

Update of the BIPM comparison BIPM.RI(II)-K1.Cu-64 of activity measurements of the radionuclide ^{64}Cu to include the 2009 results of the CMI-IIR (Czech Rep.) and the NPL (UK), the 2010 result of the LNE-LNHB (France) and the 2011 result of the ENEA-INMRI (Italy)

C. Michotte, G. Ratel and S. Courte, J. Sochorová[#], P. Auerbach[#],
J. Keightley^{\$}, L. Johansson^{\$}, E. Bakhshandehar^{\$}, P. Cassette*, M. Moune*,
M. Capogni⁺, P. De Felice⁺
BIPM, [#]CMI-IIR, ^{\$}NPL, *LNE-LNHB, ⁺ENEA-INMRI

Abstract

Since 2009, four national metrology institutes (NMI) have submitted four samples of known activity of ^{64}Cu to the International Reference System (SIR) for activity comparison at the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM), with comparison identifier BIPM.RI(II)-K1.Cu-64. The values of the activity submitted were between about 3 MBq and 260 MBq. There are now five results in the BIPM.RI(II)-K1.Cu-64 comparison. A key comparison reference value (KCRV) has been calculated for the first time for this nuclide. The degrees of equivalence between each equivalent activity measured in the SIR and the KCRV have been calculated and the results are given in the form of a table. A graphical presentation is also given.

1. Introduction

The SIR for activity measurements of γ -ray-emitting radionuclides was established in 1976. Each national metrology institute (NMI) may request a standard ampoule from the BIPM that is then filled (3.6 g) with the radionuclide in liquid form. For radioactive gases, a different standard ampoule is used. The NMI completes a submission form that details the standardization method used to determine the absolute activity of the radionuclide and the full uncertainty budget for the evaluation. The ampoules are sent to the BIPM where they are compared with standard sources of ^{226}Ra using pressurized ionization chambers. Details of the SIR method, experimental set-up and the determination of the equivalent activity, A_e , are all given in [1].

From its inception until 31 December 2012, the SIR has measured 966 ampoules to give 721 independent results for 67 different radionuclides. The SIR makes it possible for national laboratories to check the reliability of their activity measurements at any time. This is achieved by the determination of the equivalent activity of the radionuclide and by comparison of the result with the key comparison reference value determined from the results of primary standardizations. These comparisons are described as BIPM ongoing comparisons and the results form the basis of the BIPM key comparison database (KCDB) of the CIPM Mutual Recognition Arrangement (CIPM MRA) [2]. The comparison described in this report

is known as the BIPM.RI(II)-K1.Cu-64 key comparison and includes results published previously [3].

2. Participants

Since 2009 the CMI-IIR, NPL, LNE-LNHB and ENEA-INMRI have submitted ampoules for inclusion in this comparison. The details of these recent submissions and the previous submissions are given in Table 1. The dates of measurement in the SIR given in Table 1 are used in the KCDB and all references in this report.

Table 1. Details of the participants in the BIPM.RI(II)-K1.Cu-64

NMI	Full name	Country	Regional metrology organization	Date of measurement at the BIPM YYYY-MM-DD
PTB	Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt	Germany	EURAMET	2009-02-12 08 h 54 UT
CMI-IIR	Český Metrologický Institut - Inspectorate for Ionizing Radiation	Czech Republic	EURAMET	2009-09-16 13 h 45 UT
NPL	National Physical Laboratory	United Kingdom	EURAMET	2009-11-18 13 h 19 UT
LNE-LNHB	Laboratoire national de métrologie et d'essais - Laboratoire national Henri Becquerel	France	EURAMET	2010-03-18 16 h 49 UT
ENEA-INMRI	Agenzia nazionale per le nuove tecnologie, l'energia e lo sviluppo economico sostenibile - Istituto Nazionale di Metrologia delle Radiazioni Ionizzanti	Italy	EURAMET	2011-10-14 13 h 10 UT

3. NMI standardization methods

Each NMI that submits ampoules to the SIR has measured the activity either by a primary standardization method or by using a secondary method, for example a calibrated ionization chamber. In the latter case, the traceability of the calibration needs to be clearly identified to ensure that appropriate correlations are taken into account.

