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On the characterization of an AHF cavity radiometer and its traceability to WRR/SI

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On the characterization of an AHF cavity radiometer and its traceability to WRR/SI

José Balenzategui
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1. About us
2. Characterization of cavity radiometers
3. Basic aspects of AHF radiometer
4. Characterization results
5. Uncertainty budget
6. Traceability to WRR/SI
7. Conclusions



1. About us

- CIEMAT = Energy, Environment and Technology Research Center
- Public research center, currently in the Ministry of Science and Innovation
- Main headquarters located in Madrid (Spain), other local centers in Spain
- Staff around 1250 people



1. About us



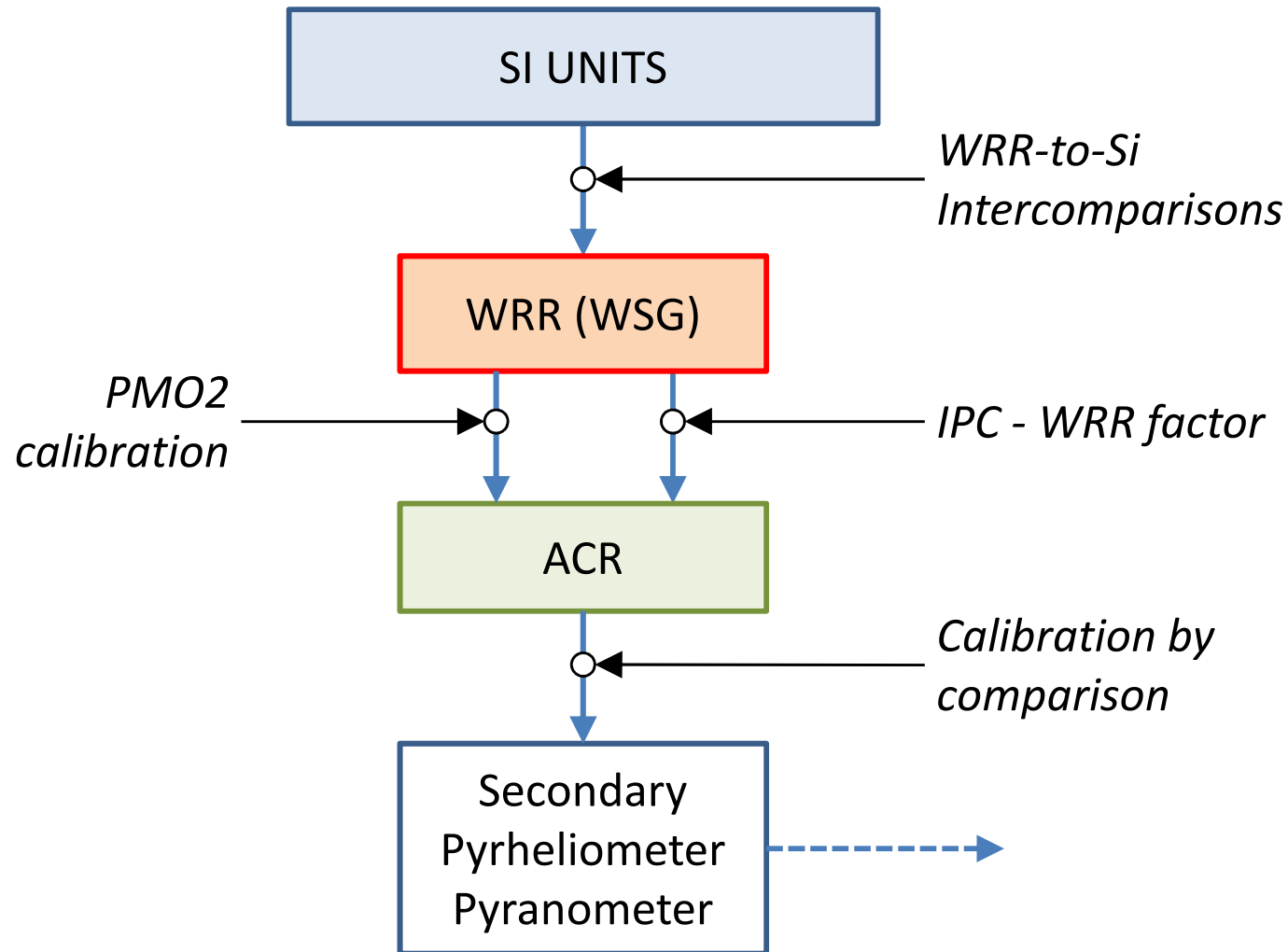
- Photovoltaic Solar Energy Unit (Department of Energy).
- Currently around 25 people, working since 1990 on research into polycrystalline thin-film and deposited Si (a-Si:H, μ -Si) devices, and on testing of PV cells and modules, and arrays in PV solar plants.
- **PVLab**: Laboratory for testing and calibration of solar irradiance sensors and photovoltaic devices.
- Very large experience on outdoor calibration of pyranometers, pyrhemometers, solar cells, etc
- Gaining Accreditation under ISO-IEC 17025 Standard for calibration of pyranometers (ISO9847), pyrhemometers (ISO9059) and shunts.



