







CCT Technical Workshop on "Traceability and Dissemination"

16th May, 2024

Perspectives for the dissemination of thermodynamic temperature in contact thermometry

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Outline Perspectives for the dissemination of thermodynamic temperature in contact thermometry

Definition of the kelvin

- motivations for the new definition
- consequences of the new definition

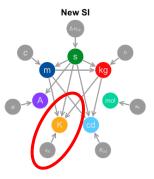
Primary Gas Thermometry

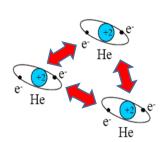
recent progress of methods and related fields

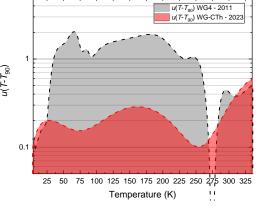
Ready for dissemination?

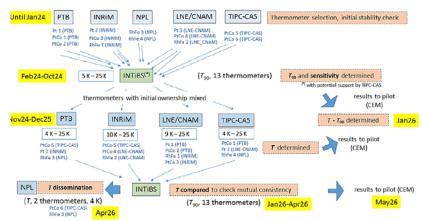
- Dissemination in different ranges
- The DireK-T research project

Points for discussion









2019

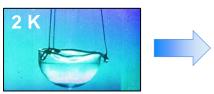
The new SI definition of the kelvin, based on an exact value of the Boltzmann constant, *k* comes into effect

why change the old definition of the kelvin?

 $T_{\text{TPW}} = 273.16 \text{ K exactly}$

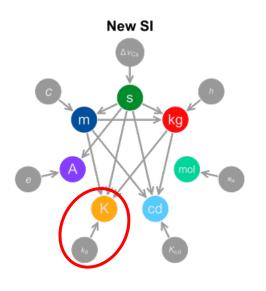
because it defines just one very special temperature

which obligates to compare any other temperature with T_{TPW} no matter how different (low or high) it is









also, because of the old definition of the kelvin, no temperature measurement can ever be made with lower uncertainty than the uncertainty with which $T_{\rm TPW}$ can be realised



also, because

 $T_{\text{TPW}} = 273.16 \text{ K exactly}$

was at the same time the definition of the unit and the recipe for the realization of the primary standard

a fixed exact value of the physical constant *k*



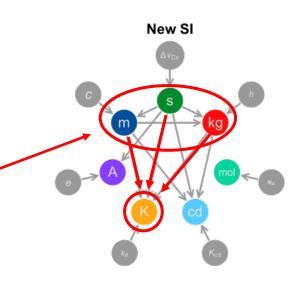
whatever we have (MeP) whatever we may invent in the future

consequences and implications of the new kelvin definition

primary thermometry - realization of standards

- $T_{\text{TPW}} = 273.16 \text{ K loses its special status}$; to measure the temperature of an object, its thermal energy is no longer compared to the thermal energy of the TPW.

 Instead, the thermal energy of an object is now compared to the SI Joule, i.e. to the product ΔV_{Cs} h
- If a primary thermometer will be significantly improved in the future, than both the value and the
 uncertainty of T_{TPW} (like that of any other T) may change. The new definition of the kelvin does not
 imply any intrinsic limitation on the minimum uncertainty which may futurely be achieved



practical thermometry - dissemination

- International Temperature Scales, will remain in use until primary methods will become just as accurate and practical. If and when this will happen, then ITS-90 will be abandoned and calibration may take place directly on the thermodynamic temperature scale
- particularly ITS-90 remains in use, nearly unvaried; it is still based on the same fixed points;
- calibration of thermometers, temperature traceability and dissemination remain practically unchanged

2019 – 2024 no change

SI Brochure – 9th edition (2019) – Appendix 2 20 May 2019

Mise en pratique

for the definition of the kelvin in the SI

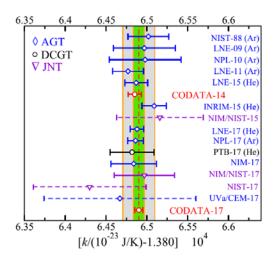
Consultative Committee for Thermometry

Practical realization of the kelvin by primary thermometry

[..] In the future, as the primary methods evolve and are expected to achieve lower uncertainties, primary thermometers will become more widely used and gradually replace the ITS-90 and the PLTS-2000 as the basis of temperature measurement progress?