A brief description of the standardization methods for each laboratory, the activities submitted, the relative standard uncertainties ($k = 1$) and the half-life used by the participants are given in Table 2. The uncertainty budgets for the four new submissions are given in Appendix 1 attached to this report; previous budgets are given in the earlier K1 report [3]. The list of acronyms used to summarize the methods is given in Appendix 2.

The half-life used by the BIPM is 12.701 (2) h [4].

Table 2. Standardization methods of the participants for ^{64}Cu

NMI	Method used and acronym (see Appendix 2)	Half-life / h	Activity A_i / kBq	Reference date YY-MM-DD	Relative standard uncertainty / 10^{-2} by method of evaluation	
					A	B
PTB	LSC (CIEMAT/NIST) 4P-LS-MX-00-00-CN and $4\pi(e,x)-\gamma$ coincidence 4P-PC-MX-NA-GR-CO	12.7001 (22)	9 311	09-02-13 0 h 00 UT	0.47	
CMI-IIR	$4\pi(\beta,\beta^+,e_A)\text{PC}-\gamma$ coincidence 4P-PC-MX-NA-GR-CO	12.701 (2)	10 440	09-09-16 10 h 00 UT	0.5	0.9
NPL	4 π LS- γ digital coincidence 4P-LS-MX-NA-GR-DC LSC (CIEMAT/NIST) 4P-LS-MX-00-00-CN	12.701 (2)	258 800	09-11-17 12 h 00 UT	0.25	0.58
			257 500		0.11	0.70
LNE-LNHB	TDCR 4P-LS-MX-00-00-TD	12.701 (2)	3 006	10-03-18 12 h UT	0.3	0.7
ENEA-INMRI	Pressurized IC [#] 4P-IC-GR-00-00-00	12.701 (4)	88 382*	11-10-11 9 h 00 UT	0.74	0.06

[#] Calibrated in May-June 2010 by 4P-LS-MX-00-00-CN and 4P-NA-MX-00-00-HE

* arithmetic mean result of measurements in two different ICs.

Details regarding the solution submitted are shown in Table 3, including any impurities, when present, as identified by the laboratories. When given, the standard uncertainties on the evaluations are shown. The BIPM standard method for evaluating the activity of impurities using a calibrated Ge(Li) spectrometer is described in [5]. The CCRI(II) agreed in 1999 [6] that this method should be followed according to the protocol described in [7] when an NMI makes such a request or when there appear to be discrepancies. However, it was not necessary to use the impurity measurements carried out at the BIPM for ^{64}Cu in this case.

Table 3. Details of each solution of ^{64}Cu submitted

NMI / SIR year	Chemical composition	Solvent conc. / (mol dm^{-3})	Carrier: conc. / ($\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$)	Density / (g cm^{-3})	Relative activity of any impurity [†]
PTB / 2009	CuCl_2 in HCl	0.1	CuCl_2 : 30	1.000	–
CMI-IIR / 2009	CuCl_2 in HCl	0.08	CuCl_2 : 603	1	–
NPL / 2009	CuCl_2 in HCl	1	CuCl_2 : 10	1.00	–
LNE-LNHB / 2010	CuCl_2 in HCl	0.1	CuCl_2 : 10	1.000 1	–
ENEA-INMRI / 2011	CuSO_4 in HCl	0.5	CuSO_4 : 25	1.026	^{67}Cu : $0.070 (4) \times 10^{-4}$ ^{55}Co : $3.156 (76) \times 10^{-4}$ ^{56}Co : $0.00600 (16) \times 10^{-4}$ ^{57}Co : $0.264 (4) \times 10^{-4}$ ^{58}Co : $0.0240 (6) \times 10^{-4}$

[†] the ratio of the activity of the impurity to the activity of ^{64}Cu at the reference date

4. Results

All the submissions to the SIR since its inception in 1976 are maintained in a database known as the "master-file". The recent submissions have added four ampoules for the activity measurements for ^{64}Cu giving rise to five ampoules in total. The SIR equivalent activity for each ampoule, A_{ei} , is given in Table 4 for each NMI, i .

The relative standard uncertainties arising from the measurements in the SIR are also shown. This uncertainty is additional to that declared by the NMI for the activity measurement shown in Table 2. Although activities submitted are compared with a given source of ^{226}Ra , all the SIR results are normalized to the radium source number 5 [1].

