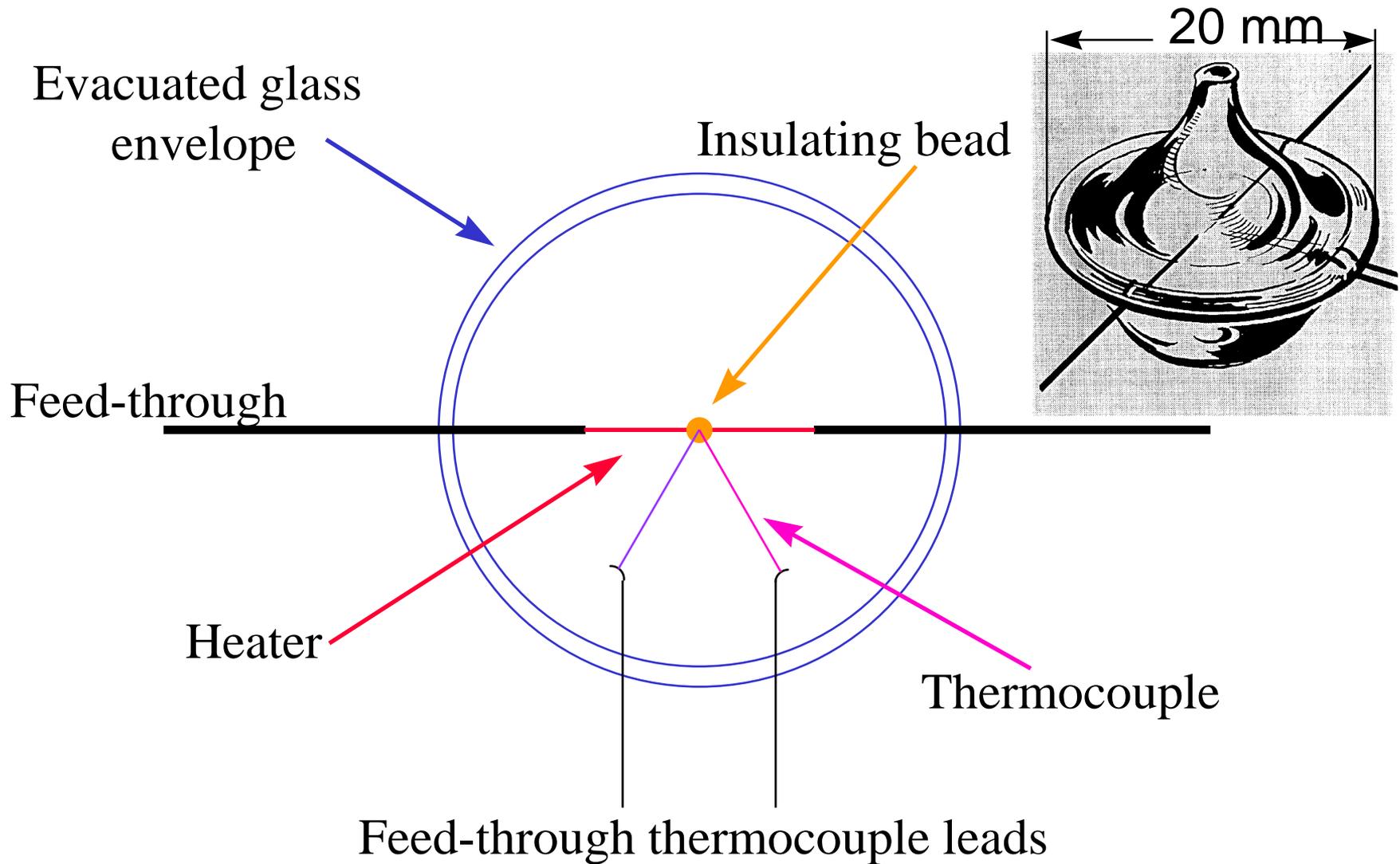
Support posts



Support lead

Thermocouple

UHF-pattern single junction thermal converter (SJTC)