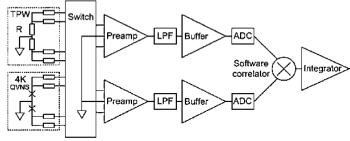
Primary thermometry methods basic relations to T

methods used for the determination of Boltzmann constant k





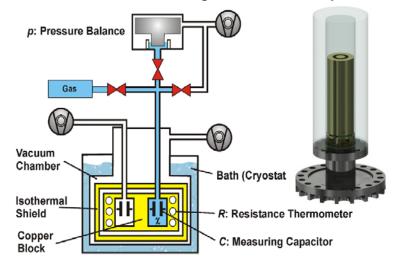
$$V_{\rm rms}^2 = 4kTR\Delta f$$



Johnson noise thermometry

Dielectric constant gas thermometry

DCGT

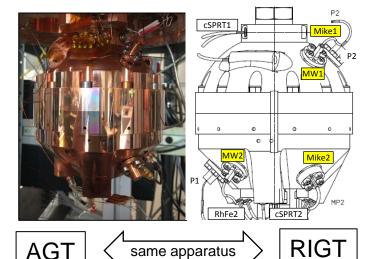


$$\boxed{\frac{\varepsilon_{\rm r} - 1}{\varepsilon_{\rm r} + 2} = \frac{p}{RT} A_{\varepsilon}}$$

$$\left[\frac{C(p) - C(0)}{C(0)}\right]_{T} = (\varepsilon_{r} - 1) + \varepsilon_{r} \kappa_{\text{eff}} p$$

Acoustic gas thermometry

Refractive index gas thermometry



same apparatus

$$u_0^2 = \gamma_0 RT/M$$

$$\frac{n^2 - 1}{n^2 + 2} = \frac{p}{RT} \left(A_{\varepsilon} + A_{\mu} \right)$$

$$u_{0} = c_{0} \lim_{p \to 0} \left[\frac{f_{ac}(p)}{\langle f_{mw}(p) \rangle} \right]_{T} \qquad n = \left[\frac{\langle f_{mw}(0) \rangle}{\langle f_{mw}(p) \rangle (1 - \kappa_{eff} p)} \right]_{T}$$

T temperature R gas constant M molar mass c_0 speed of light in vacuum p pressure A_{ε} , A_{u} molar electric, magnetic polarizabilities *n* refractive index $\varepsilon_{\rm r}$ dielectric constant $k_{\rm eff}$ compressibility C capacitance $f_{\rm ac}$ $< f_{\rm mw} >$ acoustic, microwave resonance frequencies

2017 - ongoing

NMI

NRIM
ISTITUTO NAZIONALE
DI RICERICA METROL

LVE

PIB

PIB

year

2017

2019

2020

2020

2020

2021

2017

2020

2021

determination of $T-T_{oo}$

 $u(T-T_{90})$

0.2 to 0.4

0.25 to 0.9

0.5 to 0.8

1.0

0.7 to 0.8

0.25

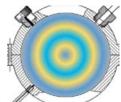
0.3 to 1.7

0.3 to 1.6

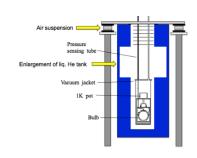
0.2 to 0.3

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/ mK		





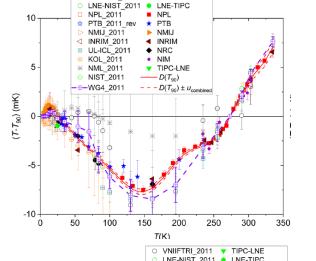


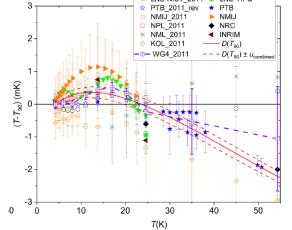
2022 Update for the Differences Between Thermodynamic Temperature and ITS-90 Below 335 K

Journal of Physical and

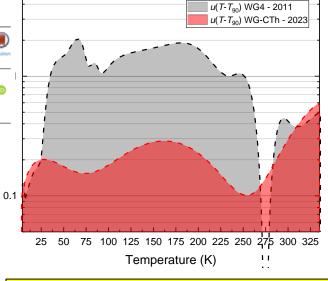
Chemical Reference Data







 $(T - T_{90})$ new consensus estimate



our current estimate of $(T-T_{90})$ is nearly one order more accurate than it used to be in 2011



results of calibration of thermometers by realizing T or ITS-90 are now intercheangable with low additional uncertainty

 T_{90}



AGT

Trange / K

118 to 323

236 to 430

234 to 303

79 to 83

283 to 303

24.5

2.5 to 140

50 to **200**

4 to 25

DCGT

2020 25 to 161 0.5 to 1.7

14 to 161 1.7 to 2.9

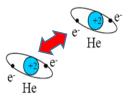
5 to 25 0.1 to 0.25

CVGT

2017 3 to 25 0.6 to 1 2019 - ongoing

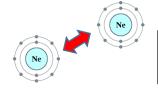
remarkable progress of *ab initio* calculations of gas thermophysical and electromagnetic properties

















improved pair potential

 $B_{\rho}(T), \ \beta_a(T)$ 7.5x more accurate

improved pair potential

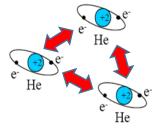
 $B_{\rho}(T), \ b_{\varepsilon}(T), \ \beta_{a}(T), \ \lambda_{\theta}(T), \ \eta_{\theta}(T)$ (5 to 10)x more accurate