Measurements repeated at the BIPM after periods of up to one or two days later produced comparison results in agreement within one combined standard uncertainty for the CMI-IIR, NPL and for the LNE-LNHB.

For the ENEA ampoule, the correction factor for the SIR impurity correction amounts to 1.012 and is dominated by the contribution of ^{55}Co .

No recent submission has been identified as a pilot study so the most recent result of each NMI is normally eligible for Appendix B of the MRA.

No international or regional comparison for this radionuclide has been held to date so no linking data are identified.

Table 4. Results of SIR measurements of ^{64}Cu

NMI / SIR year	Mass of solution m_i / g	Activity submitted A_i / kBq	N° of Ra source used	SIR $A_{e,i}$ / kBq	Relative uncertainty from SIR	Combined uncertainty $u_{c,i}$ / kBq
PTB / 2009	3.635 78	9 311	4	81 400	6×10^{-4}	390
CMI-IIR / 2009	3.602 96	10 440	3	79 750	6×10^{-4}	790
NPL / 2009	3.586 8	258 800 [#] 257 500	5	81 030 [#] 80 640	6×10^{-4}	510 [#] 570
LNE-LNHB / 2010	3.679 6 (6)	3 006	2	81 270	9×10^{-4}	630
ENEA-INMRI / 2011	3.693 36	88 382	1	80 820	14×10^{-4}	610

[#] Result by digital coincidence counting, selected by the NPL as final result

4.1 The key comparison reference value

In May 2013 the CCRI(II) decided to no longer calculate the key comparison reference value (KCRV) by using an unweighted mean but rather by using the power-moderated weighted mean [8]. This type of weighted mean is similar to a Mandel-Paule mean in that the NMIs' uncertainties may be increased until the reduced chi-squared value is one. In addition, it allows for a power smaller than two in the weighting factor. Therefore, all SIR key comparison results can be selected for the KCRV with the following provisions:

- only solutions standardized by primary techniques are accepted, with the exception of radioactive gas standards (for which results from transfer instrument measurements that are directly traceable to a primary measurement in the laboratory may be included);
- each NMI or other laboratory has only one result (normally the most recent result or the mean if more than one ampoule is submitted);
- possible outliers can be identified on a mathematical basis and excluded from the KCRV using the normalized error test with a test value of 2.5 and using the modified uncertainties;
- results can also be excluded for technical reasons.
- The CCRI(II) is always the final arbiter regarding excluding any data from the calculation of the KCRV.

The data set used for the evaluation of the KCRVs is known as the “KCRV file” and is a reduced data set from the SIR master-file. Although the KCRV may be modified when other NMIs participate, on the advice of the Key Comparison Working Group of the CCRI(II), such modifications are made only by the CCRI(II) during one of its biennial meetings as for the case of ^{64}Cu in June 2011 [9], or by consensus through electronic means (e.g., email) as discussed at the CCRI(II) meeting in 2013.

As mentioned above the rules to calculate a KCRV have been recently modified. Consequently, the KCRV agreed in 2011 for ^{64}Cu has been re-calculated as 80 990 (340) kBq on the basis of the results from the PTB, CMI-IIR, NPL, and the LNE-LNHB.

4.2 Degrees of equivalence

Every participant in a comparison is entitled to have one result included in the KCDB as long as the NMI is a signatory or designated institute listed in the CIPM MRA, and the result is valid (i.e., not older than 20 years). Normally, the most recent result is the one included. An NMI may withdraw its result only if all other participants agree.

The degree of equivalence of a given measurement standard is the degree to which this standard is consistent with the KCRV [2]. The degree of equivalence is expressed quantitatively in terms of the deviation from the key comparison reference value and the expanded uncertainty of this deviation ($k = 2$). The degree of equivalence between any pair of national measurement standards is expressed in terms of their difference and the expanded uncertainty of this difference and is independent of the choice of key comparison reference value.