ac-dc voltage transfer difference

The ac-dc voltage transfer difference δ of a transfer standard is defined as:

$$\delta = \frac{V_{ac} - V_{dc}}{V_{dc}} \Big|_{E_{ac}=E_{dc}}$$

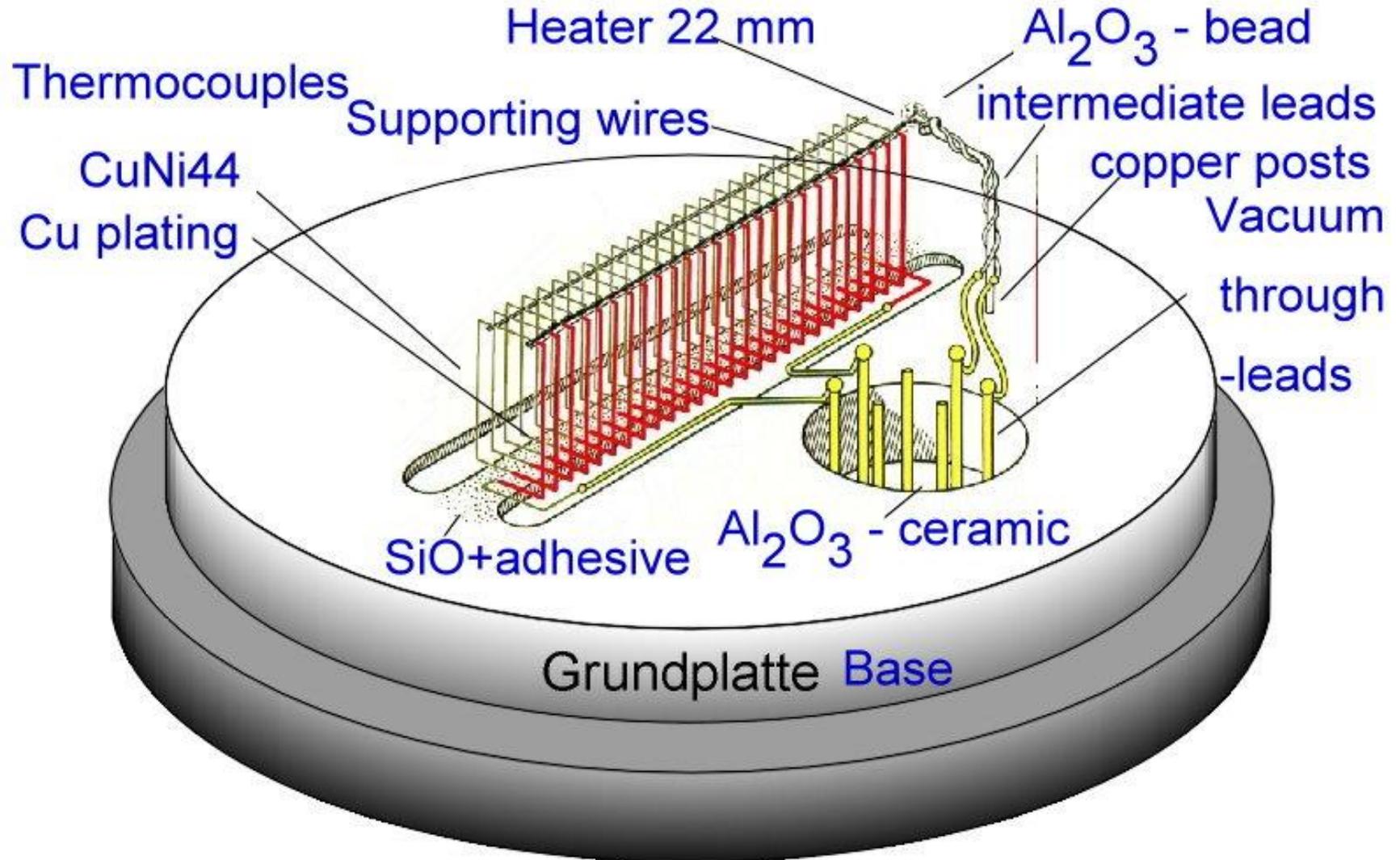
where V_{ac} is the rms value of the ac input voltage, V_{dc} is the dc input voltage, which when reversed produces the same mean output voltage of the transfer standard as V_{ac} . E_{dcN} , E_{dcR} and E_{ac} are the output voltages of the standard when the appropriate voltages have been applied.

