



# **BIPM Workshop on Measurement Uncertainty 16 June 2015**

**The 2014 CODATA determination of  
the best values and uncertainties of  
the fundamental constants**

**David B. Newell  
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Gaithersburg, MD, USA**



# Outline

- Past adjustments of the constants
- Role and methodology of CODATA TGFC
- 2014 Least Squares Adjustment
- CODATA and the new SI



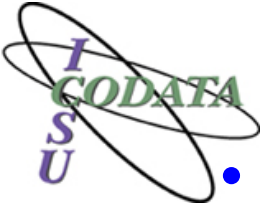
# Past – before CODATA

- **Method of Least Squares**

- “Nouvelles méthodes pour la détermination des orites des comètes,” Adrien-Marie Legendre, Paris, publisher F. Didot, (1805)
- “Theoria motus corporum coelestium in sectionibus conicis solem ambientium,” C. F. Gauss, Hamburg: S. F. Perthes and I. H. Besser, (1809)
- “Théorie Analytique des Probabilités,” P. S. Laplace, marquis de, vol. II, Paris: Ve. Courcier, (1812)
- “Theoria Combinationis Observationum Erroribus Minimis Obnoxiae,” in Commentationes societatis regiae scientiarum Gottingensis recentiores, Vol. v., C. F. Gauss, Göttingen: Royal Society of Göttingen, pp. 33-62 (1823)

- **Adjustments of the Constants**

- “Probable Values of the General Physical Constants,” R. T. Birge, Rev. Mod. Phys. **1**(1), 1-73 (1929)



# Past— before CODATA

## • Subsequent determinations

- “Our Knowledge of the Atomic Constants  $F$ ,  $N$ ,  $m$ , and  $h$  in 1947, and of Other Constants Derivable Therefrom,” J. W. M. DuMond and E. R. Cohen, Rev. Mod. Phys. **20**(1), 82-108 (1948) E **21**(4), 651-652 p. (1949)
- “A Re-Evaluation of the Fundamental Atomic Constants,” J. A. Bearden and H. M. Watts, Phys. Rev. **81**(1), 73-81 (1951)
- “Least-Squares Adjustment of the Atomic Constants, 1952,” J. W. M. DuMond and E. R. Cohen, Rev. Mod. Phys. **25**(3), 691-708 (1953)
- “Present Status of the Atomic Constants,” J. A. Bearden, M. D. Earle, J. M. Minkowski, and J. S. Thomsen, Phys. Rev. **93**(3), 629-630 (1954)
- “A Survey of Atomic Constants,” J. A. Bearden and J. S. Thomsen, Nuovo Cimento Suppl. **5**(2), 267-360 (1957)
- “A survey of the systematic evaluation of the universal physical constants,” R. T. Birge, Nuovo Cimento Suppl. **6**(1), 39-67 (1957)
- “Résumé of Atomic Constants,” J. A. Bearden and J. S. Thomsen, Am. J. Phys. **27**(8), 569-576 (1959)
- “Status of Knowledge of the Fundamental Constants of Physics and Chemistry as of January 1959,” J. W. M. DuMond, Ann. Phys. (N.Y.) **7**(4), 365-403 (1959)
- “Our Knowledge of the Fundamental Constants of Physics and Chemistry in 1965,” E. R. Cohen and J. W. M. DuMond, Rev. Mod. Phys. **37**(4), 537-594 (1965)
- “Determination of  $e/h$ , Using Macroscopic Quantum Phase Coherence in Superconductors: Implications for Quantum Electrodynamics and the Fundamental Physical Constants,” B. N. Taylor, W. H. Parker, and D. N. Langenberg, Rev. Mod. Phys. **41**(3), 375-496 (1969)





# Treatment of Discrepant Data

- Expand all uncertainties for a satisfactory  $\chi^2$
- Exclude “incompatible” data, no expansion
- 
- 

“Comments on Least-Squares Adjustments of The Constants,” B. N. Taylor,  
Proceedings of the International Conference on Precision Measurement and  
Fundamental Constants, NBS, Gaithersburg, MD, August 3-7, 1970



# Treatment of Discrepant Data

- Expand all uncertainties for a satisfactory  $\chi^2$
- Exclude “incompatible” data, no expansion

•  
•

*A set of constants is needed, 'tis true,  
And we must give the adjusters their due.  
But why can't they see  
How better it would be  
If they'd used my experiment too!*

“Comments on Least-Squares Adjustments of The Constants,” B. N. Taylor,  
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And we must give the adjusters their due.*

*But why can't they see  
How better it would be  
If they'd used my ~~experiment~~ too!*

*analysis*

- Input data must be thoroughly investigated!

“Comments on Least-Squares Adjustments of The Constants,” B. N. Taylor,  
Proceedings of the International Conference on Precision Measurement and  
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# Formation of CODATA

- **1966 –ICSU establishes the Committee on Data for Science and Technology (CODATA)**

- To strengthen international science for the benefit of society by promoting improved scientific and technical data management and use



[icsu.org](http://icsu.org)



[codata.org](http://codata.org)

- **1969 CODATA establishes the Task Group on Fundamental Constants**

- To periodically provide the scientific and technological communities with a self-consistent set of internationally recommended values of the basic constants and conversion factors of physics and chemistry based on all of the relevant data available at a given point in time.



# CODATA Adjustments

- “The 1973 least-squares adjustment of the fundamental constants,” E. R. Cohen and B. N. Taylor, J. Phys. Chem. Ref. Data 2(4), 663-734 (1973)
- “The 1986 adjustment of the fundamental physical constants,” E. R. Cohen and B. N. Taylor, Rev. Mod. Phys. 59(4), 1121-1148 (1987)
- “CODATA recommended values of the fundamental physical constants: 1998,” P. J. Mohr and B. N. Taylor, Rev. Mod. Phys. **72**(2), 351-495 (2000)
- “CODATA recommended values of the fundamental physical constants: 2002,” P. J. Mohr and B. N. Taylor, Rev. Mod. Phys. **77**(1), 1-107 (2005)
- “CODATA recommended values of the fundamental physical constants: 2006,” P. J. Mohr, B. N. Taylor, and D. B. Newell, Rev. Mod. Phys. **80**(2), 633-730 (2008)
- “CODATA recommended values of the fundamental physical constants: 2010,” P. J. Mohr, B. N. Taylor, and D. B. Newell, Rev. Mod. Phys. **84**(4), 1527-1605 (2012)



## The NIST Reference on Constants, Units, and Uncertainty

Information at the foundation of modern science and  
technology from the [Physical Measurement Laboratory of  
NIST](#)

### CODATA Internationally recommended **2010 values** of the Fundamental Physical Constants

[pml.nist.gov/constants](http://pml.nist.gov/constants)

#### Constants Topics:

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(e.g., electron mass, most misspellings okay)

Search by name

Search

Display



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by clicking a category below

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Adopted values

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energy equivalents

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Data from the [least-squares adjustment](#) of the values of the constants

### See also

[Article](#) on the 2010 adjustment of the values of the constants

[Searchable bibliography](#) on the constants

[Background information](#) related to the constants

[Links](#) to selected scientific data

Previous Values [\(2006\)](#) [\(2002\)](#) [\(1998\)](#) [\(1986\)](#) [\(1973\)](#) [\(1969\)](#)

The CODATA 2014 values of the constants will be posted in Spring of 2015.

### DEADLINE NOTICES!

There will be an adjustment of the constants to provide the values for a [revision of the International System of  
Units \(SI\)](#) expected to take place in 2018. To be considered for use in this adjustment, new results must be  
**accepted for publication by 1 July 2017.**

The 2018 CODATA adjustment of the fundamental constants will be based on the revised SI, which will  
significantly affect the uncertainties of many constants. For data to be considered for use in this adjustment, they  
must be **discussed in a publication preprint or a publication by 1 July 2018.**

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# TGFC members

**F. Cabiati, Istituto Nazionale di Ricerca Metrologica, Italy**

**J. Fischer, Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt, Germany**

**J. Flowers\*, National Physical Laboratory, United Kingdom**

**K. Fujii, National Metrology Institute of Japan, Japan**

**S. G. Karshenboim, D. I. Mendeleyev Institute of Metrology, Russia, and  
Max-Planck-Institut für Quantenoptik, Germany**

**E. de Mirandés, Bureau International des Poids et Mesures, France**

**P. J. Mohr, National Institute of Standard and Technology, USA**

**D. B. Newell, National Institute of Standard and Technology, USA**

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**K. Pachucki, University of Warsaw, Poland**

**T. J. Quinn, CBE FRS, France**

**B. N. Taylor, National Institute of Standard and Technology, USA**

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**M. Wang, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China**

**B. M. Wood, National Research Council, Canada**

**Z. Zhang, National Institute of Metrology, China**

**\*Deceased**



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- **Role and methodology of CODATA TGFC**
- 2014 Least Squares Adjustment
- CODATA and the new SI