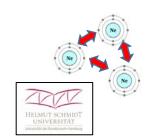
improved pair potential

 $B_{\rho}(T), \, \beta_a(T), \, \lambda_{\theta}(T), \, \eta_{\theta}(T)$ expected 3x more accurate

improved **3-body** potential ϕ (r, θ)

 $C_{\rho}(T), \ \gamma_a(T)$ (3 to5)x more accurate





improved **3-body** potential $\phi(r,\theta)$

expected soon



important for all gas primary methods AGT, DCGT, RIGT, CVGT





also significantly improved electric polarizability & magnetic susceptibility









also significantly improved 2nd and 3rd dielectric virials









particularly important for DCGT, RIGT

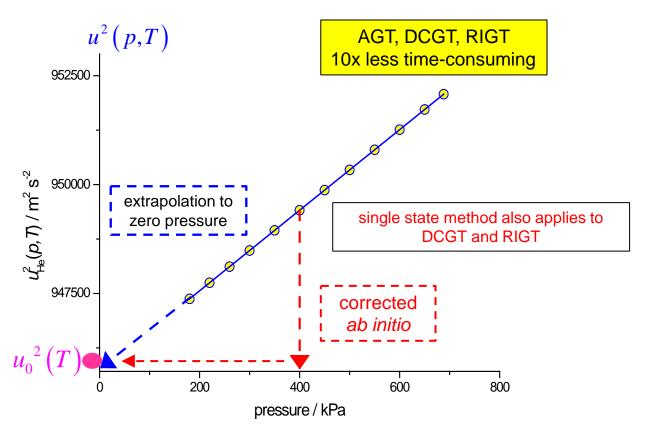
Real-K – Realising the redefined kelvin Euramet project 2019 - 2023 coordinated by G. Machin NPL methods of primary thermometry: isotherm vs single state measurements

example: acoustic gas thermometry (AGT)

$$u_0^2(T) = \gamma_0 kT/m$$
 acoustic virial coeffs. $\beta_a(T)$, $\gamma_a(T)$, ...
$$u^2(p,T) = u_0^2(T) \Big(1 + \beta_a(T) \rho(p,T) + \gamma_a(T) \rho(p,T)^2 + ...\Big)$$

$$p = \rho RT \Big(1 + B_\rho(T) \rho(p,T) + C_\rho(T) \rho(p,T)^2 + D_\rho(T) \rho(p,T)^3 + ...\Big)$$

$$R \text{ molar gas constant}$$
 density virial coeffs. $B_0(T)$, $C_0(T)$, ...



Facilitations from improved ab initio calculation

measuring with gases other than He

AGT, DCGT, RIGT (10 to100) x less sensitive to contamination

particularly important for AGT at high T

Table 2. Sensitivity of u^2 to impurities (Moldover *et al* 1988).

	M/		D^{a}	D^{a}
Impurity	$(g \text{mol}^{-1})$	γ_0	in He	in Ar
$\overline{H_2}$	2	1.4ª	0.23	0.68
He	4	5/3		0.9
H_2O	18	1.32^{a}	-3.93	0.12
Ne	20	5/3	-4.0	0.5
N_2	28	1.4^{a}	-6.27	0.03
O_2	32	1.4 ^a	-7.3	-0.07
Ar	40	5/3	-9.0	
CO_2	44	1.4^{a}	-10.3	-0.37
Kr	84	5/3	-20.0	-1.1
Xe	131	5/3	-31.8	-2.3

^a Values at 273 K. For polyatomic gases, D and γ_0 are temperature-dependent $D \equiv (1/u^2)(du^2/dx)$

DCGT, RIGT
Ne 2x more polarizable than He
Ar 4x more polarizable than Ne
DCGT and RIGT become more sensitive
at lower pressures

methods of primary thermometry: absolute vs relative

example: acoustic gas thermometry (AGT)

absolute AGT used for

determination of k

$$T = \frac{m}{\gamma_0 k} u_0^2$$

T thermodynamic temperature

k Boltzmann constant u_0^2 speed of sound at zero pressure

m atomic mass

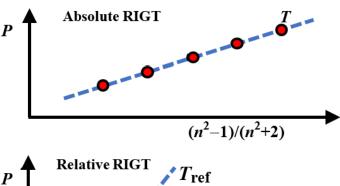
 γ_0 ideal gas heat capacity ratio

relative AGT used for determination of $T-T_{90}$

$$T = T_{\text{ref}} \frac{u_0^2(T)}{u_0^2(T_{\text{ref}})}$$

T_{ref} reference thermodynamic temperature various *flavours* of **relative** measurements

example: refractive index gas thermometry (RIGT)



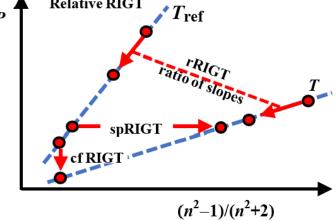


FIG. 4. Measurement trajectories for RIGT in the variables pressure (p) and refractive index (n). Blue dashed lines represent isotherms. Top: Absolute RIGT takes many data points on an isotherm at the unknown temperature T. Bottom: Relative rRIGT takes several measurements on a reference isotherm T_{ref} and on an unknown isotherm T. Single pressure (spRIGT) uses data at one pressure. Constant frequency (cfRIGT) uses data at one value of the refractive index n.

