
BIPM.QM-K1 (NIST 2025)

Ozone at ambient level

KEY COMPARISON

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J. Viallon *et al* 2026 CIPM MRA Comparison reports 08015

<https://doi.org/10.59161/FNFD2397>

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Final report, Ongoing Key Comparison BIPM.QM-K1, Ozone at ambient level, comparison with NIST, (March 2025)

Joële Viallon^{1*}, Philippe Moussay¹, Faraz Idrees¹, Robert Wielgosz¹ and Peter Trask²

¹ BIPM (Bureau International des Poids et Mesures), Pavillon de Breteuil, F-92312 Sèvres, France

² NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology), 100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20899

Abstract

As part of the ongoing key comparison BIPM.QM-K1, a comparison has been performed between the ozone national standard of The United States maintained by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the common reference standard of the key comparison, maintained by the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM). The instruments have been compared over a nominal ozone amount fraction range of 0 nmol mol⁻¹ to 500 nmol mol⁻¹.

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* Author for correspondence. E-mail jviallon@bipm.org, Tel: +33 1 45 07 62 70, Fax: +33 1 45 07 20 21.

1. Field

Amount of substance.

2. Subject

Comparison of reference measurement standards for ozone at ambient level.

3. Participants

BIPM.QM-K1 is an ongoing key comparison, which is structured as an ongoing series of bilateral comparisons. The results of the comparison with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) are reported here.

4. Organizing body

BIPM.

5. Rationale

The ongoing key comparison BIPM.QM-K1 has been running since January 2007. It follows the pilot study CCQM-P28 that included 23 participants and was performed between July 2003 and February 2005 [1]. It is aimed at evaluating the degree of equivalence of ozone photometers that are maintained as national standards, or as primary standards within international networks for ambient ozone measurements. The reference value is determined using the NIST Standard Reference Photometer (BIPM-SRP27) maintained by the BIPM as a common reference.

6. Terms and definitions

- x_{nom} : nominal ozone amount fraction in dry air furnished by the ozone generator
- $x_{A,i}$: i th measurement of the nominal value x_{nom} by the photometer A.
- $\bar{x}_A$: the mean of N measurements of the nominal value x_{nom} measured by the photometer A: $\bar{x}_A = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_{A,i}$
- s_A : standard deviation of N measurements of the nominal value x_{nom} measured by the photometer A: $s_A^2 = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_{A,i} - \bar{x}_A)^2$
- The result of the linear regression fit performed between two sets of data measured by the photometers A and B during a comparison is written: $x_A = a_{A,B}x_B + b_{A,B}$. With this notation, the photometer A is compared versus the photometer B. $a_{A,B}$ is dimensionless and $b_{A,B}$ is expressed in units of nmol mol^{-1} .

7. Measurements schedule

This is the eighth participation of NIST since 2007. Measurements reported in this report were performed between February and May 2025 at the NIST and the BIPM.

8. Measurement protocol

The comparison protocol is summarised in this section. The complete version can be downloaded from the BIPM website ([BIPM.QM-K1 protocol](#)).

This comparison was performed following protocol B, corresponding to a comparison between the NIST national standard SRP2 and the common reference standard BIPM-SRP27 maintained at the BIPM via the transfer standard SRP0. The national standard SRP2 and the transfer

standard SRP0 were first compared at the NIST in February 2025. Then SRP0 was compared with the common reference standard SRP27 at the BIPM in March 2025. Finally, the national standard SRP2 and the transfer standard SRP0 were again compared at the NIST in May 2025 to test the stability of the transfer standard.

A comparison between two (or more) ozone photometers consists of producing ozone-air mixtures at different mole fractions over the required range and measuring these with the photometers.

8.1. Comparisons at the NIST

a). Ozone generation

The air is compressed with an oil-free compressor, dried and scrubbed with a commercial purification system so that the mole fraction of ozone and nitrogen oxides remaining in the air is below detectable limits. This air is used to provide reference air as well as the ozone-air mixture to each ozone photometer. Ozone is produced using an external commercial generator. A common dual external manifold in Pyrex is used to furnish the necessary flows of reference air and ozone-air mixtures to the ozone photometers. The two columns of this manifold are vented to atmospheric pressure.

b). Comparison procedure

Prior to the comparison, all the instruments were switched on and allowed to stabilise for a week. Characteristics of the instruments were checked at this time following an internal procedure. Basic adjustments of temperature, pressure, and dark counts following the SRP operating characteristics checkout were performed.

One comparison run includes 10 different amount fractions distributed to cover the range, together with the measurement of reference air at the beginning and end of each run. The nominal mole fractions were measured in a sequence imposed by the protocol (0, 220, 80, 420, 120, 320, 30, 370, 170, 500, 270, and 0) nmol mol⁻¹. Each of these points is an average of 10 single measurements.

For each nominal value of the ozone amount-of-substance fraction x_{nom} furnished by the ozone generator, the standard deviation s_{SRP2} on the set of 10 consecutive measurements $x_{\text{SRP2},i}$ recorded by SRP2 was calculated. The measurement results were considered as valid if s_{SRP2} was less than 1 nmol mol⁻¹, which ensures that the photometers were measuring a stable ozone concentration. If not, another series of 10 consecutive measurements was performed.

c). Comparison repeatability

The comparison run was repeated continuously to evaluate the repeatability.

8.2. Comparisons at the BIPM

a). Ozone generation

The same source of purified air is used for all the ozone photometers being compared. Starting from compressed ambient air, the purification system consisted of a first refrigeration dryer, a catalytic converter to burn residual oil, a second refrigeration dryer, a particulate filter to remove particles larger than 0.1 µm, an active coal filter, and a final zero air generator (AADCO 737R-12), which ensured that the amount fraction of ozone, hydrocarbons, and nitrogen oxides remaining in the air was below detectable limits. This final system also ensured a constant amount fraction of oxygen in air, which is important to generate constant ozone amount

fractions in the ozone generator. The relative humidity of the reference air was monitored and the amount fraction of water in air was typically found to be less than $3 \mu\text{mol mol}^{-1}$.

Ozone in air mixtures were produced from the purified air inside the ozone generator (EnviroNics) equipped with a UV lamp to enable the photolysis of oxygen at a wavelength of 185 nm. To obtain a range of ozone amount fractions, the UV lamp intensity was tuned at appropriate levels. These actions were all controlled by the SRP operating software.

A common dual external Pyrex manifold was used to furnish the necessary flows of reference air and ozone-air mixtures to the ozone photometers. The two columns of this manifold were vented to atmospheric pressure. The same length of Teflon tubing was used to deliver both gas flows to all photometers under comparison, ensuring that they all received homogenized samples and reference air.

b). Comparison procedure

Prior to the comparison, all the instruments were switched on and allowed to stabilise for at least 8 hours. The pressure and temperature measurement systems of the instruments were checked at this time. If any adjustments were required, these were noted.