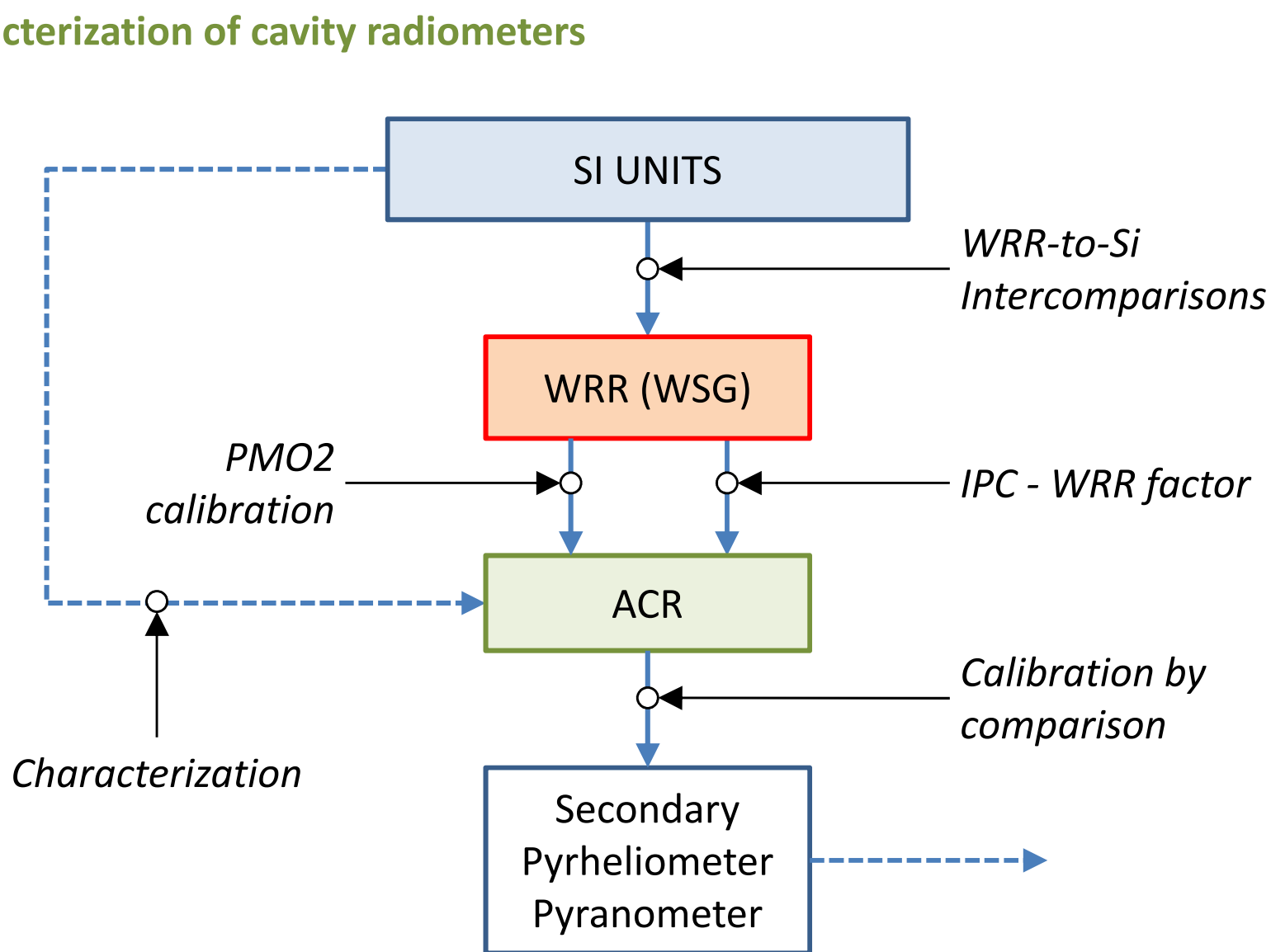
- Collaboration with INTA (National Aerospace Technology Institute) groups: Center for Metrology and Calibration (CMyC), and Space Optics Department. Framework of a research project (DEPRISACR, Spanish MSI R&D funds program)