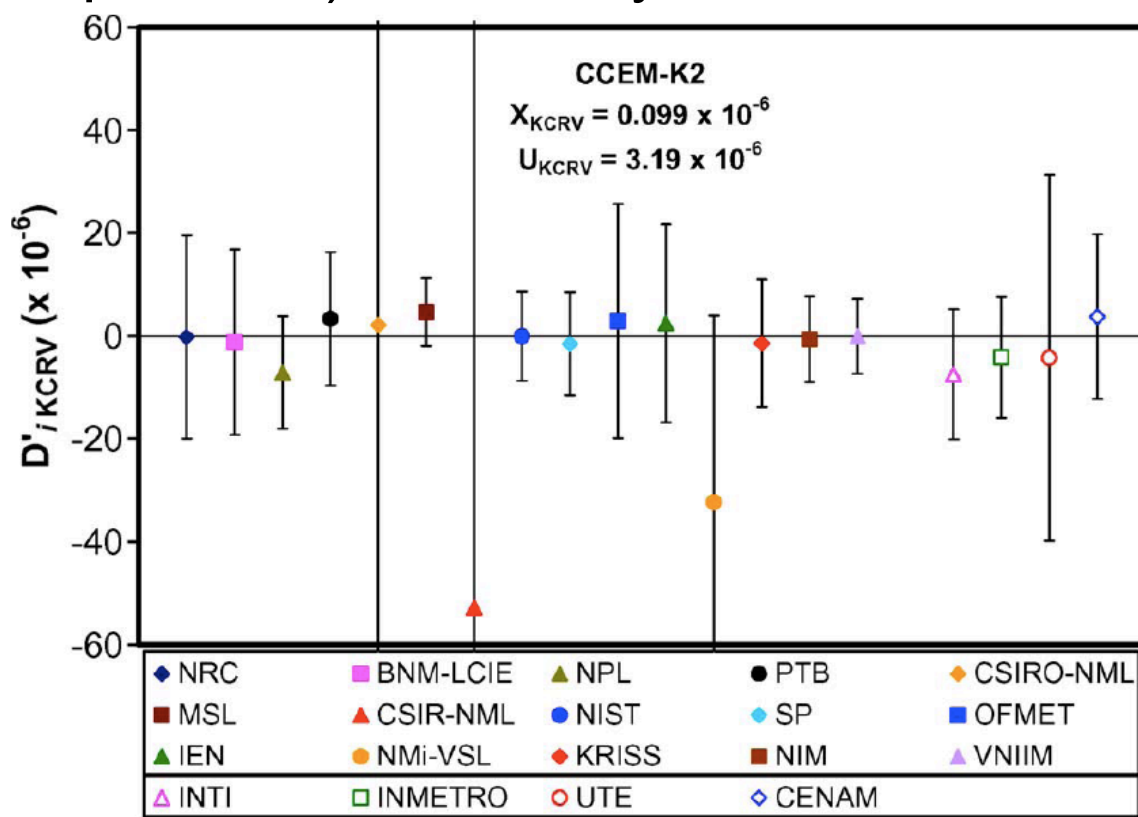


# Role of CODATA TGFC

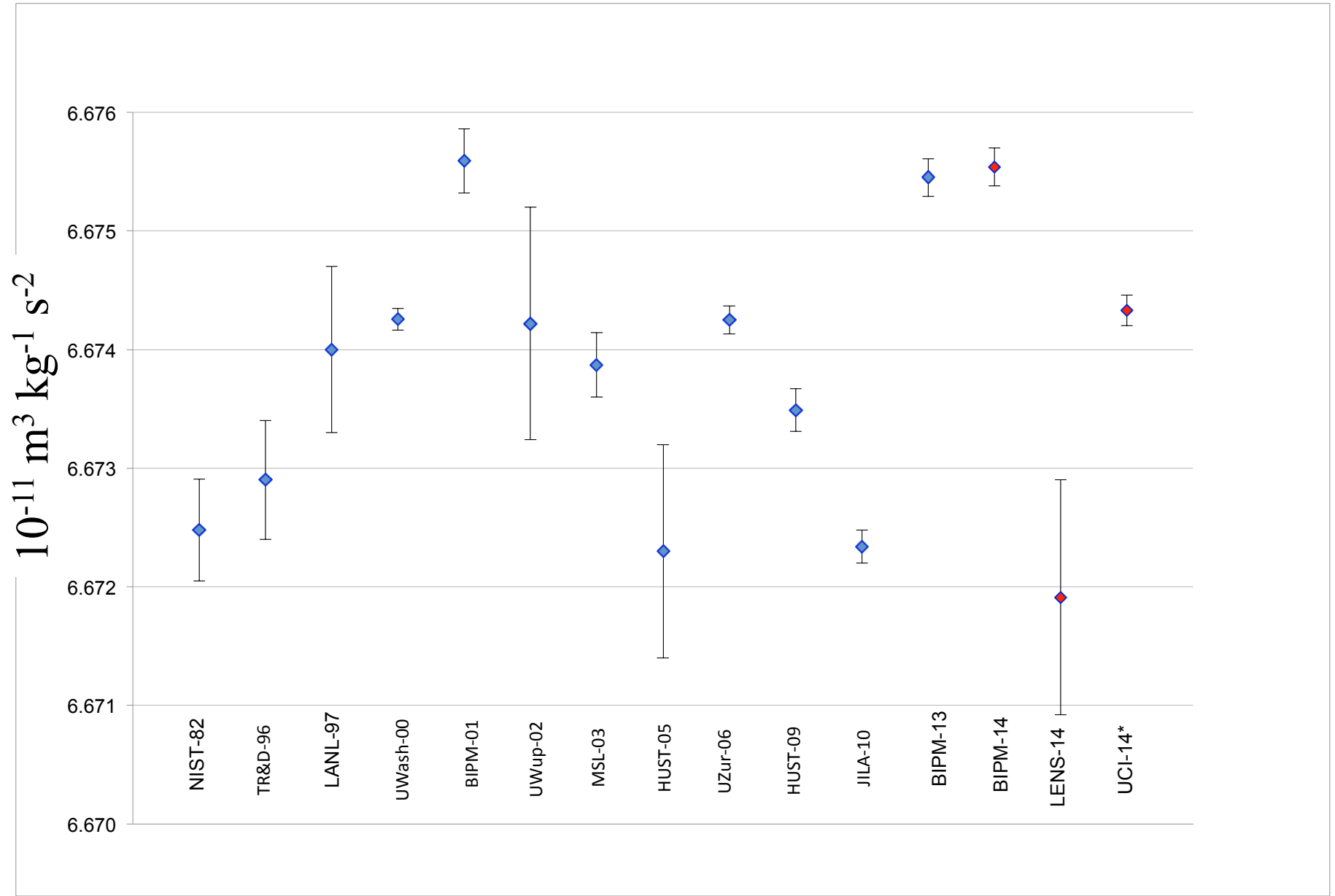
- **Provide the best values of the constants based on all relevant data available**
  - Smallest possible uncertainties
  - Unlike other data comparison analysis (i.e. - key comparisons) - no safety factors

# Role of CODATA TGFC

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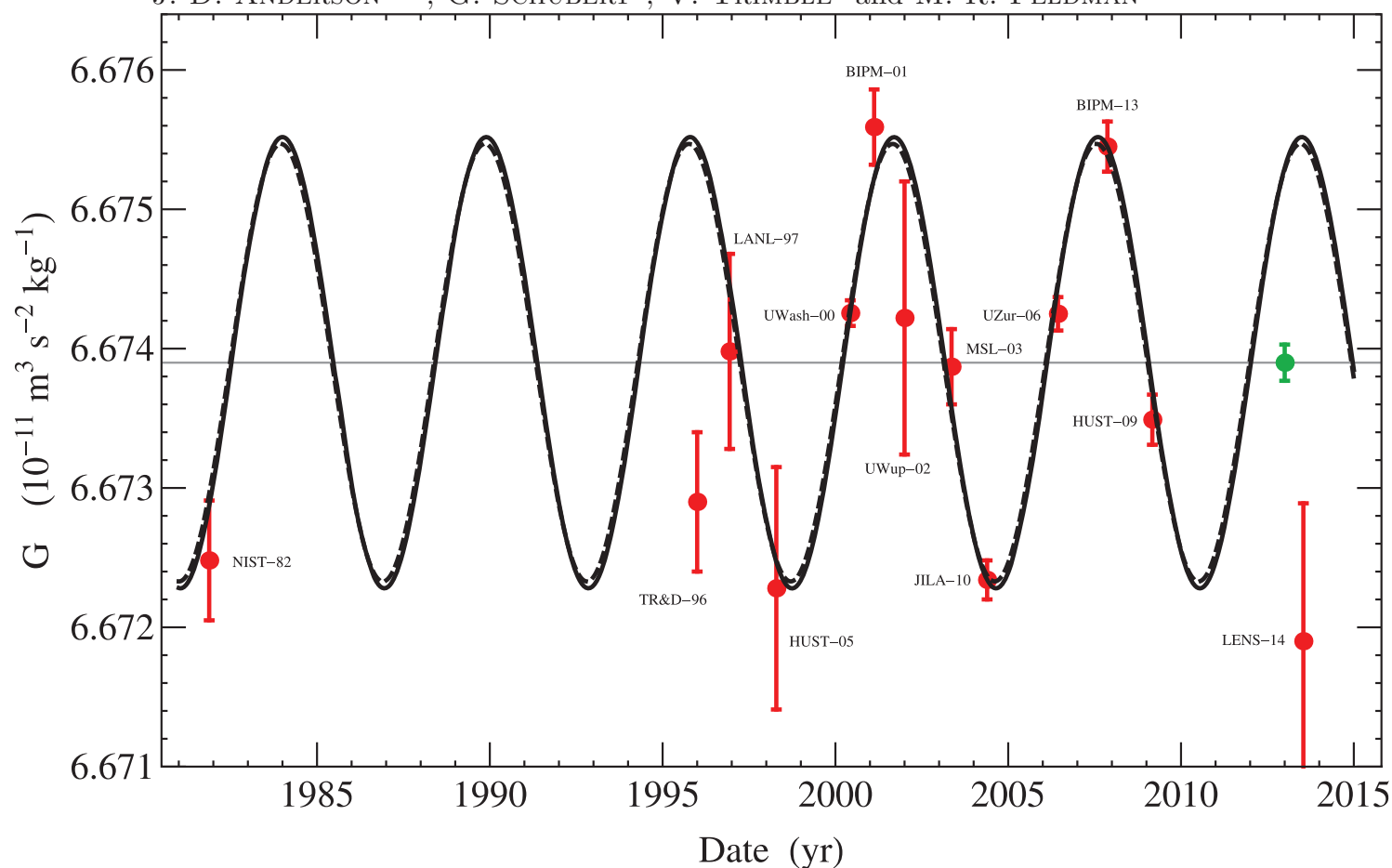