For this comparison, no adjustments were necessary on BIPM SRPs and NIST SRP0.

One comparison run includes ten different amount fractions of ozone distributed to cover the range, together with the measurement of reference air at the beginning and end of each run. The nominal amount fractions were measured in a sequence imposed by the protocol (0, 220, 80, 420, 120, 320, 30, 370, 170, 500, 270, and 0) nmol mol^{-1} . Each of these points is an average of ten single measurements.

For each nominal value of the ozone amount fraction x_{nom} furnished by the ozone generator, the standard deviation s_{SRP27} on the set of 10 consecutive measurements $x_{\text{SRP27},i}$ recorded by BIPM-SRP27 was calculated. The measurement results were considered as valid if s_{SRP27} was less than 1 nmol mol^{-1} , which ensures that the photometers were measuring a stable ozone concentration. If not, another series of 10 consecutive measurements was performed.

c). Comparison repeatability

The comparison run was repeated continuously to evaluate the repeatability. The participant and the BIPM commonly decided when both instruments were stable enough to start recording a set of measurement results to be considered as the official comparison results.

8.3. SRP27 stability check

A second ozone reference standard, BIPM-SRP28, was included in the comparison to verify its agreement with BIPM-SRP27 and thus follow its stability over the period of the ongoing key comparison.

9. Reporting measurement results

The participant and the BIPM staff reported the measurement results in the result form BIPM.QM-K1-R2 provided by the BIPM and available on the BIPM website. It includes details on the comparison conditions, measurement results and associated uncertainties, as well as the standard deviation for each series of 10 ozone amount fractions measured by the participant's standard and the common reference standard. The completed form BIPM.QM-K1-R2-NIST-25 is given in appendix 1.

10. Post comparison calculation

All calculations were performed by the BIPM using the form BIPM.QM-K1-R2. It includes the two degrees of equivalence that are reported as comparison results in the Appendix B of the BIPM KCDB (key comparison database). Additionally, the degrees of equivalence at all nominal ozone amount fractions are reported in the same form, as well as the linear relationship between the participant standard and the common reference standard.

11. Deviations from the comparison protocol

In this comparison, there was no deviation from the protocol.

12. Measurement standards

The instruments maintained by the BIPM and NIST are Standard Reference Photometers (SRP) built by the NIST. More details on the instrument's principle and its capabilities can be found in [2]. The following section describes the SRP operating principle and uncertainty budget.

12.1. Measurement equation of a NIST SRP

The measurement of the ozone amount fraction by an SRP is based on the absorption of radiation at 253.65 nm by ozonized air in the gas cells of the instrument. One particularity of the instrument design is the use of two gas cells to overcome the instability of the light source. The measurement equation is derived from the Beer-Lambert and ideal gas laws. The number density (C_{O_3}) of ozone is calculated from:

$$C_{O_3} = \frac{-1}{2\sigma L_{opt}} \frac{T}{T_{std}} \frac{P_{std}}{P} \ln(D) \quad (1)$$

where

- σ is the absorption cross-section per molecule of ozone at 253.65 nm under standard conditions of temperature and pressure, $1.1329 \times 10^{-17} \text{ cm}^2$ [3].
- L_{opt} is the mean optical path length of the two cells;
- T is the measured temperature of the cells;
- T_{std} is the standard temperature (273.15 K);
- P is the measured pressure of the cells;
- P_{std} is the standard pressure (101.325 kPa);
- D is the product of transmittances of two cells, with the transmittance (T_r) of one cell defined as

$$T_r = \frac{I_{ozone}}{I_{air}} \quad (2)$$

where

- I_{ozone} is the UV radiation intensity measured from the cell when containing ozonized air, and
- I_{air} is the UV radiation intensity measured from the cell when containing pure air (also called reference or zero air).

Using the ideal gas law equation (1) can be recast in order to express the measurement results as an amount fraction (x) of ozone in air:

$$x = \frac{-1}{2\sigma L_{opt}} \frac{T}{P} \frac{R}{N_A} \ln(D) \quad (3)$$

where

N_A is the Avogadro constant, $6.022\,140\,76 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
 R is the gas constant, $8.314\,462\,618 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$

The formulation implemented in the SRP software, although equivalent in terms of the measurement results, differs from the above in the choice of a unit system based on the “atm” (atmosphere) as unit for the pressure, rather than the SI-unit. As explained in detail in [4], the “atm” unit system was used initially to describe the operation of ozone photometers and, though antiquated, remains in use by many practitioners. In this system, the amount fraction of ozone x is calculated from:

$$x = \frac{-1}{2\alpha_0 L_{\text{opt}}} \frac{T}{T_{\text{std}}} \frac{P_{\text{std}}}{P} \ln(D) \quad (4)$$

where

α_0 is the absorption coefficient at standard temperature and pressure (0 °C and 1 atm), expressed in $\text{atm}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$, and linked to the absorption cross-section per molecule σ via the Boltzmann constant $k_B = 1.380\,649 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J K}^{-1}$ with the relation:

$$\alpha_0 = \frac{\sigma}{k_B T_{\text{std}}} \quad (5)$$

12.2. Absorption cross-section for ozone

Since January 2025, the absorption coefficient under standard conditions α_0 used within the SRPs maintained by the BIPM is $304.39 \text{ atm}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$. This corresponds to the value for the absorption cross section σ named CCQM.O3.2019 proposed by Hodges *et al.* [3] and recommended by the CCQM.

In the comparison of two SRP instruments, the absorption cross-section can be considered to have a conventional value, and its uncertainty can be set to zero. However, in the comparison of different methods or when considering the complete uncertainty budget of the method the uncertainty of the absorption cross-section should be taken into account.

12.3. Condition of the BIPM SRPs

SRP27 and SRP28 were built in 2002. Compared to the original design described in [2], both instruments have been modified to deal with two biases revealed by the study conducted by the BIPM and the NIST in 2006 [5]. In 2009, an “SRP upgrade kit” was installed in the instruments [6]. In 2021, their electronic modules were upgraded. Negligible impact on their measurement results was demonstrated [7].

12.4. Uncertainty budget of the common reference BIPM-SRP27

The uncertainty budget for the ozone amount fraction in dry air (x) measured by the instruments BIPM-SRP27 and BIPM-SRP28 in the nominal range 0 nmol mol^{-1} to $500 \text{ nmol mol}^{-1}$ is given in Table 1.