4.2.1 *Comparison of a given NMI result with the KCRV*

The degree of equivalence of the result of a particular NMI, i , with the key comparison reference value is expressed as the difference D_i between the values

$$D_i = A_{e_i} - \text{KCRV} \quad (1)$$

and the expanded uncertainty ($k = 2$) of this difference, U_i , known as the equivalence uncertainty; hence

$$U_i = 2u(D_i). \quad (2)$$

When the result of the NMI i is included in the KCRV with a weight w_i , then

$$u^2(D_i) = (1-2w_i) u_i^2 + u^2(\text{KCRV}). \quad (3)$$

However, when the result of the NMI i is not included in the KCRV, then

$$u^2(D_i) = u_i^2 + u^2(\text{KCRV}). \quad (4)$$

4.2.2 *Comparison between pairs of NMI results*

The degree of equivalence between the results of any pair of NMIs, i and j , is expressed as the difference D_{ij} in the values

$$D_{ij} = D_i - D_j = A_{ei} - A_{ej} \quad (5)$$

and the expanded uncertainty ($k = 2$) of this difference, U_{ij} , by

$$U_{ij}^2 = 4u^2(D_{ij}) = 4[u_i^2 + u_j^2 - 2u(A_{ei}, A_{ej})] \quad (6)$$

where any obvious correlations between the NMIs (such as a traceable calibration, or correlations normally coming from the SIR or from the linking factor in the case of linked comparison) are subtracted using the covariance $u(A_{ei}, A_{ej})$ (see [10] for more detail). However, the CCRI decided in 2011 that these “pair-wise degrees of equivalence” no longer need to be published as long as the methodology is explained.

Table 5 shows the matrix of all the degrees of equivalence as they will appear in the KCDB. It should be noted that for consistency within the KCDB, a simplified level of nomenclature is used with A_{ei} replaced by x_i . The introductory text is that agreed for the comparison. The graph of the results in Table 5, corresponding to the degrees of equivalence with respect to the KCRV (identified as x_R in the KCDB), is shown in Figure 1. This graphical representation indicates in part the degree of equivalence between the NMIs but obviously does not take into account the correlations between the different NMIs. It should be noted that the final data in this paper, while correct at the time of publication, will become out-of-date as NMIs make new comparisons. The formal results under the CIPM MRA [2] are those available in the KCDB.

Conclusion

The BIPM ongoing key comparison for ^{64}Cu , BIPM.RI(II)-K1.Cu-64 currently comprises five results.

The results have been analysed with respect to the KCRV determined for this radionuclide using the power-moderated weighted mean, providing degrees of equivalence for the five national metrology institutes. The degrees of equivalence have been approved by the CCRI(II) and are published in the BIPM key comparison database. Other results may be added as and when other NMIs contribute ^{64}Cu activity measurements to this comparison or take part in other linked comparisons.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank the NMIs for their participation in this comparison, Mr A. Fazio and Dr M. L. Cozzella from ENEA-INMRI and Dr J.M. Los Arcos of the BIPM for editorial assistance.