# 2014 Input data related to the Gravitational constant



# Measurements of Newton's gravitational constant and the length of day

J. D. ANDERSON<sup>1(a)</sup>, G. SCHUBERT<sup>2</sup>, V. TRIMBLE<sup>3</sup> and M. R. FELDMAN<sup>4</sup>





# Recent measurements of the gravitational constant as a function of time

S. Schlamminger

*Physical Measurement Laboratory, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, USA*

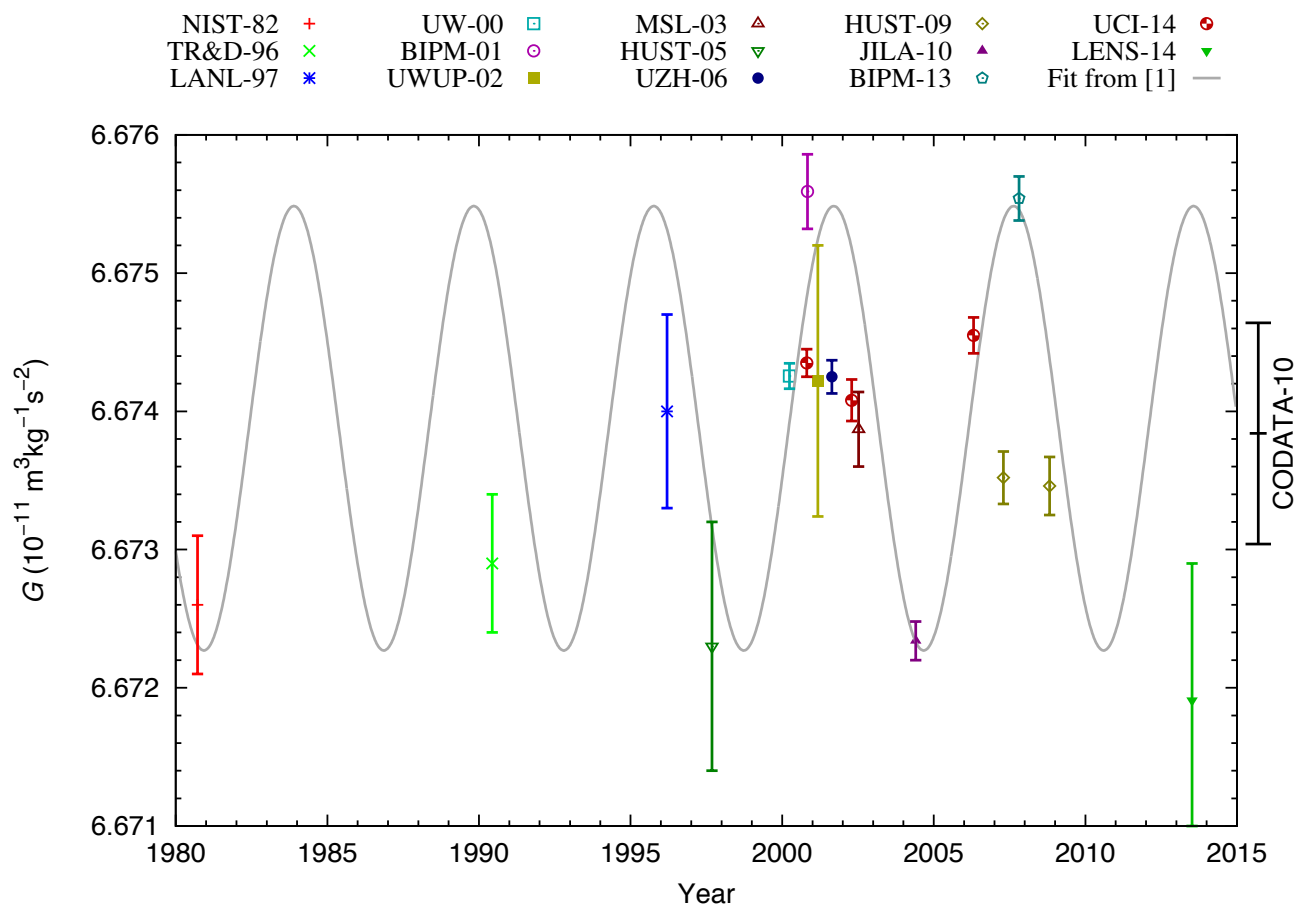
J.H. Gundlach

*Center for Experimental Physics and Astrophysics,  
University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195, USA*

R.D. Newman

*Department of Physics, University of California Irvine, Irvine, CA 92697-4575, USA*

(Dated: June 10, 2015)





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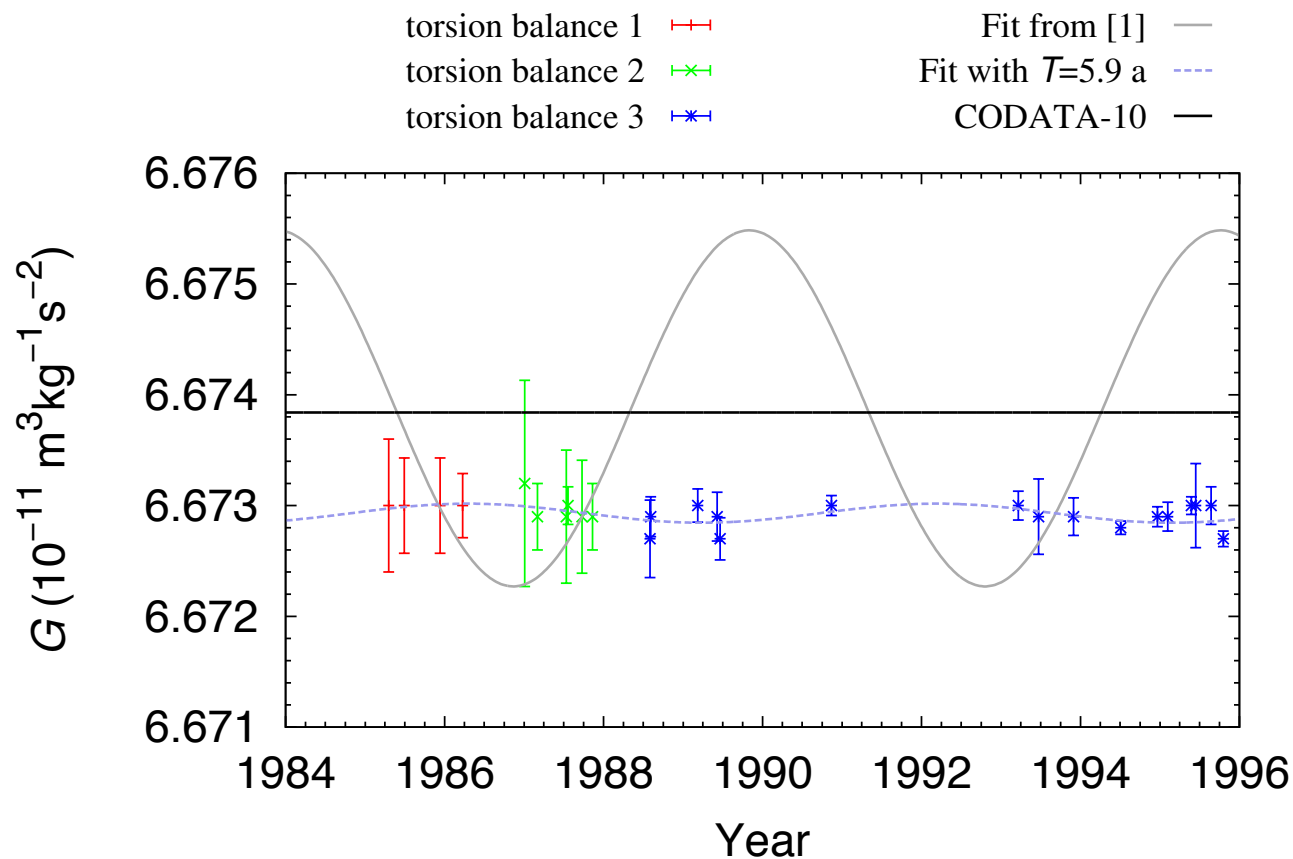
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# TGFC LSA Methodology