Table 1: Uncertainty budget for the SRPs maintained by the BIPM

Component (<i>y</i>)	Uncertainty <i>u</i> (<i>y</i>)				Sensitivity coefficient $c_i = \frac{\partial x}{\partial y}$	contribution to <i>u</i> (<i>x</i>) $ c_i \cdot u(y)$ nmol mol ⁻¹
	Source	Distribution	Standard Uncertainty	Combined standard uncertainty <i>u</i> (<i>y</i>)		
Optical Path <i>L</i> _{opt}	Measurement scale	Rectangular	0.0006 cm	0.52 cm	$-\frac{x}{L_{\text{opt}}}$	$2.89 \times 10^{-3}x$
	Repeatability	Normal	0.01 cm			
	Correction factor	Rectangular	0.52 cm			
Pressure <i>P</i>	Pressure gauge	Rectangular	0.029 kPa	0.034 kPa	$-\frac{x}{P}$	$3.37 \times 10^{-4}x$
	Difference between cells	Rectangular	0.017 kPa			
Temperature <i>T</i>	Temperature probe	Rectangular	0.03 K	0.07 K	$\frac{x}{T}$	$2.29 \times 10^{-4}x$
	Temperature gradient	Rectangular	0.058 K			
Ratio of intensities <i>D</i>	Scaler resolution	Rectangular	8×10^{-6}	1.4×10^{-5}	$\frac{x}{D \ln(D)}$	0.28
	Repeatability	Triangular	1.1×10^{-5}			
Absorption Cross section per molecule <i>σ</i>	CCQM.O3.2019 value		0.35×10^{-19} cm ²		$-\frac{x}{\sigma}$	$3.1 \times 10^{-3}x$

Following this budget, as explained in the protocol of the comparison, the standard uncertainty associated with the ozone amount fraction measurement with the BIPM SRPs can be expressed as a numerical equation (numerical values expressed as nmol mol⁻¹):

$$u(x) = \sqrt{(0.28)^2 + (2.92 \cdot 10^{-3}x)^2} \quad (6)$$

12.5. Covariance terms for the common reference BIPM-SRP27

As explained in section 14, correlations in between the results of two measurements performed at two different ozone amount fractions with BIPM-SRP27 were taken into account in the software OzonE. More details on the covariance expression can be found in the protocol. The following expression was applied:

$$u(x_i, x_j) = x_i \cdot x_j \cdot u_b^2 \quad (7)$$

where:

$$u_b^2 = \frac{u^2(T)}{T^2} + \frac{u^2(P)}{P^2} + \frac{u^2(L_{\text{opt}})}{L_{\text{opt}}^2} \quad (8)$$

The value of u_b is given by the expression of the measurement uncertainty: $u_b = 2.92 \times 10^{-3}$.

12.6. Condition of the NIST SRP2

Compared to the original design, the NIST SRP2 has been modified to deal with the two biases revealed in [6]. In 2006, an “SRP upgrade kit” was installed by NIST, as already described in the previous comparison report [8].

12.7. Uncertainty budget of the NIST SRP2

The uncertainty budget for the ozone amount-of-substance fraction in dry air x measured by the NIST standard SRP2 in the range 0 nmol mol⁻¹ to 500 nmol mol⁻¹ will follow the BIPM/NIST paper [4] (see Table 1). This uncertainty budget includes the removal of the former temperature heating bias which has been eliminated by using a lower current temperature circuit card in SRP 2. The uncertainty is expressed with the numerical equation (4).

No covariance term for the NIST SRP2 was included in the calculations.

12.8. Transfer standard SRP0

SRP0 uncertainty budget is the same as SRP2. In 2020, the electronics module for SRP0 was upgraded.

13. Measurement results and uncertainties

Details of the measurement results, the measurement uncertainties and the standard deviations at each nominal ozone amount fraction can be found in the form BIPM.QM-K1-R2-NIST-25 given in appendix 1.

14. Analysis of the measurement results by generalised least-square regression

The relationship between the national and reference standards was first evaluated with a generalised least-square regression fit, using the software OzonE. This software, which is documented in a publication [9], is an extension of the previously used software B_Least recommended by the ISO standard 6143:2001 [10]. It includes the possibility to take into account correlations between measurements performed with the same instrument at different ozone amount fractions.

The two comparisons performed via the transfer standard were treated as follows:

- The first comparison results are calculated by performing a linear regression on the twelve data points from the BIPM visit (x_{RS}, x_{TS}) (calibration of the transfer standard) followed by a second linear regression of the twelve data points from the pre BIPM visit (x_{NS}, x'_{TS}), x'_{TS} being the corrected values of the transfer standard calibrated by the reference standard.
- The second comparison results are calculated by performing a linear regression on the twelve data points from the BIPM visit (x_{RS}, x_{TS}) (calibration of the transfer standard) followed by a second linear regression of the twelve data points from the post BIPM visit (x_{NS}, x'_{TS}), x'_{TS} being the corrected values of the transfer standard calibrated by the reference standard.

For each comparison, a linear relationship between the ozone amount-of-substance fractions measured by SRP n and SRP27 is obtained:

$$x_{SRPn} = a_0 + a_1 x_{SRP27} \quad (9)$$

The associated uncertainties on the slope $u(a_1)$ and the intercept $u(a_0)$ are given by OzonE, as well as the covariance between them and the usual statistical parameters to validate the fitting function.

14.1. Least-square regression results

The two relationships between SRP2 and SRP27 are:

$$x_{\text{SRP2}} = -0.07 + 1.0006x_{\text{SRP27}} \quad (10)$$

from the pre-BIPM visit, and the standard uncertainties on the parameters of the regression are $u(a_1) = 0.0047$ for the slope and $u(a_0) = 0.31 \text{ nmol mol}^{-1}$ for the intercept. The covariance between the two parameters is $\text{cov}(a_0, a_1) = -4.17 \times 10^{-4}$,

and

$$x_{\text{SRP2}} = -0.15 + 1.0014x_{\text{SRP27}} \quad (11)$$

from the post BIPM visit, and the standard uncertainties on the parameters of the regression are $u(a_1) = 0.0047$ for the slope and $u(a_0) = 0.31 \text{ nmol mol}^{-1}$ for the intercept. The covariance between the two parameters is $\text{cov}(a_0, a_1) = -4.18 \times 10^{-4}$,

The least-squares regression results confirm that a linear fit is appropriate, with a sum of the squared deviations (SSD) of 0.18 and a goodness of fit (GoF) equals to 0.19.

To assess the agreement of the standards using equations 10 and 11, the difference between the calculated slope value and unity, and the intercept value and zero, together with their measurement uncertainties need to be considered. In this comparison, the value of the intercept is consistent with an intercept of zero, considering the uncertainty in the value of this parameter; i.e. $|a_0| < 2u(a_0)$, and the value of the slope is consistent with a slope of 1; i.e. $|1 - a_1| < 2u(a_1)$.