References

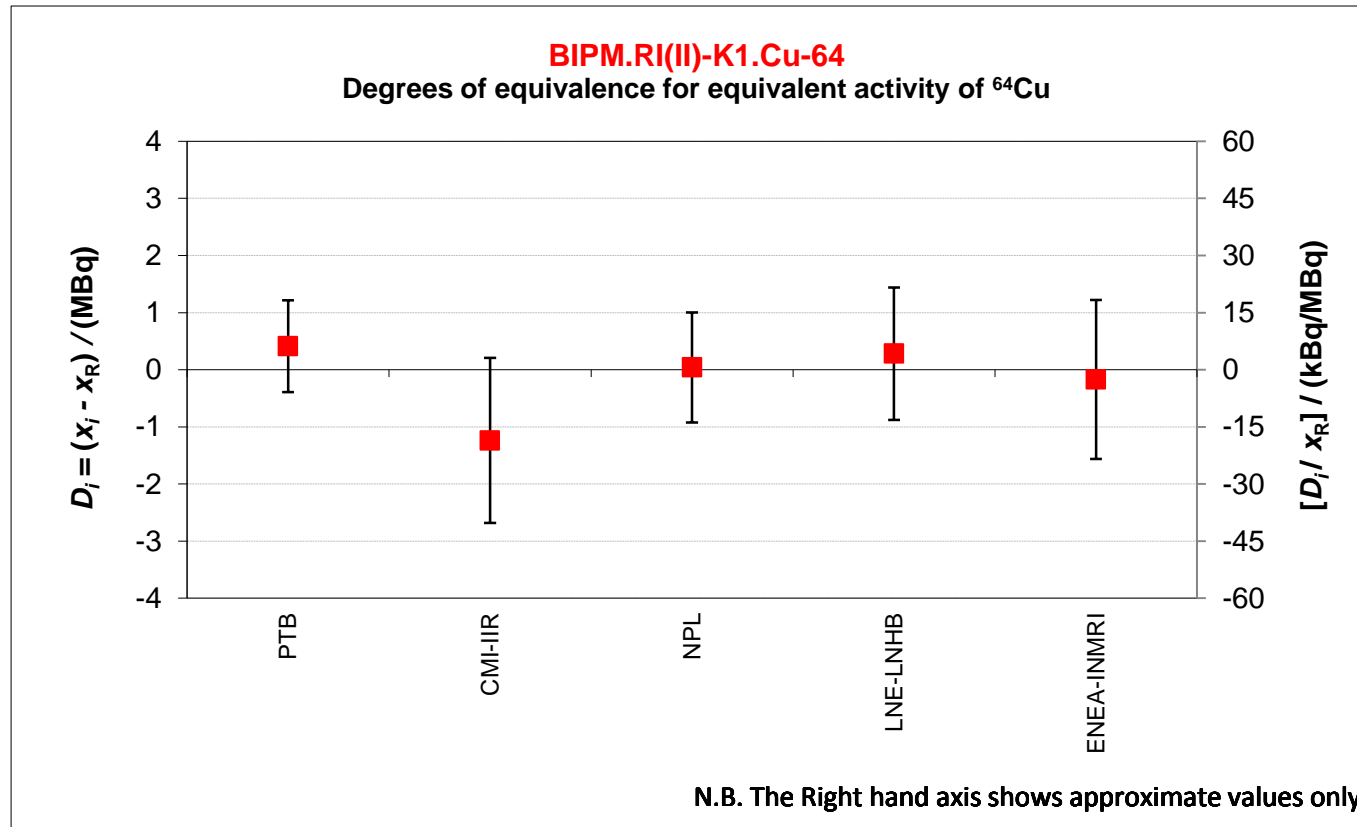
- [1] Ratel G., The Système International de Référence and its application in key comparisons, [Metrologia](#), 2007, **44**(4), S7-S16

- [2] CIPM MRA: *Mutual recognition of national measurement standards and of calibration and measurement certificates issued by national metrology institutes*, International Committee for Weights and Measures, 1999, 45 pp. <http://www.bipm.org/pdf/mra.pdf>.
- [3] Michotte C., Courte S., Ratel G., Kossert K., Nähle O.J., BIPM comparison BIPM.RI(II)-K1.Cu-64 of the activity measurements of the radionuclide ^{64}Cu , *Metrologia*, 2009, **46**, *Tech. Suppl.*, 06010.
- [4] Bé M.-M., Chisté V., Dulieu C., Browne E., Chechev V., Kuzmenko N., Helmer R., Nichols A., Schönfeld E., Dersch R., 2004, Table of radionuclides, *Monographie BIPM-5*, Volume 1.
- [5] Michotte C., Efficiency calibration of the Ge(Li) detector of the BIPM for SIR-type ampoules, 1999, *Rapport BIPM-1999/03*, 15 pp.
- [6] *Comité Consultatif pour les Étalons de Mesures des Rayonnements Ionisants 16th meeting (1999)*, 2001, CCRI(II) 81-82.
- [7] Michotte C., Protocol on the use of the calibrated spectrometer of the BIPM for the measurement of impurities in ampoules submitted to the SIR, 2001, [CCRI\(II\)/01-01](#), 2pp.
- [8] Pommé S., Determination of a reference value, associated standard uncertainty and degrees of equivalence for CCRI(II) key comparison data, European Commission Joint Research, Centre Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements, 2012, Report EUR 25355 EN. Errata published in CCRI(II) working document, 2013, [CCRI\(II\)/13-18](#).
- [9] *Consultative Committee for Ionizing Radiation, 22nd meeting (2011)*, 2012, 96 pp.
- [10] Michotte C. and Ratel G., Correlations taken into account in the KCDB, CCRI(II) working document, 2003, [CCRI\(II\)/03-29](#).