relative RIGT by isotherm ratio

$$\frac{T}{T_{\text{ref}}} = \lim_{p \to 0} \left(\frac{n^2 (p, T) - 1}{n^2 (p, T_{\text{ref}}) - 1} \right)$$

drastically reduces accuracy requirement on compressibility determination

single pressure p_x spRIGT

$$\frac{T}{T_{\text{ref}}} \approx \left(\frac{n^2 (p_x, T) - 1}{n^2 (p_x, T_{\text{ref}}) - 1} \right)$$

drastically reduces accuracy requirement on pressure measurement

single refractive index-frequency f_x cfRIGT

$$\frac{T}{T_{\text{ref}}} \approx \left(\frac{p(T, n_x) - 1}{p(T_{\text{ref}}, n_x) - 1} \right)$$

eliminates frequency dependent errors

all these methods also apply to DCGT

Are we ready for dissemination of *T* as an alternative to ITS-90?

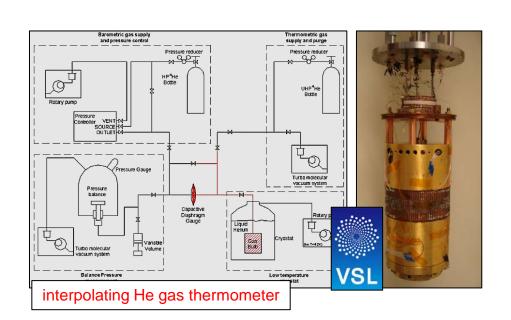
Below 25 K

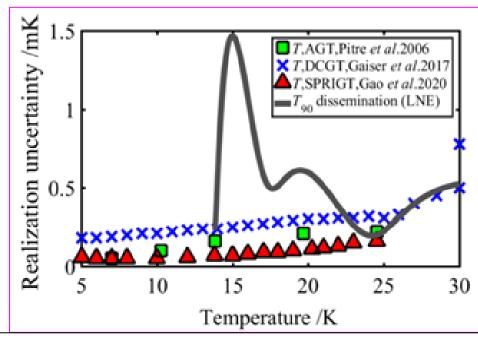
difficulties in the realization of T_{90}

Complex situation with different technical approaches overlapping in ranges

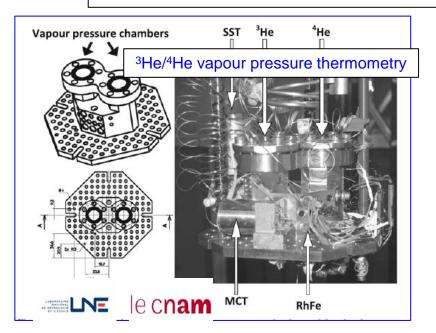
- 0.65 K to 5 K ³He, ⁴He vapour pressure thermometry;
- 3 K to ~24.6 K interpolating He gas thermometer;
- above ~13.8 K fixed-points and capsule SPRTs.

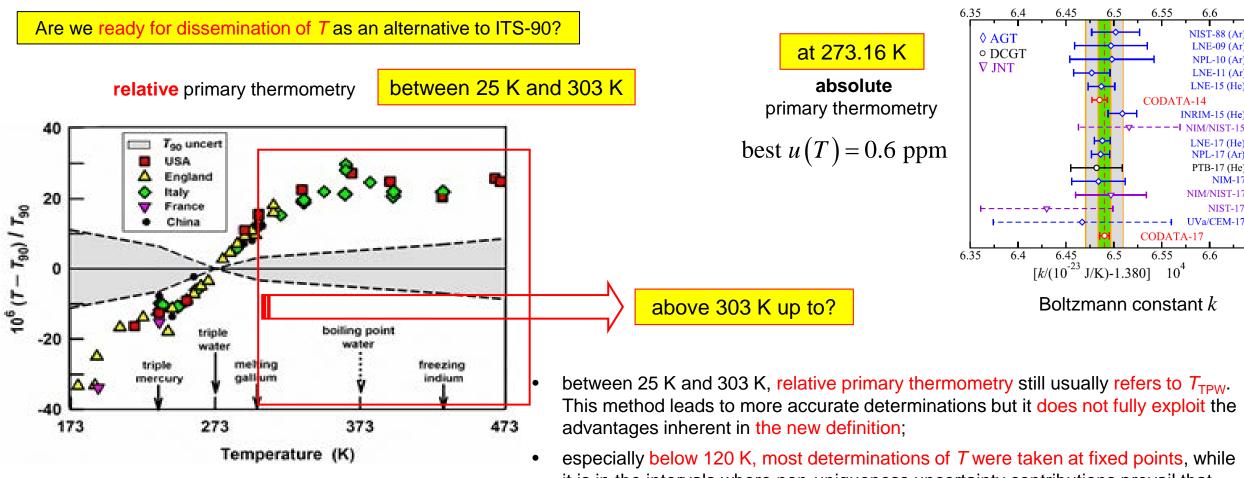
Because of the complexity there are very few full ITS-90 realisations globally in this temperature range. Also, temperature sensors used in this range, for instance to disseminate a wire-scale are increasingly more difficult to retrieve