15. Degrees of equivalence

Degrees of equivalence are calculated at two nominal ozone amount fractions among the twelve measured in each comparison, in the nominal range 0 nmol mol^{-1} to $500 \text{ nmol mol}^{-1}$: 80 nmol mol^{-1} and $420 \text{ nmol mol}^{-1}$. These values correspond to points number 3 and 4 recorded in each comparison. As an ozone generator has limited reproducibility, the ozone amount fractions measured by the ozone standards can differ from the nominal values. However, as stated in the protocol, the value measured by the common reference SRP27 was expected to be within $\pm 15 \text{ nmol mol}^{-1}$ of the nominal value. Hence, it is meaningful to compare the degree of equivalence calculated for all the participants at the same nominal value.

15.1. Definition of the degrees of equivalence

The degree of equivalence of the participant i , at a nominal value x_{nom} is defined as:

$$D_i = x_i - \hat{x}_{\text{SRP27}} \quad (12)$$

Where x_i is the measurement results of the national standard at the nominal value x_{nom} , and $\hat{x}_{\text{SRP27}}$ is the predicted value of SRP27 at the same nominal value, deduced from the transfer standard measurement result during its comparison with the national standard. Its associated standard uncertainty is:

$$u(D_i) = \sqrt{u_i^2 + \hat{u}_{\text{SRP27}}^2} \quad (13)$$

where u_i and $\hat{u}_{\text{SRP27}}$ are the measurement uncertainties of the participant i and of SRP27 predicted value respectively.

15.2. Calculation of SRP27 predicted values and their related uncertainties

The comparison performed at the BIPM between the transfer standard and the reference standard SRP27 is used to calibrate the transfer standard. The data $\bar{x}_{RS}$ and $\bar{x}_{TS}$ are fitted using the generalised least square program OzonE, taking into account the associated uncertainties $u(\bar{x}_{RS})$ and $u(\bar{x}_{TS})$, as well as covariance terms between the reference standard measurement results.

The parameters $a_{RS,TS}$ and $b_{RS,TS}$ of the linear relationship between x_{RS} and x_{TS} ($x_{RS} = a_{RS,TS} x_{TS} + b_{RS,TS}$) are calculated as well as their uncertainties.

Then, for each value $\bar{x}_{TS}$ measured with the transfer standard during its comparison with the national standard, a predicted value $\hat{x}_{RS}$ for the reference standard is evaluated using the linear relationships between the two instruments calculated above.

The standard uncertainties associated with the predicted values $\hat{x}_{RS}$ are evaluated according to the equation:

$$u(\hat{x}_{RS}) = \sqrt{u^2(b_{RS,TS}) + x_{TS}^2 \cdot u^2(a_{RS,TS}) + a_{RS,TS}^2 \cdot u^2(x_{TS}) + 2 \cdot x_{TS} \cdot u(a_{RS,TS}, b_{RS,TS})} \quad (14)$$

Where the uncertainty components $u(a_{RS,TS})$, $u(b_{RS,TS})$ and $u(a_{RS,TS}, b_{RS,TS})$ are calculated with the generalised least-square software OzonE.

15.3. Values of the degrees of equivalence

When protocol B is followed, the national and reference standards are compared twice to monitor the transfer standard stability. Therefore, two degrees of equivalence are calculated at each nominal ozone amount-of-substance fraction.

The degrees of equivalence and their uncertainties calculated in the form BIPM.QM-K1-R2-NIST-25 are reported in the table below. Corresponding graphs of equivalence are displayed in Figure 1.

Table 2 : degrees of equivalence of the NIST at the ozone nominal amount fractions 80 nmol mol⁻¹ and 420 nmol mol⁻¹, from the first and second comparisons.

Nominal value	$x_i /$ (nmol mol ⁻¹)	$u_i /$ (nmol mol ⁻¹)	$x_{SRP27} /$ (nmol mol ⁻¹)	$u_{SRP27} /$ (nmol mol ⁻¹)	$D_i /$ (nmol mol ⁻¹)	$u(D_i) /$ (nmol mol ⁻¹)	$U(D_i) /$ (nmol mol ⁻¹)
80	80.26	0.37	80.32	0.47	-0.06	0.59	1.18
420	420.75	1.26	420.77	1.83	-0.02	2.23	4.45
80	79.98	0.36	80.15	0.46	-0.16	0.59	1.18
420	419.90	1.26	419.37	1.83	0.52	2.22	4.44

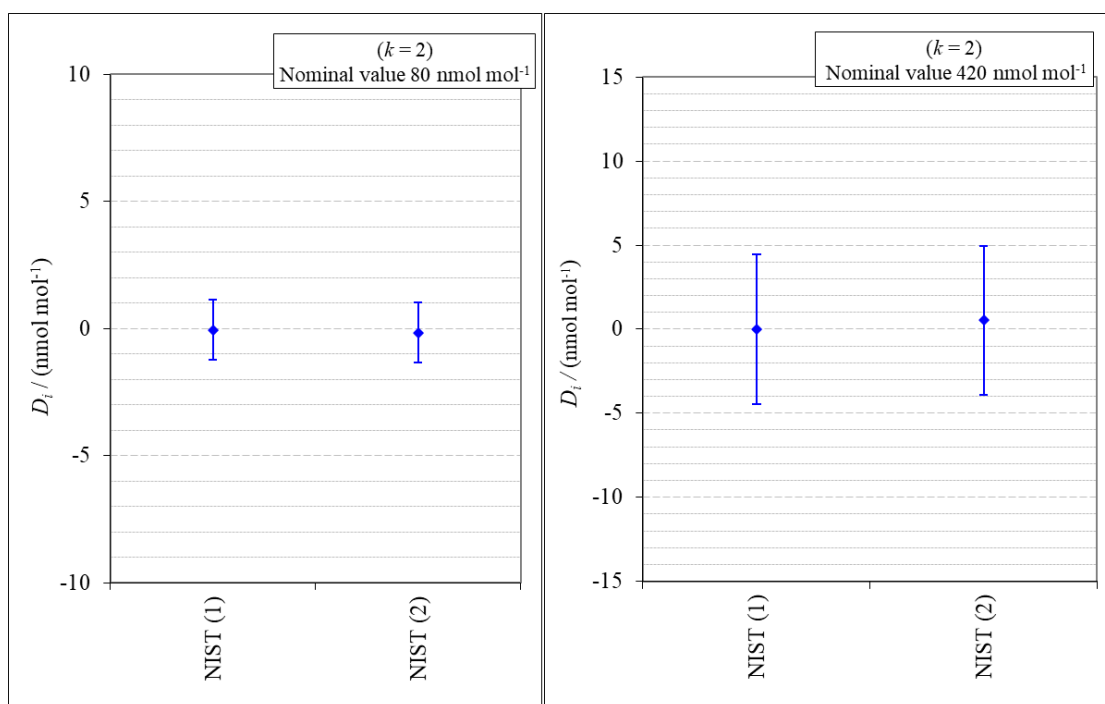


Figure 1: degrees of equivalence of the NIST at the two nominal ozone amount fractions 80 nmol mol⁻¹ and 420 nmol mol⁻¹ for the pre-comparison (NIST (1)) and the post-comparison (NIST (2)) results

The degrees of equivalence between the NIST standard and the common reference standard BIPM SRP27 indicate good agreement between the standards. A discussion on the relation between degrees of equivalence and CMC statements can be found in [1].