Table 5. Introductory text for ⁶⁴Cu and table of degrees of equivalence

Key comparison BIPM.RI(II)-K1.Cu-64																						
MEASURAND :	Equivalent activity of ⁶⁴ Cu																					
<p>Key comparison reference value: the SIR reference value x_R for this radionuclide is 80.99 MBq, with a standard uncertainty u_R of 0.34 MBq. The value x_i is taken as the equivalent activity for laboratory i.</p>																						
<p>The degree of equivalence of each laboratory with respect to the reference value is given by a pair of terms: $D_i = (x_i - x_R)$ and U_i, its expanded uncertainty ($k = 2$), both expressed in MBq, and $U_i = 2((1 - 2w_i)u_i^2 + u_R^2)^{1/2}$ when each laboratory has contributed to the calculation of x_R.</p>																						
<p>When required, the degree of equivalence between two laboratories is given by a pair of numbers: $D_{ij} = D_i - D_j = (x_i - x_j)$ and U_{ij}, its expanded uncertainty ($k = 2$), both expressed in MBq. The approximation $U_{ij}^2 \sim 2^2(u_i^2 + u_j^2)$ may be used.</p>																						
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lab i ↓</td> <td>D_i</td> <td>U_i</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td colspan="2">/ MBq</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PTB</td> <td>0.4</td> <td>0.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CMI-IIR</td> <td>-1.2</td> <td>1.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NPL</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>1.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LNE-LNHB</td> <td>0.3</td> <td>1.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ENEA-INMRI</td> <td>-0.2</td> <td>1.4</td> </tr> </table>		Lab i ↓	D_i	U_i		/ MBq		PTB	0.4	0.8	CMI-IIR	-1.2	1.4	NPL	0.0	1.0	LNE-LNHB	0.3	1.2	ENEA-INMRI	-0.2	1.4
Lab i ↓	D_i	U_i																				
	/ MBq																					
PTB	0.4	0.8																				
CMI-IIR	-1.2	1.4																				
NPL	0.0	1.0																				
LNE-LNHB	0.3	1.2																				
ENEA-INMRI	-0.2	1.4																				

Figure 1. Graph of degrees of equivalence with the KCRV for ^{64}Cu (as it appears in Appendix B of the MRA)



Appendix 1. Uncertainty budgets for the activity of ^{64}Cu submitted to the SIR**CMI-IIR, $4\pi\text{PC-}\gamma$ coincidence counting**

Relative standard uncertainties	$u_i \times 10^4$ evaluated by method	
Contributions due to	A	B
counting statistics, $\nu = 15^\dagger$	50	–
weighing	–	5
dead time	–	4
background	–	20
pile-up	–	15
counting time	–	1
adsorption	–	5
radionuclide impurities	–	10
decay correction	–	10
extrapolation of efficiency curve	–	80
Quadratic summation	50	85
Relative combined standard uncertainty, u_c	99	

† number of degrees of freedom

NPL, $4\pi\text{LS-}\gamma$ digital coincidence counting

Relative standard uncertainties	$u_i \times 10^4$ evaluated by method	
Contributions due to	A	B
counting statistics, $\nu = 6^\dagger$	25	–
weighing	–	10
dilution	–	14
dead time	–	5
background	–	5
delay mismatch	–	1
counting time	–	1
adsorption	–	< 0.1
radionuclide impurities	–	0.1
decay correction	–	10
extrapolation of efficiency curve	–	50
possible non-extrapolation to N_0	–	20
Quadratic summation	25	58
Relative combined standard uncertainty, u_c	63	

† number of degrees of freedom

NPL, CIEMAT/NIST LS counting

Relative standard uncertainties	$u_i \times 10^4$ evaluated by method	
	A	B
Contributions due to		
counting statistics, $\nu = 9^\dagger$	11	–
weighing	–	3.3
dead time	–	5
background	–	2
pile-up	–	1
counting time	–	1
adsorption	–	< 0.1
radionuclide impurities	–	0.1
tracer	–	1.6
input parameters and statistical model	–	4
decay-scheme parameters	–	32
decay correction	–	12
difference between LS cocktails	–	60
Quadratic summation	11	70
Relative combined standard uncertainty, u_c	71	