2. Characterization of cavity radiometers



2. Characterization of cavity radiometers

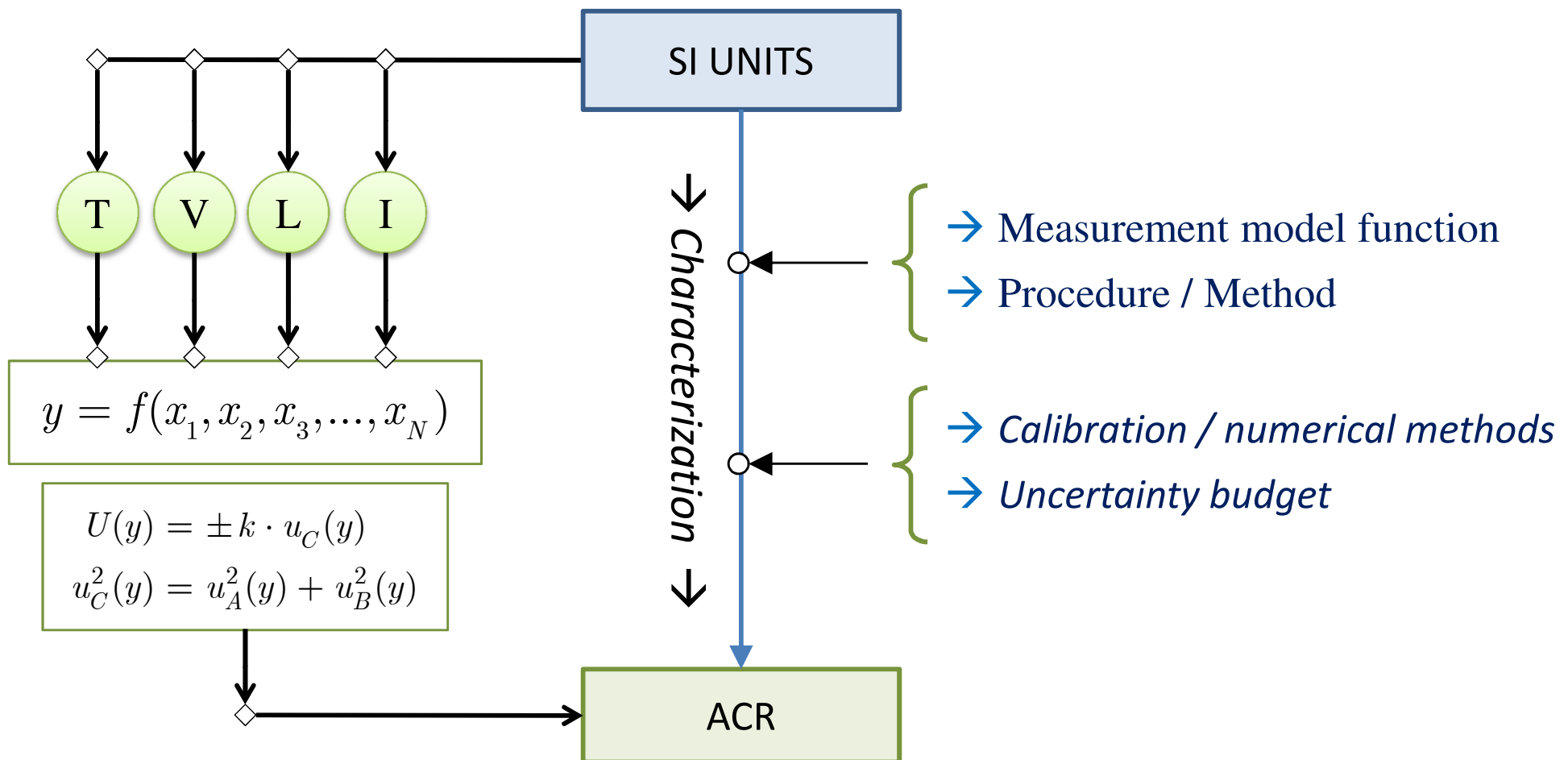


*“The purpose of **characterization** is to develop an understanding of the sources of error in the measurement process and how they affect specific measurement results”*

(NIST Engineering Statistics Handbook)