$$|V_{dcN}| = |V_{dcR}| = V_{dc}$$

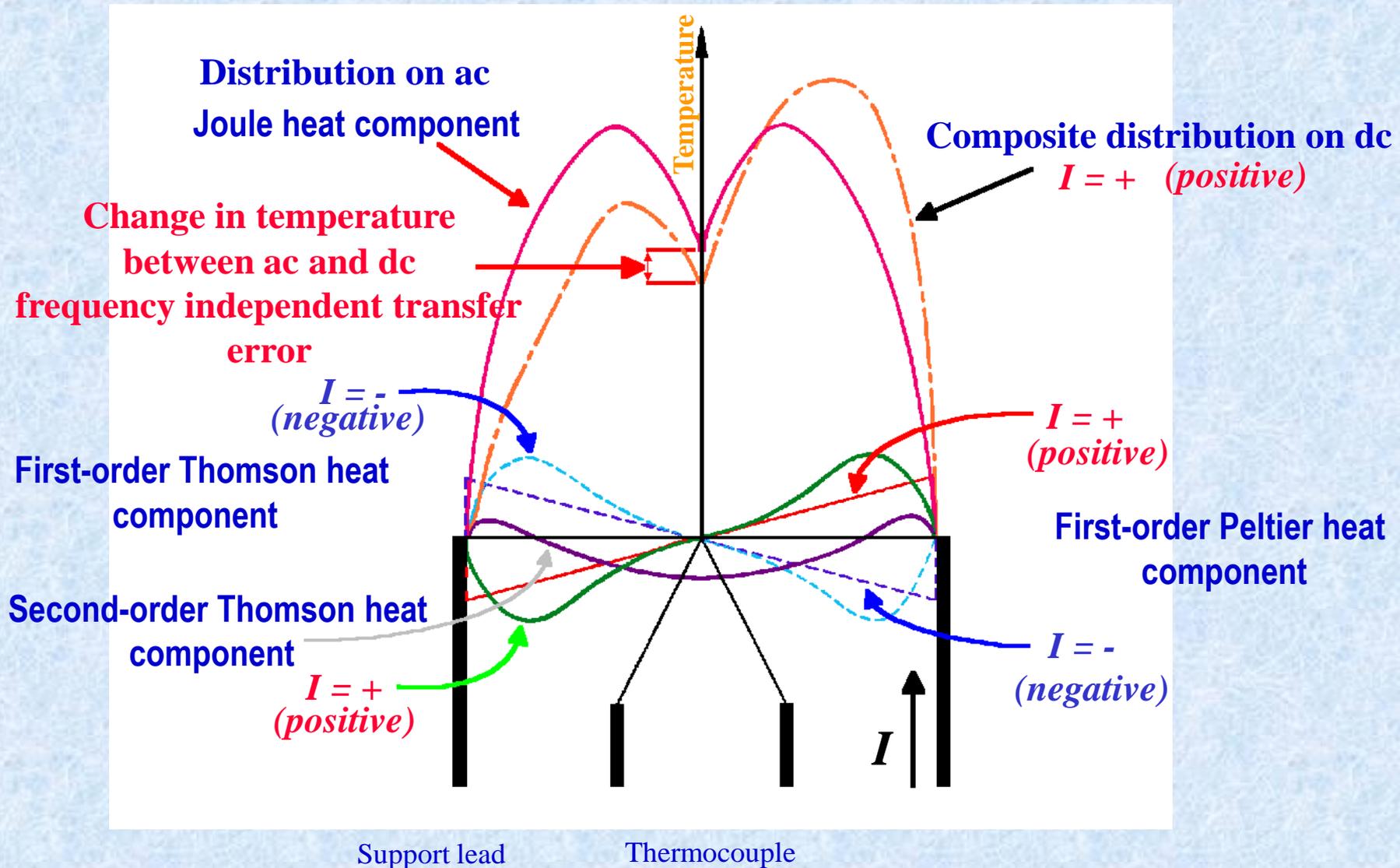
$$V_{ac} \neq V_{dc}$$

$$E_{dc} = \frac{E_{dcN} + E_{dcR}}{2} = E_{ac}$$