16. History of comparisons between BIPM SRP27, SRP28 and NIST SRP2

Results of the previous comparison performed with NIST are displayed in Figure 2 together with the results of this comparison. The slopes a_1 of the linear relation $x_{SRPn} = a_0 + a_1 x_{SRP27}$ are represented together with their associated uncertainties calculated at the time of each comparison. Figure 2 shows that all standards included in these comparisons stayed in close agreement.

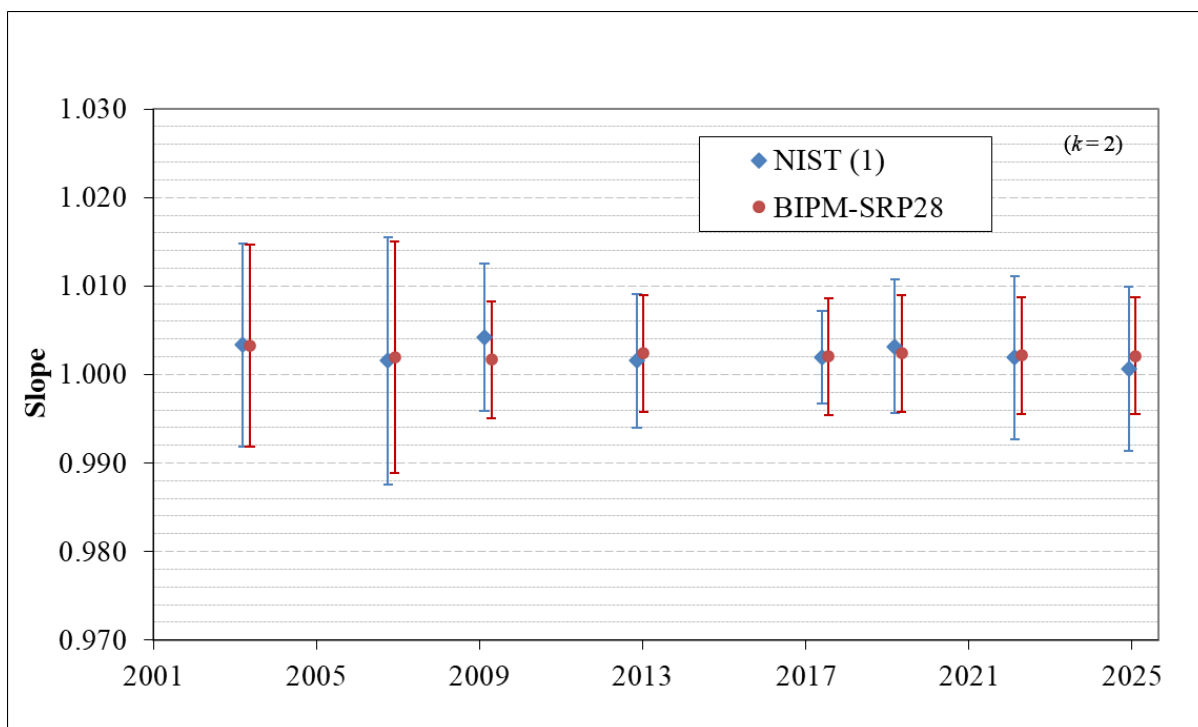


Figure 2 : Results of previous comparisons between SRP27, SRP28 and NIST-SRP2 realised at the BIPM. Uncertainties are calculated at $k = 2$, with the uncertainty budget in use at the time of each comparison.

17. Summary of previous comparisons included in BIPM.QM-K1

The comparison with NIST is the eighth one since the start of BIPM.QM-K1 in 2007. An updated summary of BIPM.QM-K1 results can be found in the key comparison database: <http://kcdb.bipm.org/appendixB/>.

18. Conclusion

For the eighth time since the launch of the ongoing key comparison BIPM.QM-K1, a comparison has been performed between the ozone national standard of The United States, maintained by the NIST, and the common reference standard of the key comparison, maintained by the BIPM. The instruments have been compared over a nominal ozone amount fraction range of 0 nmol mol⁻¹ to 500 nmol mol⁻¹. Degrees of equivalence of this comparison indicated very good agreement between both standards.

19. References

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- [4] Davis R.S., Niederhauser B., Hodges J.T., Viallon J. and Wielgosz R.I. BIPM 2022 Units and values for the ozone absorption cross section at 253.65 nm (air) with appropriate significant digits and rounding for use in documentary standards **Rapport BIPM-2022/02** p 16, <https://doi.org/10.59161/Rapport202202>
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- [6] Viallon J., Moussay P., Idrees F. and Wielgosz R.I. BIPM 2010 Upgrade of the BIPM Standard Reference Photometers for Ozone and the effect on the on-going key comparison BIPM.QM-K1 **Rapport BIPM-2010/07** p 16,
- [7] Viallon J., Moussay P., Idrees F. and Wielgosz R.I. BIPM 2022 Upgrade of the electronics modules of the BIPM Standard Reference Photometers for ozone and the effect on the on-going key comparison BIPM.QM-K1 **Rapport BIPM-2022/01** p 8, <https://doi.org/10.59161/Rapport202201>
- [8] Viallon J., Idrees F., Moussay P., Wielgosz R., Norris J. and Trask P., 2023, Final report, ongoing key comparison BIPM.QM-K1, ozone at ambient level, comparison with NIST, July 2022, *Metrologia*, **60**, 08009, <https://dx.doi.org/10.1088/0026-1394/60/1A/08009>
- [9] Bremser W., Viallon J. and Wielgosz R.I., 2007, Influence of correlation on the assessment of measurement result compatibility over a dynamic range, *Metrologia*, **44**, 495-504, <https://doi.org/10.1088/0026-1394/44/6/009>
- [10] ISO 6143: 2025 Gas analysis - Comparison methods for determining and checking the composition of calibration gas mixtures (International Organization for Standardization)

Appendix 1 - Form BIPM.QM-K1-R2-NIST-25

See the following pages.