- **Collect all data**
  - Older data from previous LSAs
  - Include new data since the last LSA
- **Preliminary review of the data**
  - Check for up-to-date input and corrections
  - Full uncertainty analysis
  - Internal consistency
- **Assess relation with other input data**
  - Supersedes previous results?
  - Covariance - sort by common uncertainty components



# TGFC LSA Methodology (cont.d)

- Run mini LSA for each of the main constants and use “standard” statistic tools to investigate “goodness of fit”
  - Chi squared ( $\chi^2$ ), Probability of reduced  $\chi^2$ , Birge ratio  $R_B$ , Maximum Normalized Residuals (MNR), Maximum Normalized Difference (MND), etc.

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(y_i - y_m)^2}{\sigma_{ii}^2} \quad \sqrt{\chi^2 / v} \quad \frac{(y_i - y_m)}{\sigma_{ii}} \quad \frac{(y_i - y_m)}{(\sigma_{ii}^2 + \sigma_m^2)^{0.5}}$$

- Adjust expansion factors, include/exclude specific data
  - 1% self sensitivity test
- Run “final” multi-variant LSA, argue, re-run LSA, etc.
- *Minimize total ‘disagreement’*





# Multivariable analysis

- Measured quantities (input data) expressed as theoretical functions of the constants (observational equations) through a particular independent subset of the constants (adjusted constants)



# Examples of observational equations

$$K_J^2 R_K = \frac{4}{h}$$

$$N_A = \left( \frac{M_u c}{2} \right) \frac{A_r(e) \alpha^2}{R_\infty h}$$

$$R = R$$

$$k = \left( \frac{2}{M_u c} \right) \frac{R_\infty h R}{A_r(e) \alpha^2}$$

$$\frac{k}{h} = \left( \frac{2}{M_u c} \right) \frac{R_\infty R}{A_r(e) \alpha^2}$$

$$G = G$$

$$\nu_H(1S_{1/2} - 2S_{1/2}) = \frac{3}{4} R_\infty c \left[ 1 - \frac{m_e}{m_p} + \frac{11}{48} \alpha^2 - \frac{28}{9} \frac{\alpha^3}{\pi} \ln \alpha^{-2} - \frac{14}{9} \left( \frac{\alpha R_p}{\lambda_c} \right) + \dots \right]$$



# Least Squares Formalism: Aitkins (1934)

*observational data:*  $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_N$

*unknowns:*  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_M$  ( $M \leq N$ )

*observational equations:*  $q_i \doteq f_i(z) \equiv f_i(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_M)$

Linear approximation about starting values  $s$  for  $z$ :

$$q_i \doteq f_i(s) + \sum_{j=1}^M \frac{\partial f_i(s)}{\partial s_j} (z_j - s_j) + \dots$$

or

$$y_i \doteq \sum_{j=1}^M A_{ij} x_j + \dots$$

where  $y_i = q_i - f_i(s)$ ,  $x_j = z_j - s_j$ ,

and  $A_{ij} = \frac{\partial f_i(s)}{\partial s_j}$



# Least Squares Formalism: Aitkins (1934)

In matrix notation:  $Y \doteq AX$

with *covariance matrix*:  $V = \text{cov}(Y)$

LSA is the solution  $\hat{X}$  for  $X$  that minimizes

$$\chi^2(X) = (Y - AX)^\top V^{-1} (Y - AX)$$

**If the observations  $Y$  are uncorrelated**

$$(Y - AX)^\top V^{-1} (Y - AX) = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{(Y - AX)_i^2}{(\delta Y)_i^2}$$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{X} &= (A^\top V^{-1} A)^{-1} A^\top V^{-1} Y \\ \text{cov}(\hat{X}) &= (A^\top V^{-1} A)^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{Z} &= S + \hat{X} \\ \text{cov}(\hat{Z}) &= \text{cov}(\hat{X}) \\ \hat{Y} &= A\hat{X} \\ \hat{q}_i &= f_i(s) + \hat{y}_i\end{aligned}$$



# Calculated constants

$$e = \left( \frac{2\alpha h}{\mu_0 c} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$k = \left( \frac{M_u c}{2} \right) R \frac{A_r(e) \alpha^2}{R_\infty h}$$

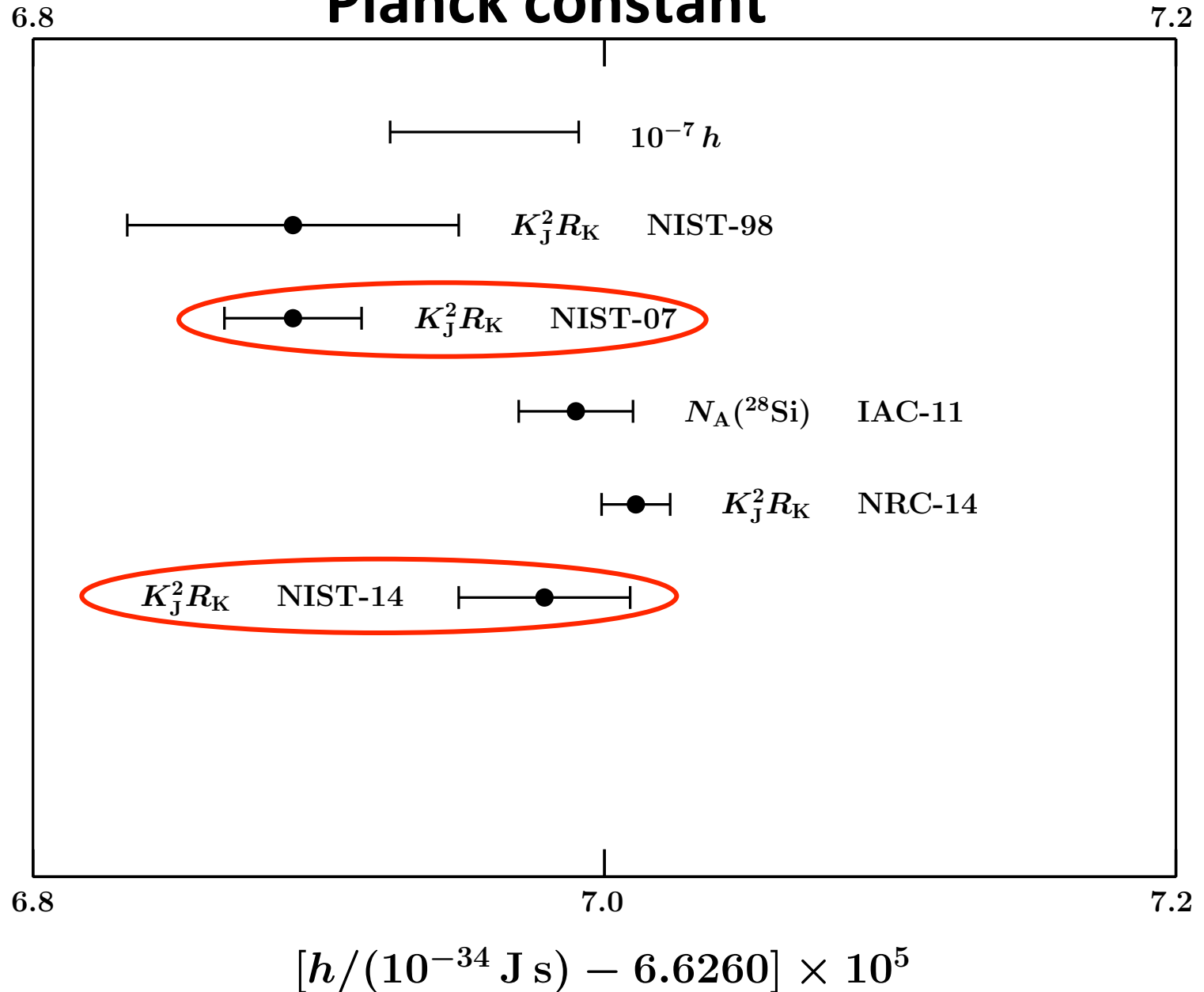
$$N_A = \left( \frac{M_u c}{2} \right) \frac{A_r(e) \alpha^2}{R_\infty h}$$