2022 uncertainties of realizations of T (AGT, DCGT, RIGT) and T_{90} between 13.8 K and 25 K





determination of T-T₉₀ differences

- it is in the intervals where non-uniqueness uncertainty contributions prevail that measuring T instead of T_{90} may represent a significant advantage
- successive determinations of k and $T T_{90}$ were both inevitably biased by previous results. These comparisons were not as meaningful and challenging as a blind comparison
- above the Ga point and only up to 500 K, very few determinations of $T T_{90}$ were obtained over the last 25 years; it would be interesting to develop thermodynamic standards up to at least the Zn or Al point to overlap to the range where radiometric primary thermometers come into play



European Partnership on Metrology Call 2022 – Digital Transformation, Health, Integrated European Metrology, Normative and Research Potential



Dissemination of the redefined kelvin (DireK-T) research project



project proposal & successful presentation to review conference: G. Machin NPL @



approved for funding in December 2022 started in September 2023 duration 3 years

Main Technical objectives

- WP1 Thermodynamic temperature realisation and dissemination in the range 4 K to 25 K using thermodynamic methods (AGT, DCGT, RIGT) to NMIs without primary thermometry capabilities using temperature sensors as transfer standards with a target uncertainty in the dissemination of 0.3 mK (k = 1).
- WP2 Thermodynamic temperature realisation and dissemination in the range 25 K to 300 K using thermodynamic methods (AGT, DCGT) to NMIs without primary thermometry capabilities using temperature sensors as transfer standards with a target uncertainty in the temperature dissemination of 0.25 mK at 25 K and 0.6 mK at 300 K (k = 1).
- WP3 To develop a coherent framework for thermodynamic temperature dissemination (i.e. a protocol) to ensure consistency of the
 dissemination of temperature from NMIs to users over the temperature range 4 K to 300 K whether it is by thermodynamic temperature T or
 the defined scale (ITS-90) and to develop a recommendation to CCT about the measurement uncertainties and the level of equivalence
 between these approaches.
- WP4 To establish an initial capability for the realisation and dissemination of thermodynamic temperature between 300 K and at least 700 K with T- T_{90} target uncertainty of 0.6 mK at 300 K and 7 mK at 700 K (k = 1).

Project consortium

no.	Participant Type	Short Name	Organisation legal full name	Country
1	Internal Beneficiary	INRIM	Istituto Nazionale di Ricerca Metrologica	Italy
2	Internal Beneficiary	CEM	Centro Español de Metrología	Spain
3	Internal Beneficiary	CMI	Cesky Metrologicky Institut	Czechia
4	Internal Beneficiary	CNAM	Conservatoire national des arts et métiers	France
5	Internal Beneficiary	INTiBS	Instytut Niskich Temperatur i Badan Strukturalnych im. Wlodzimierza Trzebiatowskiego Polskiej Akademii Nauk	Poland
6	Internal Beneficiary	LNE	Laboratoire national de métrologie et d'essais	France
7	Internal Beneficiary	PTB	Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt	Germany
8	Internal Beneficiary	SMD	Federale Overheidsdienst Economie, KMO, Middenstand en Energie	Belgium
9	Internal Beneficiary	TUBITAK	Turkiye Bilimsel ve Teknolojik Arastirma Kurumu	Turkey
10	Internal Beneficiary	UL	Univerza v Ljubljani	Slovenia
11	External Beneficiary	NPL	NPL Management Limited	United Kingdom
12	Unfunded Beneficiary	ITRI	Industrial Technology Research Institute Incorporated	Taiwan, Province of China
13	Unfunded Beneficiary	NIM	National Institute of Metrology - NIM	China
14	Unfunded Beneficiary	TIPC-CAS	Technical Institute of Physics and Chemistry of the Chinese Academy of Sciences	China

Financial budget

	Total
Labour (€)	1 681 765.48
Subcontracts (€)	
T&S (€)	155 795.00
Equipment (€)	18 616.00
Other Goods, Works and	
Services (€)	433 916.00
Internally Invoiced Goods and	
Services (€)	
Indirect (€)	572 523.12
Total costs (€)	2 862 615.60
Costs as % of Total costs	
Total Eligible Costs (€)	2 862 615.60
EU contribution (€)	2 065 740.60
EU contribution as % of total EU	
contribution	
Months	0.50
	358.8