OZONE COMPARISON RESULT - PROTOCOL B - WITH A TRANSFER STANDARD

Participating institute information	
Institute	NIST
Address	100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20899
Contact	Peter Trask
Email	peter.trask@nist.gov
Telephone	001 301 975 2314

Instruments information			
	Reference Standard	National Standard	Transfer Standard
Manufacturer	NIST	NIST	NIST
Type	SRP	SRP	SRP
Serial number	SRP27	SRP2	SRP0
ozone cross-section value	304.39 atm ⁻¹ cm ⁻¹	304.39 atm ⁻¹ cm ⁻¹	304.39 atm ⁻¹ cm ⁻¹

Content of the report	
page 1	General informations
page 2	Summary of the comparison results
page 3	calculation of the national standard vs reference standard first relationship
page 4	calculation of the national standard vs reference standard second relationship
page 5	Data reporting sheet - first comparison of the transfer standard vs the national standard
page 7	Calibration of the transfer standard by the reference standard at the BIPM
page 9	Data reporting sheet - second comparison of the transfer standard vs the national standard
page 11	Uncertainty budgets

This workbook contains macros. It is recommended not to use them.

Please complete the cells containing blue stars only.

After completion of the appropriate section of this report, please send to Joële Viallon

by email (jviallon@bipm.org), fax (+33 1 45342021), or mail (BIPM, Pavillon de Breteuil, F-92312 Sèvres)

comparison national standard (RS) vs reference standard (NS)

Summary of comparison results

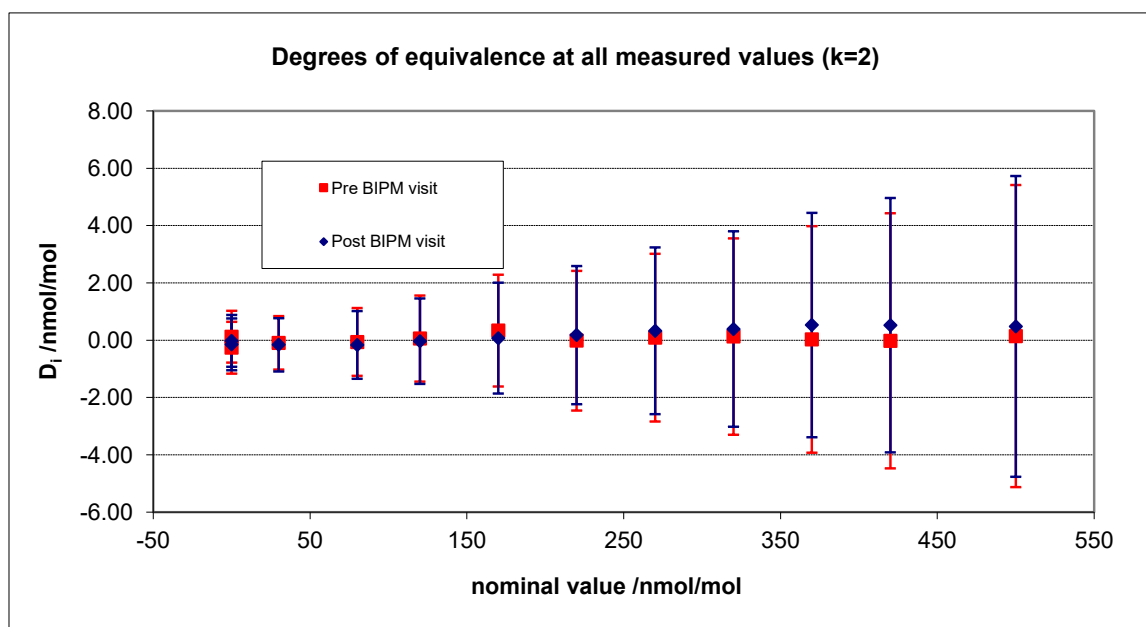
Equation
$$x_{NS} = a_{NS,RS} x_{RS} + b_{NS,RS}$$

Least-square regression parameters

	$a_{NS,RS}$	$u(a_{NS,RS})$	$b_{NS,RS}$ (nmol/mol)	$u(b_{NS,RS})$ (nmol/mol)	$u(a,b)$
first comparison	1.0006	0.0046	-0.07	0.31	-4.17E-04
second comparison	1.0014	0.0046	-0.15	0.31	-4.18E-04

Degrees of equivalence at 80 nmol/mol and 420 nmol/mol:

	Nom value (nmol/mol)	D_i (nmol/mol)	$u(D_i)$ (nmol/mol)	$U(D_i)$ (nmol/mol)
first comparison	80	-0.06	0.59	1.18
	420	-0.02	2.23	4.45
second comparison	80	-0.16	0.59	1.18
	420	0.52	2.22	4.44



Calculation of the National Standard vs Reference Standard comparison results through the first National Standard vs Transfer Standard comparison

First comparison results

Nominal value	National standard measurement results		Transfer standard measurement results		Reference Standard predicted values	
	x_{NS} nmol/mol	$u(x_{NS})$ nmol/mol	x_{TS} nmol/mol	$u(x_{TS})$ nmol/mol	x'_{RS} nmol/mol	$u(x'_{RS})$ nmol/mol
0	-0.13	0.28	0.09	0.28	0.13	0.35
220	222.16	0.71	222.41	0.71	222.18	0.99
80	80.26	0.37	80.37	0.37	80.32	0.47
420	420.75	1.26	421.25	1.26	420.77	1.83
120	121.50	0.45	121.54	0.45	121.44	0.60
320	321.01	0.98	321.24	0.98	320.89	1.41
30	30.59	0.29	30.67	0.29	30.68	0.36
370	372.44	1.12	372.83	1.12	372.41	1.63
170	171.79	0.57	171.62	0.57	171.45	0.79
500	500.02	1.49	500.45	1.49	499.87	2.18
270	271.55	0.84	271.75	0.84	271.46	1.20
0	0.03	0.28	-0.14	0.28	-0.09	0.35

Reference standard predicted values are deduced from the transfer standard measurement results using the calibration performed at the BIPM, with the parameters calculated in Excel Worksheet 4 (page 7)

$$x'_{RS} = a_{RS,TS} x_{TS} + b_{RS,TS} \quad u(x'_{RS}) = \sqrt{a_{RS,TS}^2 \cdot u(x_{TS})^2 + x_{TS}^2 \cdot u(a_{RS,TS})^2 + u(b_{RS,TS})^2 + 2 \cdot x_{TS} \cdot u(a_{RS,TS}, b_{RS,TS})}$$