# Outline

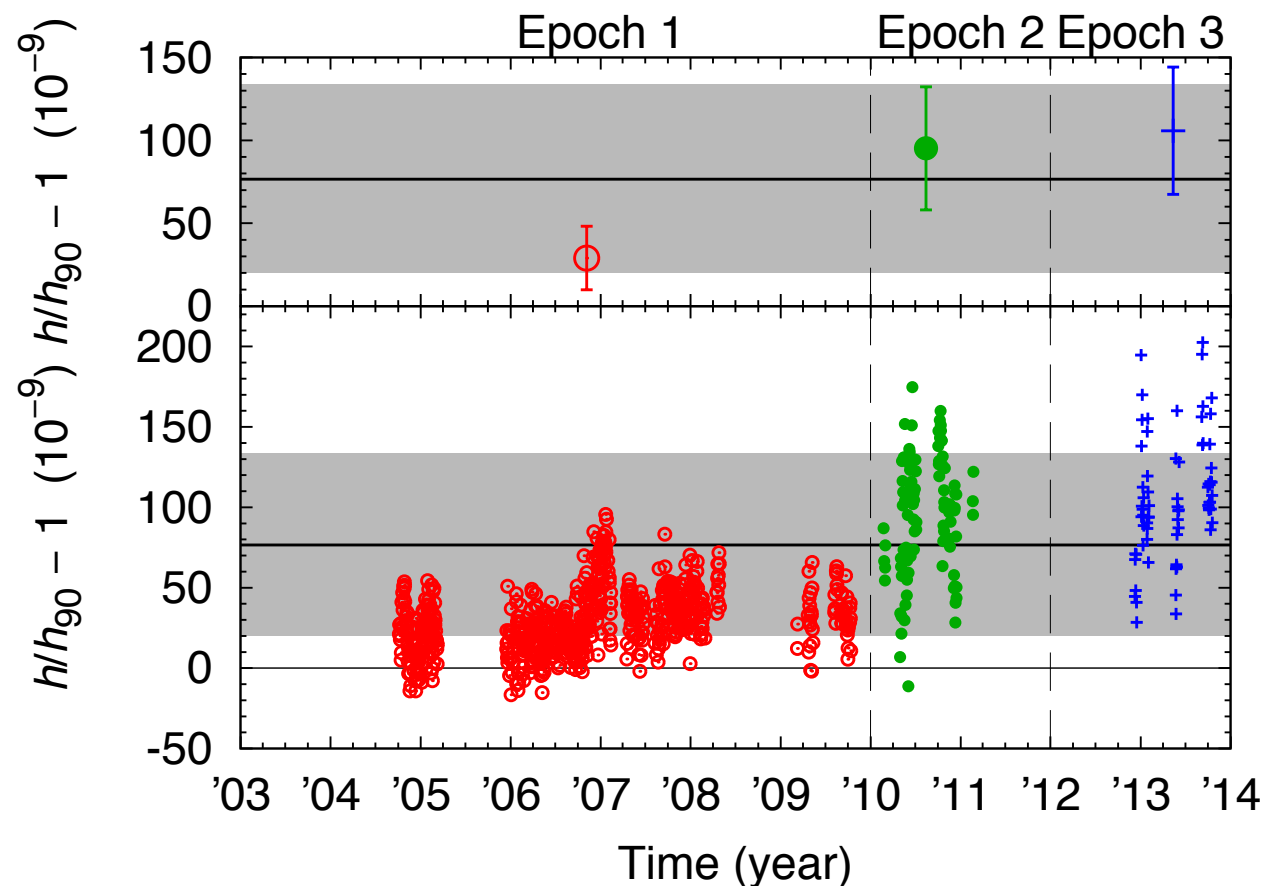
- Past adjustments of the constants
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- **2014 Least Squares Adjustment**
- CODATA and the new SI

# 2014 Input data related to the Planck constant



# A summary of the Planck constant measurements using a watt balance with a superconducting solenoid at NIST

S Schlamminger<sup>1</sup>, R L Steiner<sup>1</sup>, D Haddad<sup>2</sup>, D B Newell<sup>1</sup>, F Seifert<sup>2</sup>,  
L S Chao<sup>1</sup>, R Liu<sup>1</sup>, E R Williams<sup>1</sup> and J R Pratt<sup>1</sup>







$$h = 6.626\,070\,038(81) \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$$
$$[1.2 \times 10^{-8}]$$

$\chi^2$ : 8.49

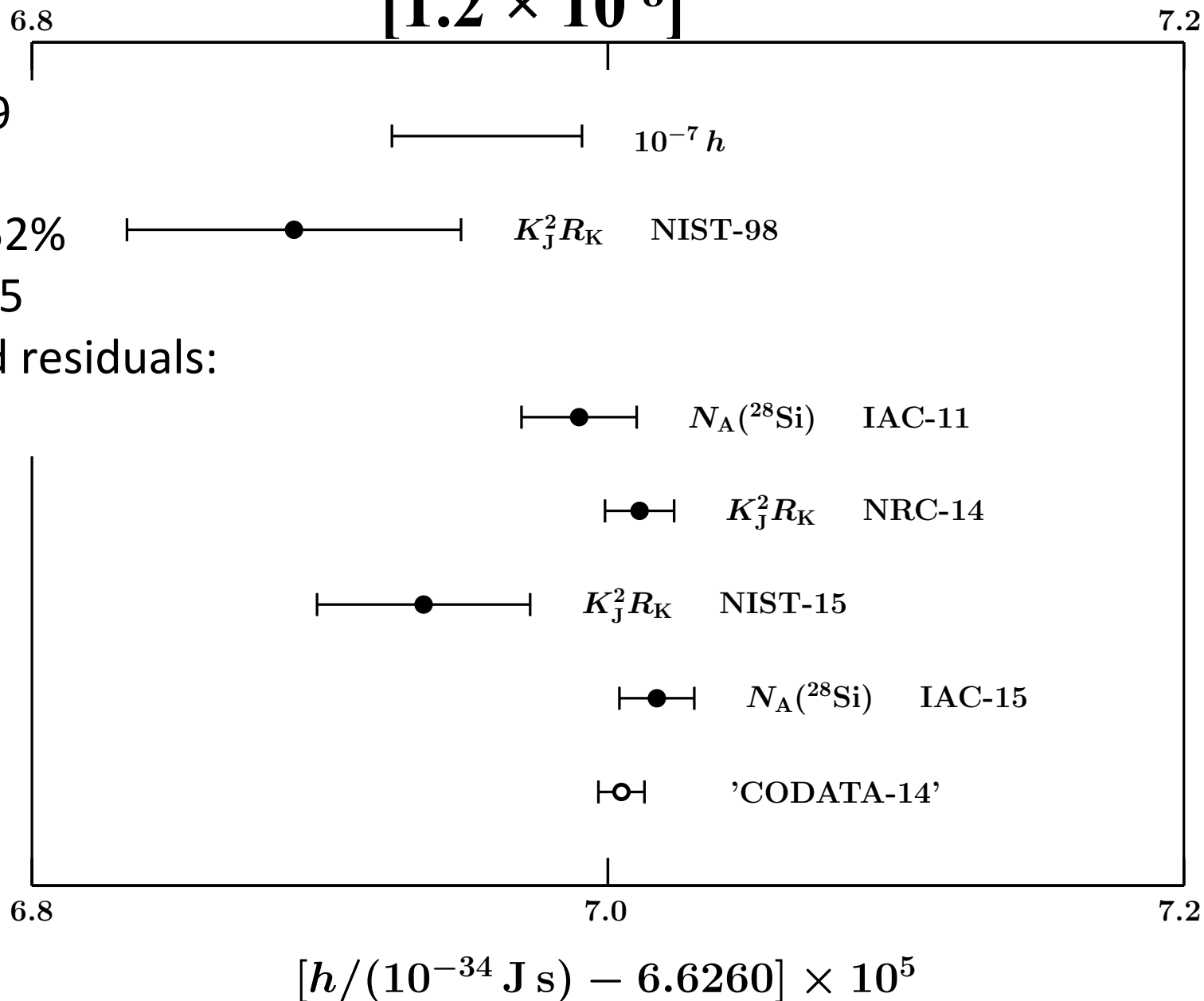
DOF: 4

Prob.  $\chi^2$ : 7.52%

$R_B$ : 1.45

Max. reduced residuals:

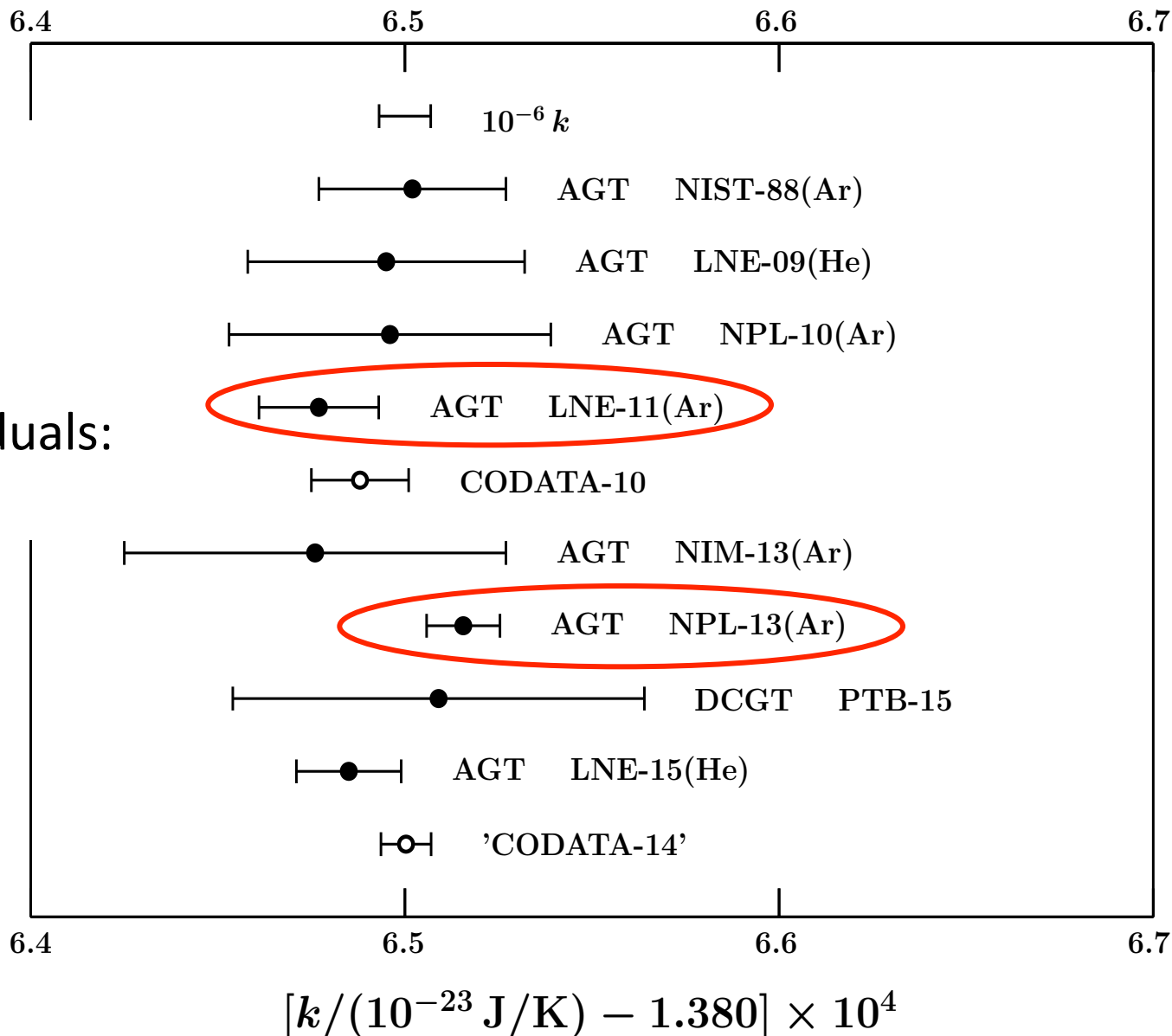
1.96, 1.84





# 2014 Input data related to the Boltzmann constant

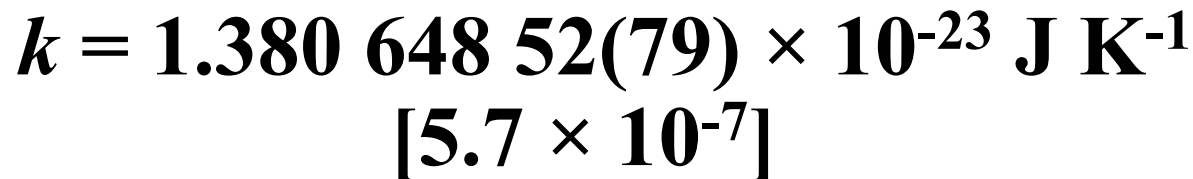
$\chi^2$ : 5.50  
 DOF: 7  
 Prob.  $\chi^2$ : 60.0%  
 $R_B$ : 0.89  
 Max. reduced residuals:  
 -1.28, 1.55





# Acoustic Gas Thermometry Correlations

correlated relative uncertainty components, ppm	NIST-88 (Ar)	LNE-09 (He)	NPL-10 (Ar)	INRIM-10 (He)	LNE-11 (Ar)	NIM-13 (Ar)	NPL-13 (Ar)	LNE-15 (He)
mw geometry		0.05	0.05	0.01	0.05		0.05	0.05
mw waveguides and/or probe		0.10	0.10		0.10		0.10	0.10
fitting routine - NPL			0.02				0.02	
thermal cond Ar	0.02		0.02		0.02	0.02	0.02	
thermal cond He		0.02		0.02				0.02
acoustic geometry		0.05	0.05	0.01	0.05		0.05	0.05
A3 coefficient	0.05		0.05		0.07	0.07	0.08	
Molar mass He		0.10		0.17				0.10
Molar mass Ar - IRMM			0.70		0.70			
Molar mass Ar - KRISS						0.53	0.53	
Resonator Volume - LNE					0.57			0.57
TPW - LNE		0.16			0.16			0.16



Individuals:

$10^{-6} k$

AGT NIST-88(Ar)

AGT LNE-09(He)

AGT NPL-10(Ar)

AGT LNE-11(Ar)

CODATA-10

AGT NIM-13(Ar)

AGT NPL-13(Ar)

DCGT PTB-15

AGT LNE-15(He)

JNT NIM-NIST-15

CODATA-14

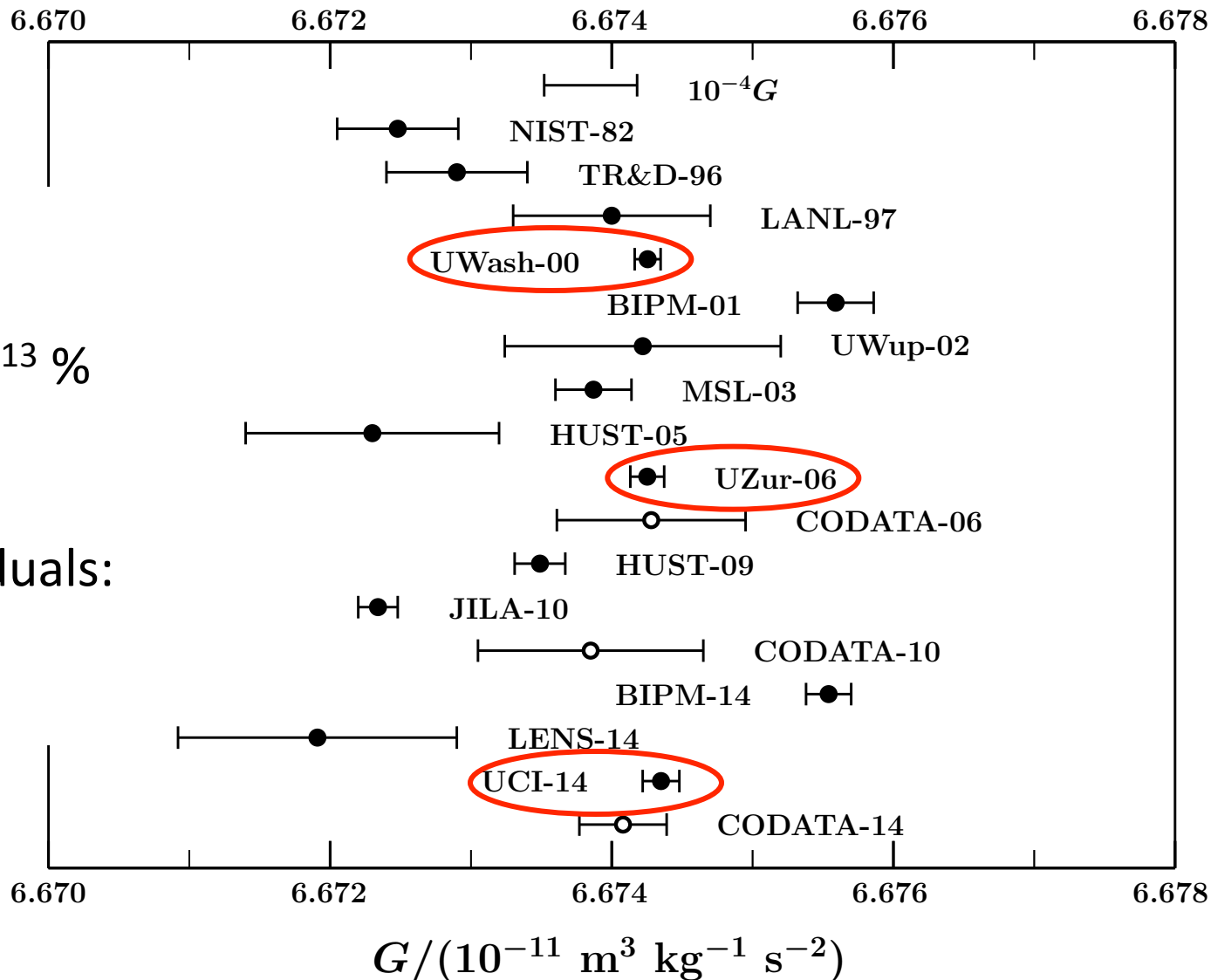
$[k/(10^{-23} \text{ J/K}) - 1.380] \times 10^4$