PTB 3-dimensional MJTC



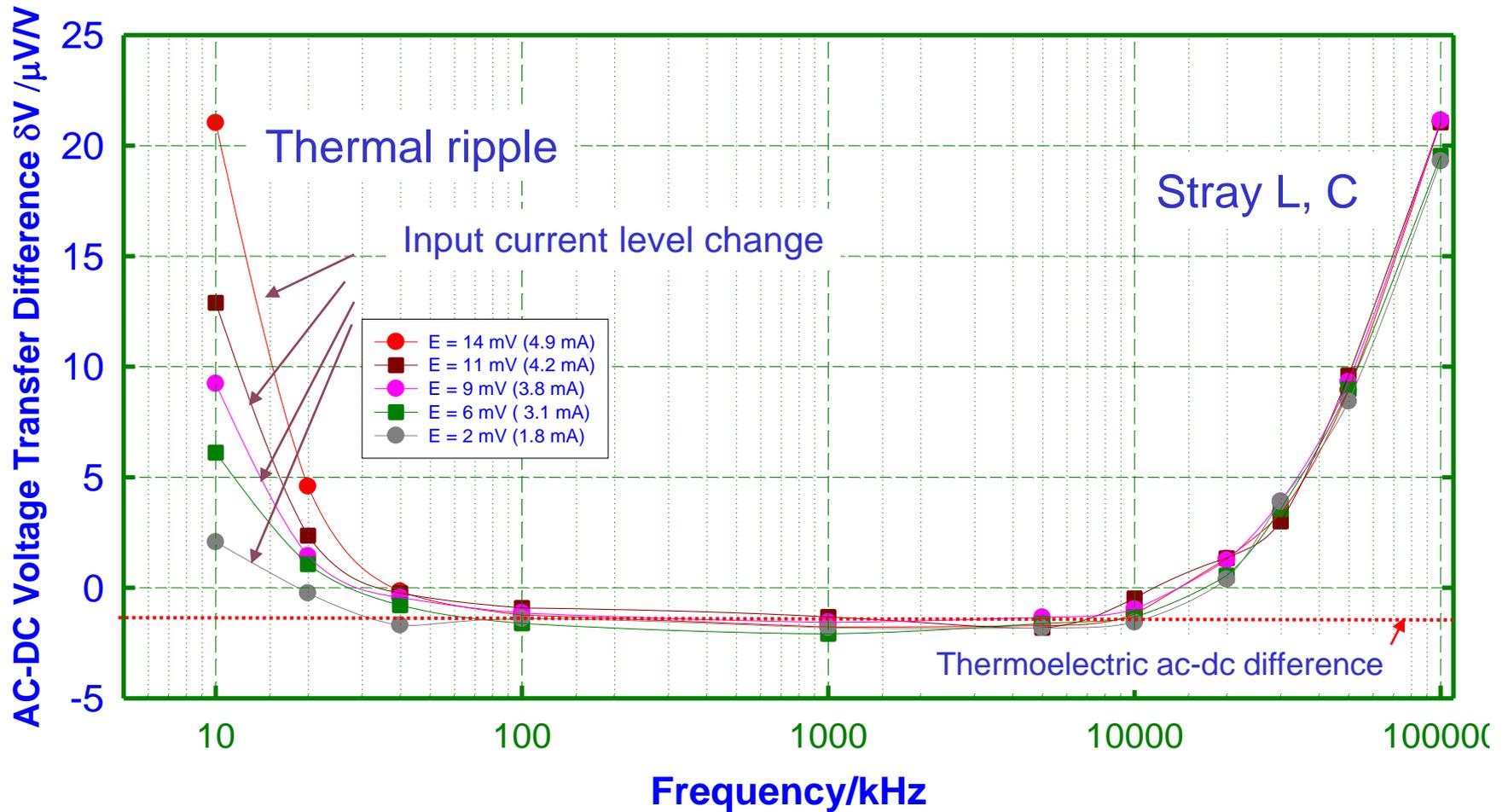
Temperature Distribution of the Heater of a SJTC