$a_{RS,TS}$	0.9988	$b_{NRS,TS}$ (nmol/mol)	0.05	$u(a, b)$	-2.09E-04
$u(a_{RS,TS})$	0.0033	$u(b_{RS,TS})$ (nmol/mol)	0.22		

Degrees of Equivalence		$D_i = x_{NS} - x'_{RS}$		
Point Number	Nom value (nmol/mol)	D_i (nmol/mol)	$u(D_i)$ (nmol/mol)	$U(D_i)$ (nmol/mol)
1	0	-0.26	0.45	0.90
2	220	-0.02	1.22	2.44
3	80	-0.06	0.59	1.18
4	420	-0.02	2.23	4.45
5	120	0.06	0.75	1.50
6	320	0.13	1.71	3.43
7	30	-0.09	0.47	0.93
8	370	0.03	1.98	3.95
9	170	0.34	0.98	1.95
10	500	0.14	2.64	5.27
11	270	0.09	1.46	2.93
12	0	0.12	0.45	0.90

Least-square regression parameters				
$a_{NS,RS}$	$u(a_{NS,RS})$	$b_{NS,RS}$ (nmol/mol)	$u(b_{NS,RS})$ (nmol/mol)	$u(a, b)$
1.0006319	0.0046417	-0.0721636	0.3081269	-0.0004167

Calculation of the National Standard vs Reference Standard comparison results through the second National Standard vs Transfer Standard comparison

Second comparison results

Nominal value	National standard measurement results		Transfer standard measurement results		Reference Standard predicted values	
	x_{NS} nmol/mol	$u(x_{NS})$ nmol/mol	x_{TS} nmol/mol	$u(x_{TS})$ nmol/mol	x'_{RS} nmol/mol	$u(x'_{RS})$ nmol/mol
0	0.07	0.28	0.05	0.28	0.09	0.35
220	219.67	0.70	219.72	0.70	219.50	0.98
80	79.98	0.36	80.20	0.37	80.15	0.46
420	419.90	1.26	419.85	1.26	419.37	1.83
120	120.24	0.45	120.37	0.45	120.27	0.60
320	319.64	0.97	319.60	0.97	319.25	1.40
30	29.34	0.29	29.49	0.29	29.50	0.36
370	369.08	1.11	368.96	1.11	368.55	1.61
170	169.90	0.57	169.99	0.57	169.83	0.78
500	498.00	1.48	498.09	1.48	497.52	2.17
270	270.05	0.84	270.01	0.84	269.72	1.19
0	-0.12	0.28	-0.02	0.28	0.03	0.35

Reference standard predicted values are deduced from the transfer standard measurement results using the calibration performed at the BIPM, with the parameters calculated in Excel Worksheet 4 (page 7)

$$x'_{RS} = a_{RS,TS} x_{TS} + b_{RS,TS} \quad u(x'_{RS}) = \sqrt{a_{RS,TS}^2 \cdot u(x_{TS})^2 + x_{TS}^2 \cdot u(a_{RS,TS})^2 + u(b_{RS,TS})^2 + 2 \cdot x_{TS} \cdot u(a_{RS,TS}) \cdot b_{RS,TS}}$$

$a_{RS,TS}$	0.9988	$b_{RS,TS}$ (nmol/mol)	0.05	$u(a, b)$	-2.09E-04
$u(a_{RS,TS})$	0.0033	$u(b_{RS,TS})$ (nmol/mol)	0.22		

Degrees of Equivalence $D_i = x_{NS} - x'_{RS}$				
Point Number	Nom value (nmol/mol)	D_i (nmol/mol)	$u(D_i)$ (nmol/mol)	$U(D_i)$ (nmol/mol)
1	0	-0.02	0.45	0.90
2	220	0.18	1.21	2.41
3	80	-0.16	0.59	1.18
4	420	0.52	2.22	4.44
5	120	-0.03	0.75	1.49
6	320	0.39	1.71	3.41
7	30	-0.16	0.46	0.93
8	370	0.53	1.96	3.91
9	170	0.07	0.97	1.93
10	500	0.48	2.62	5.25
11	270	0.33	1.45	2.91
12	0	-0.14	0.45	0.90

Least-square regression parameters				
$a_{NS,RS}$	$u(a_{NS,RS})$	$b_{NS,RS}$ (nmol/mol)	$u(b_{NS,RS})$ (nmol/mol)	$u(a, b)$
1.0014040	0.0046462	-0.1477630	0.3079706	-0.0004178

Data reporting sheet
First comparison of transfer standard (TS) vs national standard (NS)

Operator	Peter Trask	Location	NIST
Comparison begin date / time	February 10, 2025 / 12:56 PM	Comparison end date / time	February 10, 2025 / 3:09:00 PM

measurement results						
Nominal value	Transfer standard (TS)			National Standard (NS)		
	x_{TS} nmol/mol	s_{TS} nmol/mol	$u(x_{TS})$ nmol/mol	x_{NS} nmol/mol	s_{NS} nmol/mol	$u(x_{NS})$ nmol/mol
0	0.09	0.13	0.28	-0.13	0.17	0.28
220	222.41	0.29	0.71	222.16	0.44	0.71
80	80.37	0.13	0.37	80.26	0.24	0.37
420	421.25	0.14	1.26	420.75	0.23	1.26
120	121.54	0.20	0.45	121.50	0.11	0.45
320	321.24	0.30	0.98	321.01	0.37	0.98
30	30.67	0.21	0.29	30.59	0.19	0.29
370	372.83	0.31	1.12	372.44	0.20	1.12
170	171.62	0.18	0.57	171.79	0.16	0.57
500	500.45	0.15	1.49	500.02	0.24	1.49
270	271.75	0.14	0.84	271.55	0.19	0.84
0	-0.14	0.13	0.28	0.03	0.18	0.28

Note : according to the protocol, these measurement results are the last TS-NS comparison measurement results recorded

Covariance terms in between two measurement results of the national standard

Equation $u(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \cdot x_i \cdot x_j$ Value of α 8.50E-06

Comparison conditions	
Ozone generator manufacturer	Environics
Ozone generator type	Customized
Ozone generator serial number	3355
Room temperature(min-max) / °C	20.7 - 21.1
Room pressure (average) / hpa	1010.8 - 1011.6
Zero air source	Aadco 737
Reference air flow rate (L/min)	2
Sample flow rate (L/min)	2
Instruments stabilisation time	Months
Instruments acquisition time /s (one measurement)	5
Instruments averaging time /s	5
Total time for ozone conditioning	120 min.
Ozone mole fraction during conditioning	1000
Comparison repeated continuously (Yes/No)	Yes
If no, ozone mole fraction in between the comparison repeats	***
Total number of comparison repeats realised	46

Instruments checks and adjustments

National Standard

These measurements were performed at NIST in accordance with the Gas Metrology Group Quality Manual (QM-III-646.03), following TP 646.03.12b [Validation of Standard Reference Photometers].