# 2014 Input data related to the Gravitational constant

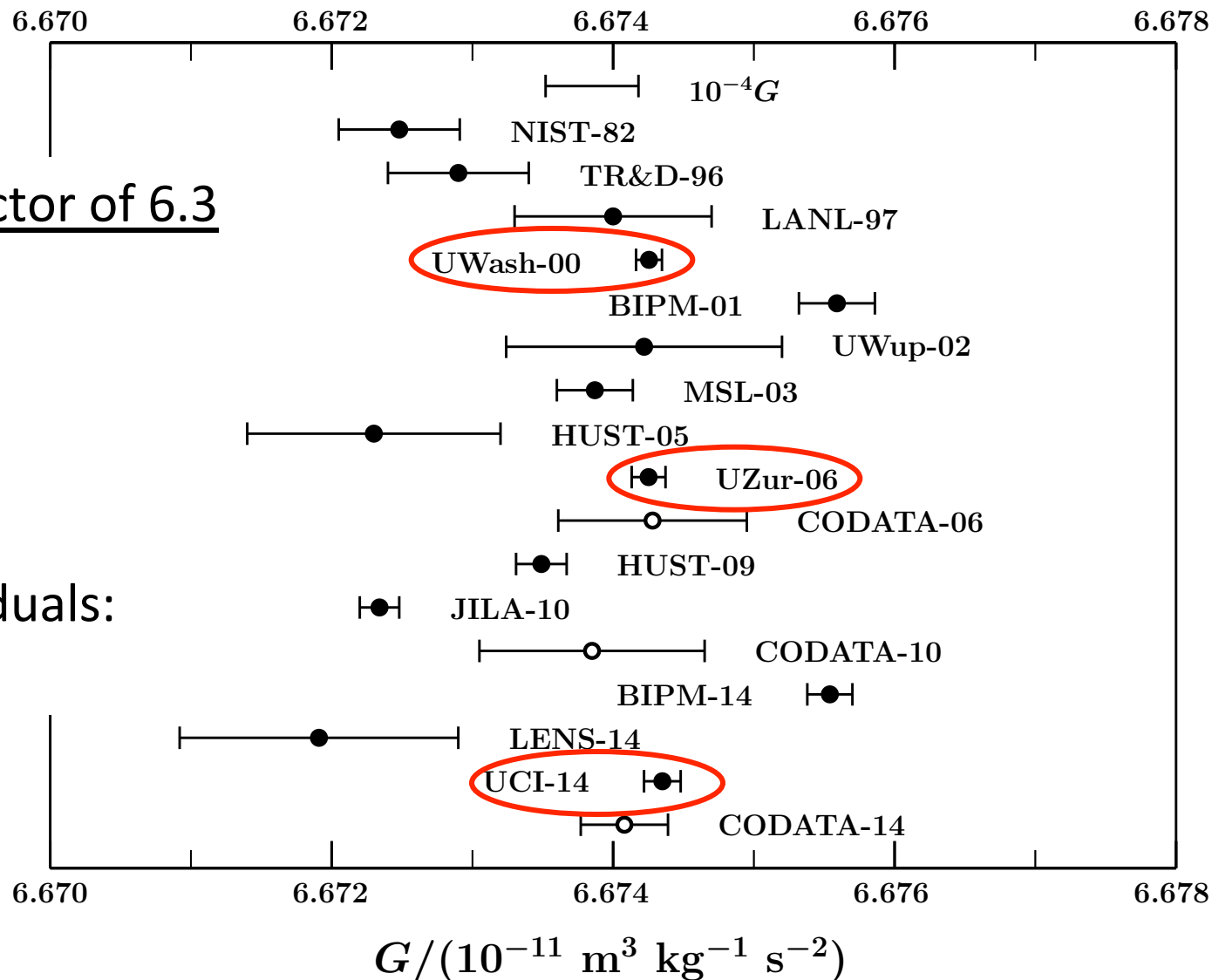
$\chi^2$ : 318  
DOF: 13  
Prob.  $\chi^2$ :  $6.8 \times 10^{-13} \%$   
 $R_B$ : 4.95

Max. reduced residuals:  
-12.4, 9.14





$$G = 6.67408(31) \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2}$$
$$[4.7 \times 10^{-5}]$$



With expansion factor of 6.3

$\chi^2$ : 8.05

DOF: 13

Prob.  $\chi^2$ : 84%

$R_B$ : 0.79

Max. reduced residuals:

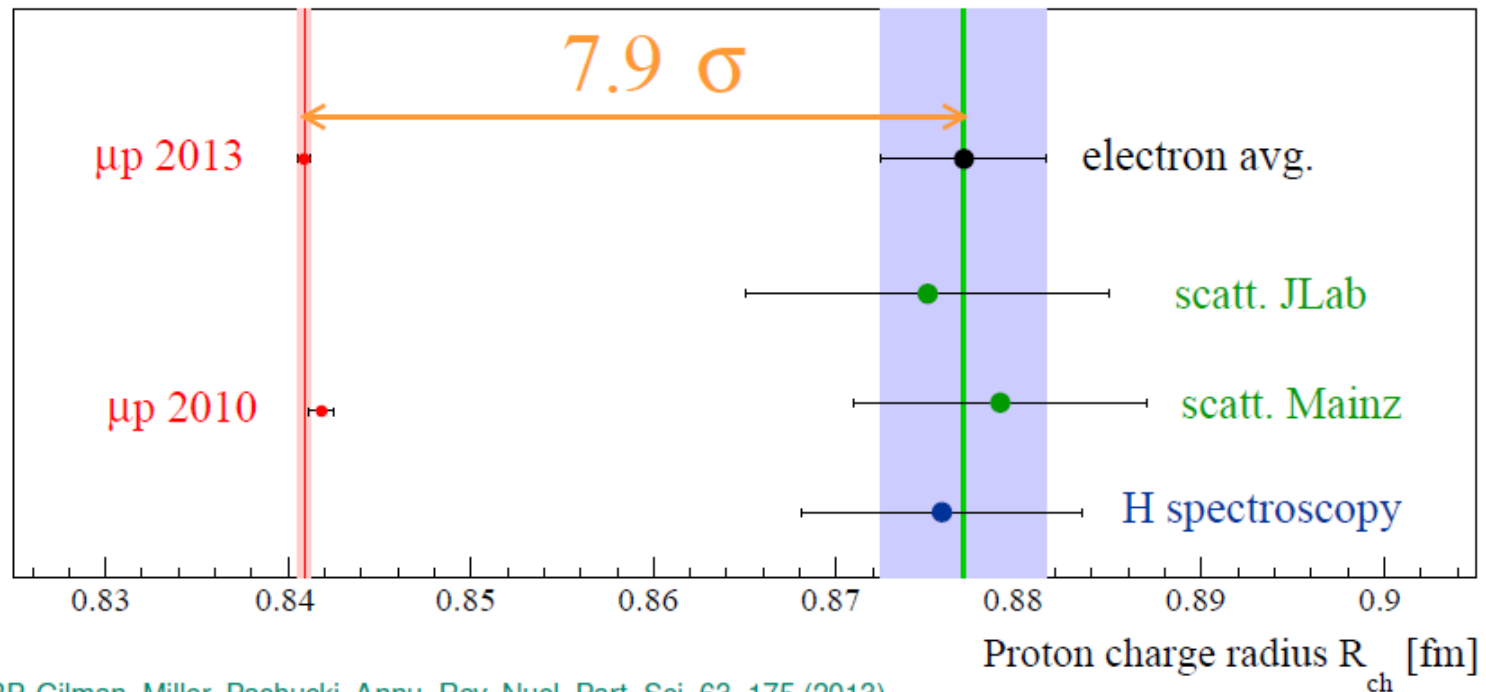
-1.98, 1.44

# Rydberg constant, muonic hydrogen, and the proton radius

The proton rms charge radius measured with

electrons:  $0.8770 \pm 0.0045$  fm

muons:  $0.8409 \pm 0.0004$  fm





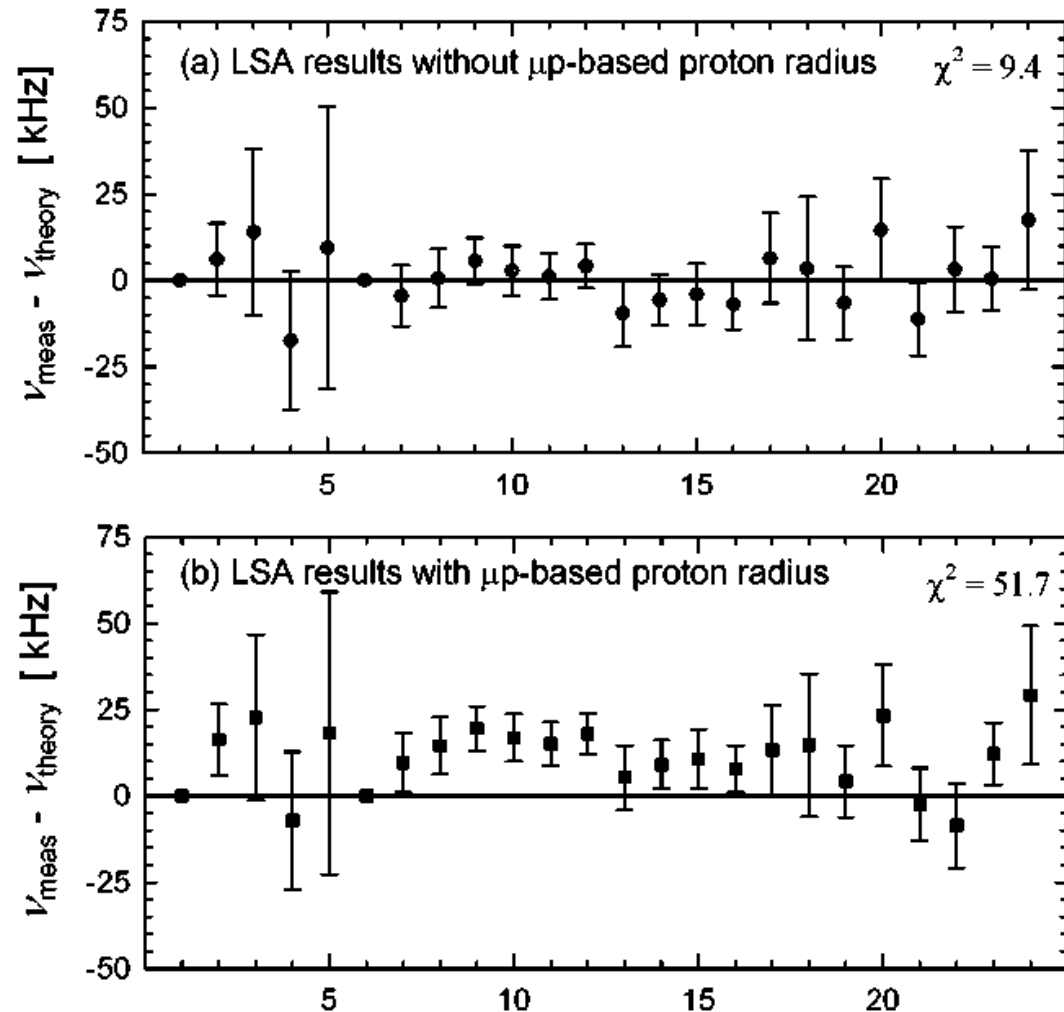
# Input data related to the 2010 CODATA TGFC determination of the Rydberg constant

Transition frequencies in hydrogen and deuterium (experiment – theory)

experiment

theory

$$\nu_{\text{H}}(1S_{1/2} - 2S_{1/2}) = \frac{3}{4} R_{\infty} c \left[ 1 - \frac{m_e}{m_p} + \frac{11}{48} \alpha^2 - \frac{28}{9} \frac{\alpha^3}{\pi} \ln \alpha^{-2} - \frac{14}{9} \left( \frac{\alpha R_p}{\tilde{\lambda}_c} \right) + \dots \right]$$







# CODATA TGFC meeting 1 – 2 November, 2014





# Outline

- Past adjustments of the constants
- Role and methodology of CODATA TGFC
- 2014 Least Squares Adjustment
- **CODATA and the new SI**



# New SI

(<http://www.bipm.org/en/measurement-units/new-si/>)

Future revision of the SI

What?

Why?

When?

Ongoing work

Communication and debate; draft documents

FAQs; More info.

The New SI based on fixed values of:

- Planck constant,  $h$
- Avogadro constant,  $N_A$
- elementary charge,  $e$
- Boltzmann constant,  $k$

Resolution 1 of the 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CGPM:

Invites:

- CODATA to continue to provide adjusted values of the fundamental physical constants . . .  
*since these CODATA values and uncertainties will be those used for the revised SI*

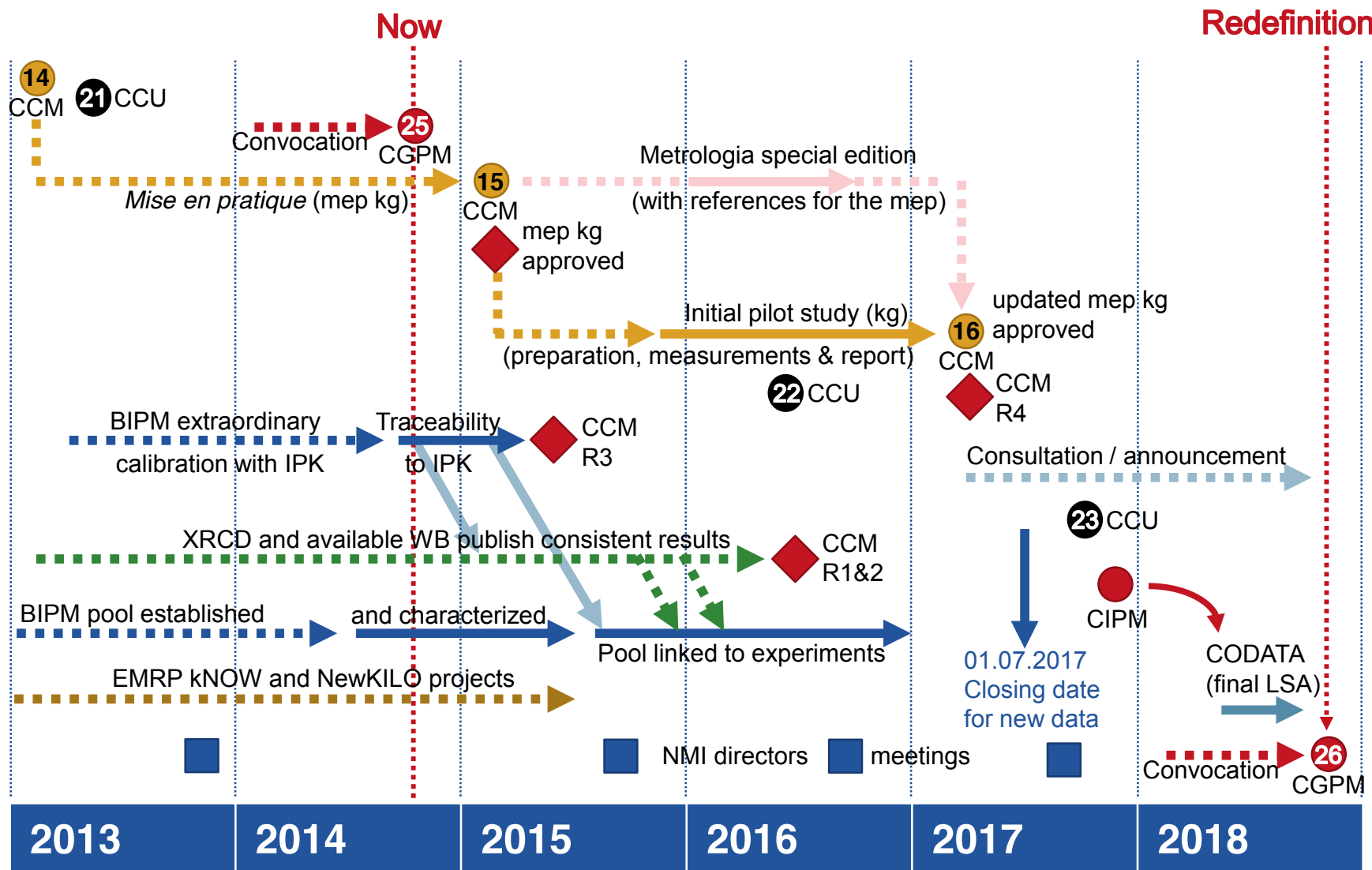


- SI road-map  (updated 2014)

- Resolution 1 of the CGPM (2014): On the future revision of the International System of Units, the SI
- Resolution 1 of the CGPM (2011): On the possible future revision of the International System of Units, the SI

# On the road to redefinition

## Joint CCM and CCU roadmap for the new SI





# Critical Deadlines

## 1 July 2017

Closing date for data for special CODATA constants adjustment to determine exact values of  $h$ ,  $e$ ,  $k$ , and  $N_A$  for 2018 revised SI (International System of Units).

***BY this date data must be published or available in a preprint accepted for publication.***



# Critical Deadlines

## 1 July 2018

Closing date for data for CODATA constants adjustment to determine new set of CODATA recommended values consistent with the revised SI (replaces 31 December 2018 normal closing date).

***By this date data should be published or available in a preprint for publication.***



## Summary

- In any determination of the best values and uncertainties of parameters (i.e. constants), input data must be fully investigated before any analysis
- Significant progress of the input data that determine the constants that will be define the new SI ( $h$ ,  $e$ ,  $N_a$ ,  $k$ )