[†] number of degrees of freedom

LNE-LNHB, TDCR LS counting

Relative standard uncertainties	$u_i \times 10^4$ evaluated by method	
	A	B
Contributions due to		
counting statistics, $\nu = 9^\dagger$	4	–
weighing	30	5
dilution	–	2
dead time	–	1
background	1	–
counting time	–	1
adsorption	–	negl.
radionuclide impurities	–	negl.
decay data and model	–	50
ionization quenching parameter kB	–	50
decay correction	–	4
sample (in)-stability	–	negl.
Quadratic summation	30	71
Relative combined standard uncertainty, u_c	77	

[†] number of degrees of freedom

ENEA-INMRI, Ionization chamber (IC)

Relative standard uncertainties	$u_i \times 10^4$ evaluated by method	
	A	B
Contributions due to		
counting statistics, $\nu = 12^\dagger$	71 [#]	–
weighing	20	–
background	0.1	–
counting time	–	5
radionuclide impurities	0.1	–
decay correction	–	3
Quadratic summation	74	6
Relative combined standard uncertainty, u_c	74	

[†] number of degrees of freedom

[#] including the type B relative standard uncertainty of the IC calibration factor of 15×10^4

ENEA-INMRI, CIEMAT/NIST LS counting

Relative standard uncertainties	$u_i \times 10^4$ evaluated by method	
	A	B
counting statistics	30	–
weighing	20	–
dead time	–	10
background	0.5	–
counting time	–	1
adsorption	–	2
radionuclide impurities	7	–
tracer	–	5
quenching parameter tSIE	20	–
ionization quenching (model)	–	20
tSIE determination	–	4
decay-scheme parameters	–	5
decay correction	–	5
PMT asymmetry	–	10
scintillation stability	10	–
Quadratic summation	43	26
Relative combined standard uncertainty, u_c	50	

ENEA-INMRI, $4\pi(\text{NaI})\gamma$ counting

Relative standard uncertainties	$u_i \times 10^4$ evaluated by method	
	A	B
Contributions due to		
counting statistics	30	–
weighing	20	–
dead time	–	1.5
background	1	–
counting time	–	1
adsorption	–	2
radionuclide impurities	5	–
input parameters and statistical model	–	20
decay-scheme parameters	–	50
decay correction	–	10
low level threshold setting	–	2
crystal dimension	–	1
statistics of Monte-Carlo simulation	1	–
Quadratic summation	36	55
Relative combined standard uncertainty, u_c	66	

Appendix 2. Acronyms used to identify different measurement methods

Each acronym has six components, geometry-detector (1)-radiation (1)-detector (2)-radiation (2)-mode. When a component is unknown, ?? is used and when it is not applicable 00 is used.

Geometry	acronym	Detector	acronym
4π	4P	proportional counter	PC
defined solid angle	SA	press. prop counter	PP
2π	2P	liquid scintillation counting	LS
undefined solid angle	UA	Nal(Tl)	NA
		Ge(HP)	GH
		Ge(Li)	GL
		Si(Li)	SL
		CsI(Tl)	CS
		ionization chamber	IC
		grid ionization chamber	GC
		bolometer	BO
		calorimeter	CA
		PIPS detector	PS
Radiation	acronym	Mode	acronym
positron	PO	efficiency tracing	ET
beta particle	BP	internal gas counting	IG
Auger electron	AE	CIEMAT/NIST	CN
conversion electron	CE	sum counting	SC
mixed electrons	ME	coincidence	CO
bremstrahlung	BS	anti-coincidence	AC
gamma rays	GR	coincidence counting with efficiency tracing	CT
X - rays	XR	anti-coincidence counting with efficiency tracing	AT
photons ($x + \gamma$)	PH	triple-to-double coincidence ratio counting	TD
photons + electrons	PE	selective sampling	SS
alpha - particle	AP	high efficiency	HE
mixture of various radiation	MX	digital coincidence counting	DC

Examples

method	acronym
4π (PC) β - γ -coincidence counting	4P-PC-BP-NA-GR-CO
4π (PPC) β - γ -coincidence counting eff. trac.	4P-PP-MX-NA-GR-CT
defined solid angle α -particle counting with a PIPS detector	SA-PS-AP-00-00-00
4π (PPC)AX- γ (GeHP)-anticoincidence counting	4P-PP-MX-GH-GR-AC
4π CsI- β ,AX, γ counting	4P-CS-MX-00-00-HE
calibrated IC	4P-IC-GR-00-00-00
internal gas counting	4P-PC-BP-00-00-IG