Transfer Standard

These measurements were performed at NIST in accordance with the Gas Metrology Group Quality Manual (QM-III-839.03), following TP 839.0312B [Validation of Standard Reference Photometers].

calibration of the transfer standard (TS) by the reference standard (RS)

Operator	Faraz Idrees	Location	BIPM/CHEM9
Comparison begin date / time	2025-03-20 09:44	Comparison end date / time	2025-03-20 11:58

Calibration results

Equation
$$x_{RS} = a_{RS,TS} x_{TS} + b_{RS,TS}$$

Least-square regression parameters				
$a_{RS,TS}$	$u(a_{RS,TS})$	$b_{RS,TS}$ (nmol/mol)	$u(b_{RS,TS})$ (nmol/mol)	$u(a,b)$
0.9987583	0.0032769	0.0471103	0.2185345	-0.0002094

(Least-square regression parameters will be computed by the BIPM using the software OzonE v2.0)

Measurement results

Nominal value	Transfer standard (TS)			Reference Standard (RS)		
	x_{TS} nmol/mol	s_{TS} nmol/mol	$u(x_{TS})$ nmol/mol	x_{RS} nmol/mol	s_{RS} nmol/mol	$u(x_{RS})$ nmol/mol
0	0.04	0.20	0.28	0.04	0.12	0.28
220	212.85	0.25	0.68	212.68	0.22	0.68
80	83.58	0.13	0.37	83.38	0.12	0.37
420	421.37	0.19	1.26	420.85	0.18	1.26
120	119.41	0.19	0.45	119.26	0.12	0.45
320	311.36	0.17	0.95	311.13	0.17	0.95
30	36.12	0.11	0.30	36.23	0.15	0.30
370	365.71	0.14	1.10	365.35	0.22	1.10
170	165.84	0.14	0.56	165.69	0.11	0.56
500	516.77	0.26	1.53	516.21	0.19	1.53
270	260.59	0.20	0.81	260.31	0.15	0.81
0	-0.01	0.20	0.28	0.07	0.14	0.28

Note : according to the protocol, these measurement results are the last TS-RS comparison measurement results

Covariance terms in between two measurement results of the reference standard

Equation
$$u(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \cdot x_i \cdot x_j$$

Value of α 8.50E-06

Comparison conditions	
Ozone generator manufacturer	EnviroNics
Ozone generator type	Model 6100
Ozone generator serial number	3128
Room temperature(min-max) / °C	22.9 - 23.0
Room pressure (average) / hpa	1011.2 - 1012.2
Zero air source	compressor + BokoKAT + dryer + Aadco 737-R
Reference air flow rate (L/min)	15
Sample flow rate (L/min)	10
Instruments stabilisation time	> 24 hours
Instruments acquisition time /s (one measurement)	5
Instruments averaging time /s	5
Total time for ozone conditioning	> 24 hours
Ozone mole fraction during conditioning	800 nmol/mol
Comparison repeated continuously (Yes/No)	yes
If no, ozone mole fraction in between the comparison repeats	***
Total number of comparison repeats realised	26
Data files names and location	G:\Gas\Ozone\BIPM.QM-K1\Participants Cal25031700.xls to Cal25032004.xls

Instruments checks and adjustments

Reference Standard

Pressure probe adjustment ; stability test

Transfer Standard

Data reporting sheet
Second comparison of transfer standard (TS) vs national standard (NS)

Operator	Peter Trask	Location	NIST
Comparison begin date / time	May 13, 2025 / 10:49:00 AM	Comparison end date / time	May 13, 2025 / 1:02:00 PM

measurement results

Nominal value	Transfer standard (TS)			National Standard (NS)		
	x_{TS} nmol/mol	s_{TS} nmol/mol	$u(x_{TS})$ nmol/mol	x_{NS} nmol/mol	s_{NS} nmol/mol	$u(x_{NS})$ nmol/mol
0	0.05	0.20	0.28	0.07	0.13	0.28
220	219.72	0.48	0.70	219.67	0.42	0.70
80	80.20	0.14	0.37	79.98	0.31	0.36
420	419.85	0.25	1.26	419.90	0.28	1.26
120	120.37	0.31	0.45	120.24	0.29	0.45
320	319.60	0.10	0.97	319.64	0.25	0.97
30	29.49	0.21	0.29	29.34	0.15	0.29
370	368.96	0.27	1.11	369.08	0.41	1.11
170	169.99	0.18	0.57	169.90	0.21	0.57
500	498.09	0.36	1.48	498.00	0.25	1.48
270	270.01	0.15	0.84	270.05	0.25	0.84
0	-0.02	0.12	0.28	-0.12	0.17	0.28

Note : according to the protocol, these measurement results are the last TS-NS comparison measurement results recorded

Covariance terms in between two measurement results of the national standard

Equation $u(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \cdot x_i \cdot x_j$ Value of α 8.50E-06

Comparison conditions

Ozone generator manufacturer	Aadco
Ozone generator type	Customized
Ozone generator serial number	3355
Room temperature(min-max) / °C	20.2 - 20.3
Room pressure (average) / hpa	1000.5 - 1001.3
Zero air source	Aadco 737
Reference air flow rate (L/min)	2
Sample flow rate (L/min)	2
Instruments stabilisation time	13 Days
Instruments acquisition time /s (one measurement)	5
Instruments averaging time /s	5
Total time for ozone conditioning	120 min.
Ozone mole fraction during conditioning	1000 nmol/mol
Comparison repeated continuously (Yes/No)	Yes
If no, ozone mole fraction in between the comparison repeats	***
Total number of comparison repeats realised	58

Instruments checks and adjustments

National Standard

These measurements were performed at NIST in accordance with the Gas Metrology Group Quality Manual (QM-III-646.03), following TP 646.03.12b [Validation of Standard Reference Photometers].

Transfer Standard

These measurements were performed at NIST in accordance with the Gas Metrology Group Quality Manual (QM-III-839.03), following TP 839.0312B [Validation of Standard Reference Photometers].

Uncertainty budgets (description or reference)

Reference Standard

BIPM-SRP27 uncertainty budget is described in the protocol of this comparison: document BIPM.QM-K1 protocol, date 10 Januray 2007, available on BIPM website. It can be summarised by the formula:

$$u(x) = \sqrt{(0.28)^2 + (2,92 \cdot 10^{-3} x)^2}$$

Transfer Standard

$$u(x) = \sqrt{(0.28)^2 + (2,92 \cdot 10^{-3} x)^2}$$

National Standard

$$u(x) = \sqrt{(0.28)^2 + (2,92 \cdot 10^{-3} x)^2}$$