Shunt TVC - V2S1f 5 mA/1.1V/220 Ohm

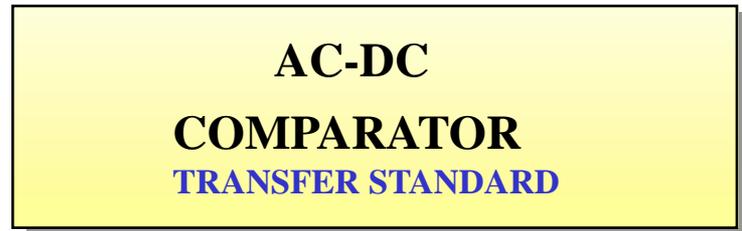
AC-DC Voltage Transfer Difference

2 SJTC 90 Ohm/5 mA + approx. 40 Ohm series resistor

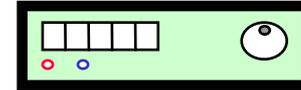


AC-DC TRANSFER

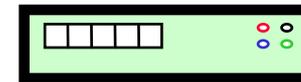
Unknown AC



DC Calibrator



Known DC

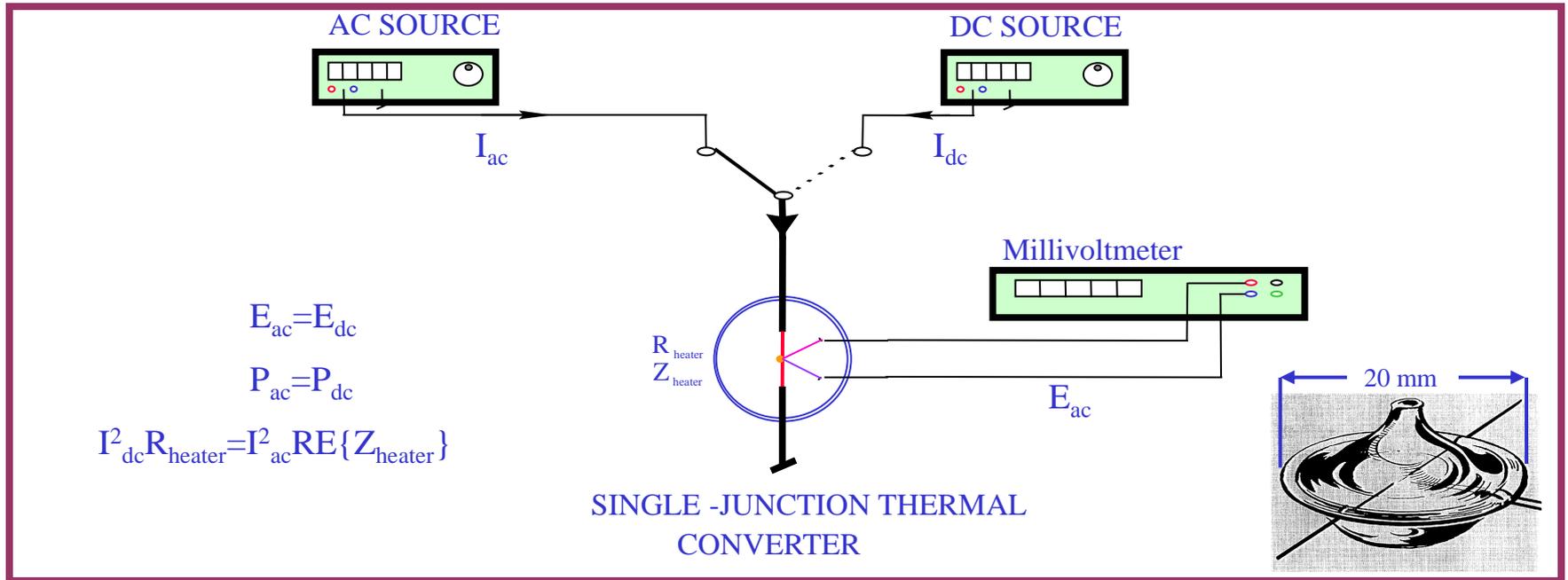


DC Multimeter



OUTPUT @ AC = OUTPUT @ DC
AC = DC + ac-dc transfer difference

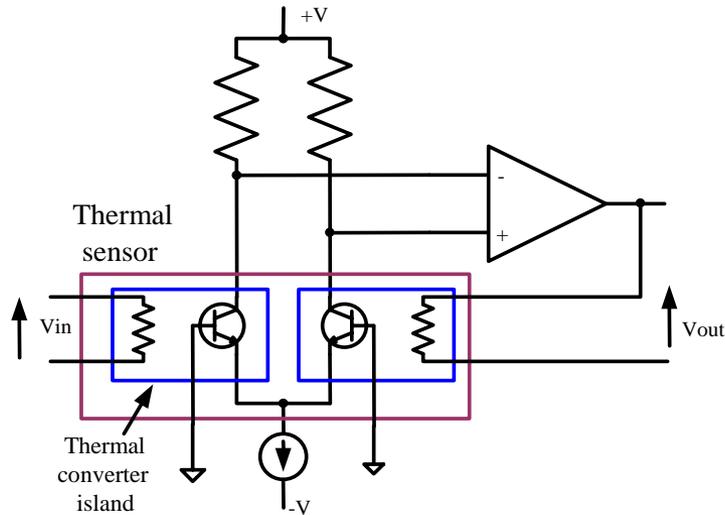
Real comparator



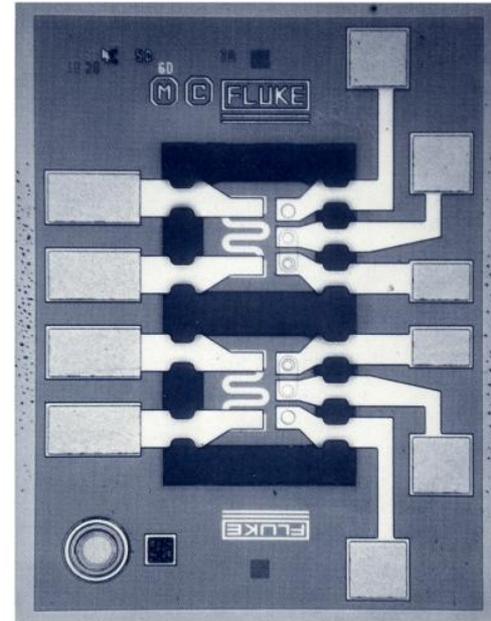
δ_{ac-dc} - ac-dc transfer difference
defined at the input defined at the output

$$\delta_{ac-dc} = \frac{V_{ac} - V_{dc}}{V_{dc}} \Big|_{E_{ac} = E_{dc}} \quad \delta_{ac-dc} = - \frac{E_{ac} - E_{dc}}{nE_{dc}} \Big|_{E_{ac} = E_{dc}}$$

Fluke 792A AC-DC transfer standard



The 792A consists of four main components:
The Transfer Unit, Power Pack, 1000V Range
Resistor and Transfer Switch.



The patented Fluke Solid-State RMS Sensor.

Fluke 792A thermal sensor Manual switch



Battery pack 792A transfer unit

1000 V range resistor

Comparison of Low Voltage Transfer Standards



IMTC98-S20

Questions??

Feel free to contact me at
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Or, since I have left NRC and the
above mail won't work forever, at

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