le cnam

















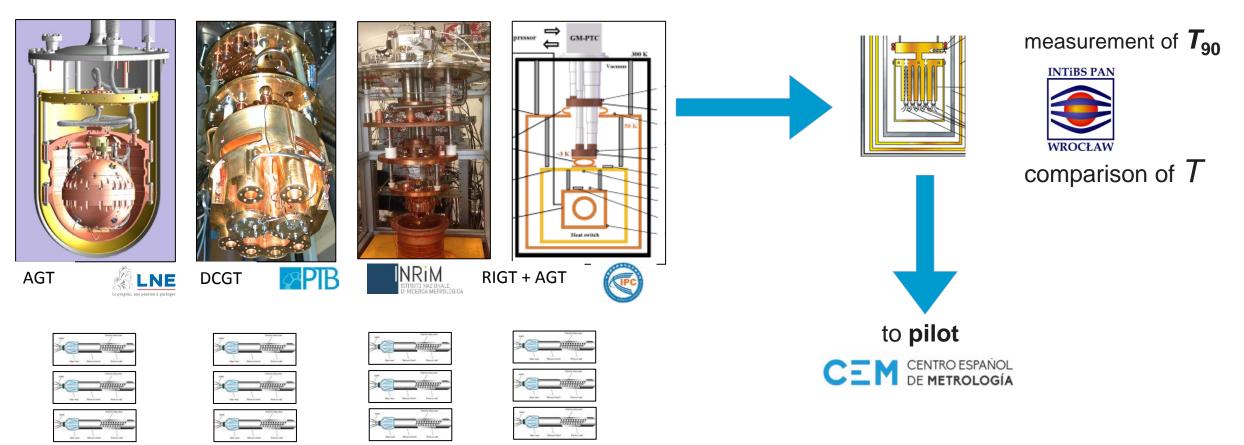




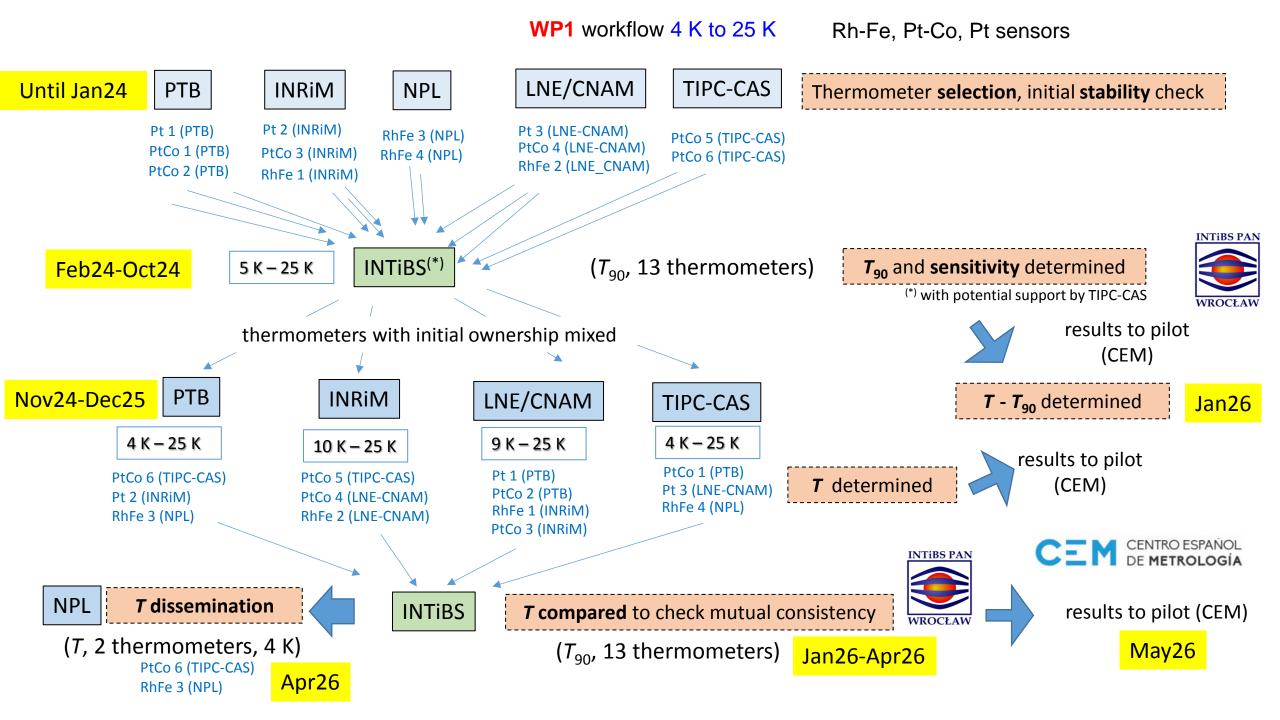
WP1: Practical thermodynamic temperature dissemination between 4 K and 25 K

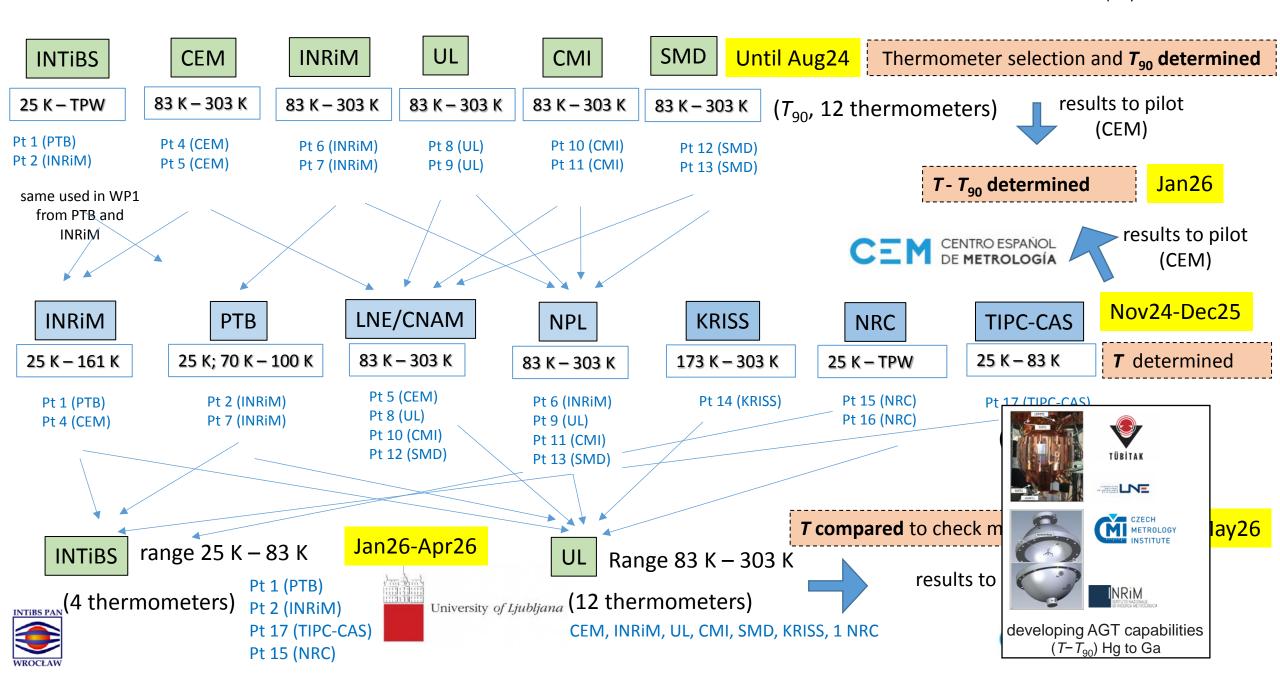
- Dissemination of thermodynamic temperature T in range 4 25 K; target u(k=1) 0.3 mK
- Three mise en pratique for the definition of the kelvin (*MeP*-K-19) approaches (AGT, DCGT and RIGT) used to minimise systematic uncertainty
- New values of T-T₉₀ in range
- Assessment of stability and sensitivity of different kinds of temperature sensors

measurement of T



13 transfer standards RhFe, Pt-Co and Pt capsule thermometers





WP3 – piloting the comparison



CEM has a well demonstrated previous experience in participating and/or piloting key comparisons in thermometry: e.g. EURAMET.T-K9, CCT-K10, CCT-K7.2021, SIM.T-K9.1 (pilot) and EURAMET.T-S3 (pilot).

1) The first main expected outcome of the comparison is the determination of the differences $T-T_{90}$.

$$(T_{90,i,INTiBS}, R(T_{90,i,INTiBS}))$$

 $(T_{i,NMI}, R(T_{i,NMI}))$

1A) Based on the calibration equation

$$T_{i,NMI} - T_{90}(R(T_{i,NMI}))$$

1B) Based on the sensitivity coefficient

$$s_i = dR(T_{90})/dT_{90} \sim dR(T)/dT$$

$$T - T_{90} = T_{i,NMI} - [T_{90,i,INTiBS} + (R_{i,NMI} - R_{i,INTiBS}) / s_i]$$

BLAB

- Pilot lab sends a test of standards to each participating lab.

- LÄB
 - 2) The second expected outcome of the comparison is the determination of the differences ($T_{NMI1} - T_{NMI2}$) between the thermodynamic calibrations from different primary experiments.
 - 2A) Based on the calibration equation

$$T_{1,PTB} - T_{2,LNE} = [(T_{1,PTB} - T_{90,1,INTIBS})\tau_{PTB} - (T_{2,LNE} - T_{90,2,INTIBS})\tau_{LNE}]$$

$$+ [(T - T_{90})\tau_{PTB} - (T - T_{90})\tau_{LNE}]$$

$$T_{PTB}, R_{1,PTB}(T_{PTB}) = R_{1,PTB} \qquad R_{1,INTIBS}(T_{INTIBS}) = R_{1,INTIBS}$$

$$T_{LNE}, R_{2,LNE}(T_{LNE}) = R_{2,LNE} \qquad R_{2,INTIBS}(T_{INTIBS}) = R_{2,INTIBS}$$

$$T_{INTIBS}PTB = T_{PTB} + (R_{1,INTIBS} - R_{1,PTB})/s_1$$

$$T_{INTIBS} LNE = T_{LNE} + (R_{2,INTIBS} - R_{2,LNE})/s_2$$

The weighted average $< T_{\text{INTIBS}}$ PTB, T_{INTIBS} LNE, ... > will be calculated and named $< T_{\text{INTIBS}} >$ and the differences T_{INTIBS} NMI – $< T_{\text{INTIBS}} > \text{ evaluated for each NMI}$.

- First ever framework to ensure consistent dissemination of temperature (whether by thermodynamic temperature T or defined scale (ITS-90)
- First ever documented level of equivalence for dissemination and traceability between T and T_{90}
- Recommendation report to CCT on how to realise and disseminate *T* in range, and proposals for future revision of the MeP-K-19

- New primary thermometry capability (AGT) for the realisation and dissemination of thermodynamic temperature T in range 300 700 K with target uncertainties u(k=1) 0.6 mK at 300 K; 7 mK at 700 K
- New values of T T₉₀ in range as required by CCT recommendation T1 2021

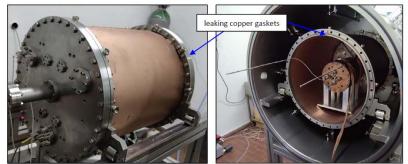


Figure 8 – Experimental gas-tight vessel comprised by a cylindrical copper body (400 mm diameter, 450 mm length) welded to stainless steel head flanges. The vessel is rated for operation up to 1 MPa at 900 K.

300 K to 700 K



IOP PUBLISHI

Metrologia 50 (2013) 219-226

METROLOGIA doi:10.1088/0026-1394/50/3/219

Microwave-cavity measurements for gas thermometry up to the copper point



350 K to 700 K

XiaoJuan Feng¹, Keith A Gillis², Michael R Moldover² and James B Mehl^{2,3}

- ¹ National Institute of Metrology, Beijing 100013, People's Republic of China
- National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, USA
- 3 36 Zunugua Trail, PO Box 307, Orcas, WA 98280, USA

E-mail: fengxj@nim.ac.cn



323 K to 505 K



300 K to 573 K





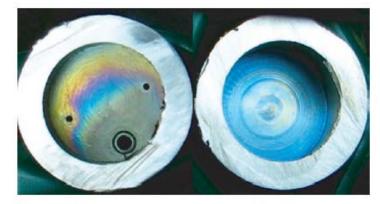


Figure 3. Small test cavity after exposure to 45 mol of argon for 15 h at temperatures ranging from 870 K to 1270 K. The argon entered through the 2.2 mm ID tube at the left and exited through the two 1.0 mm diameter ports that led to the coaxial cables.

WP5 – Dissemination and impact (communication)



Dissemination

FPS Economy, DG Quality and Safety, *Metrology* Division (SMD)

- Reports and Recommendation submitted to CCT (particularly about equivalence of T and T_{90} and respective uncertainties)
- Scientific papers (at least 15) all Open Access
- Complete scientific Data in Open Repositories
- Presentation at International Conferences (at least 20); dedicated session at Tempmeko 2025
- Article in Trade Journals
- Training Activities including secondment and staff exchanges open to partners from outside the project

Communication

- Maintenance of project website and curation of newsletter to stakeholders (currently 45, more welcome)
- Organization of Royal Society Theo Murphy meeting: "The redefined kelvin progress and prospects" (February 2025)
- Summer School "Contemporary issues in primary thermometry" under the auspices of the Spanish Academy of Science in Summer 2026

Exploitation

- Input to future revision of the MeP-K mise en pratique for the definition of the kelvin
- Dissemination of thermodynamic wire scales
- Extension of Certified Measurement Capabilities (CMCs) across a network of NMIs

We expect that the scientific activities in this project will

- make thermodynamic temperature standards more widely diffuse:
 - o realized and available at an increasing number of NMIs;
 - used for wire-scale dissemination of T to NMIs without primary thermometry capabilities (or in the course of developing them);
 - become more practical (more robust, simple, easy to operate, designed for long stem SPRTs at least above the Ar point
- favour a mixed framework for the dissemination of the kelvin where:
 - o both $T \& T_{90}$ dissemination would be accepted, interchangebale, and their degree of equivalence and respective uncertainty is firmly assessed
- lead to new CMCs with calibration capabilities which can be tailored to customers' requirements

Critical points

- the project is very ambitious with a tight schedule to deliver all the targeted objectives;
- a blind comparison of thermodynamic temperatures has never been attempted; reported results will most certainly show some inconsistencies, like it previously happened for some reported determinations of k. These issues, when correctly identified, will still be welcome as they may speed up improvements and simplifications of the methods
- most activities rely on the performance of the sensors used as transfer standards, which suffer their intrinsic limitations, e.g. in terms of fragility, poor availability and, for specific models in specific ranges, complicated sensitivity functions.