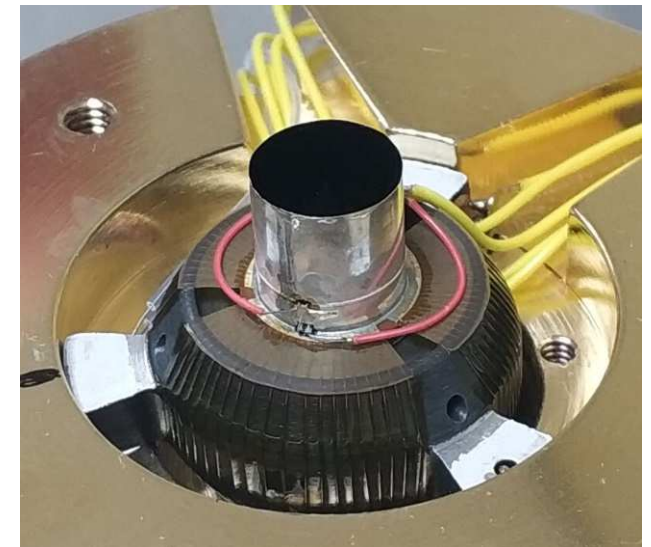
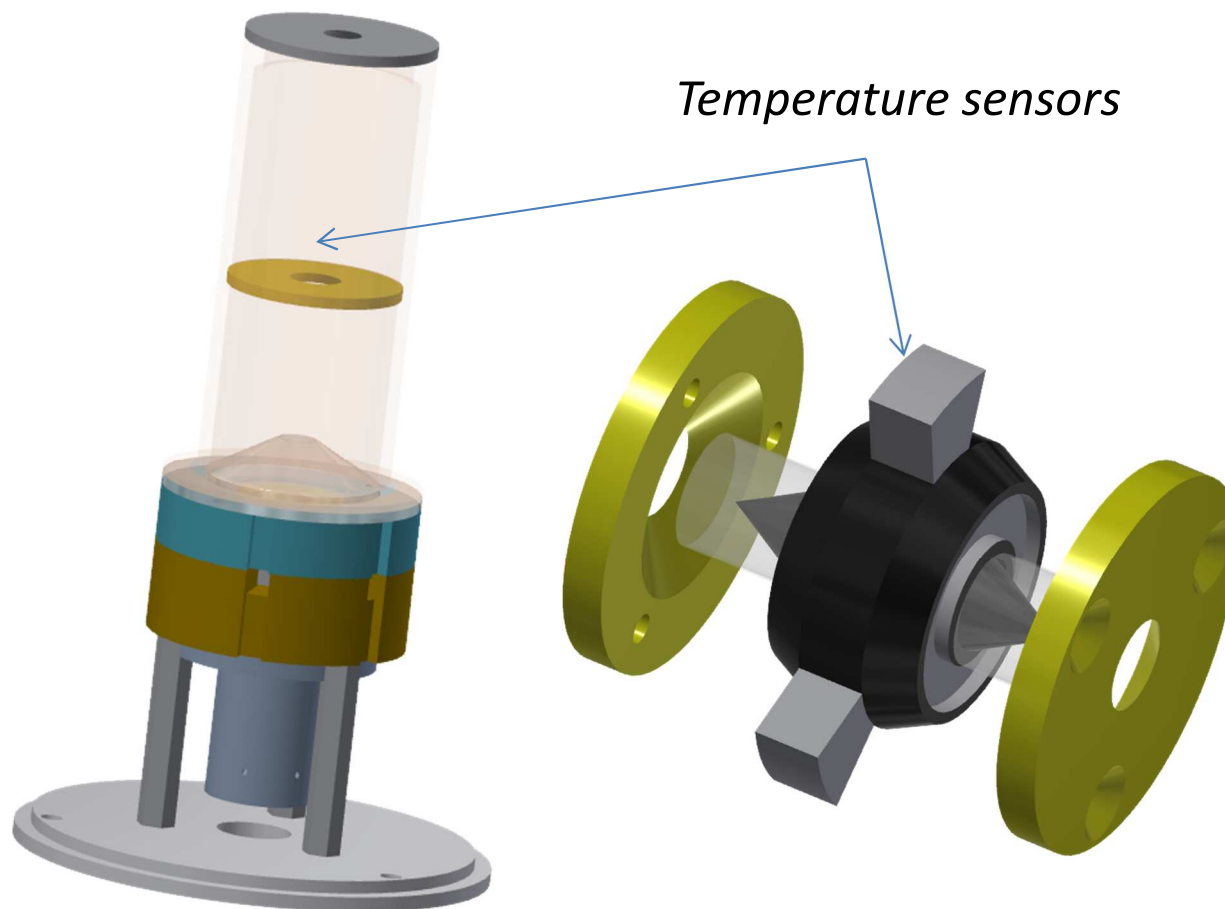
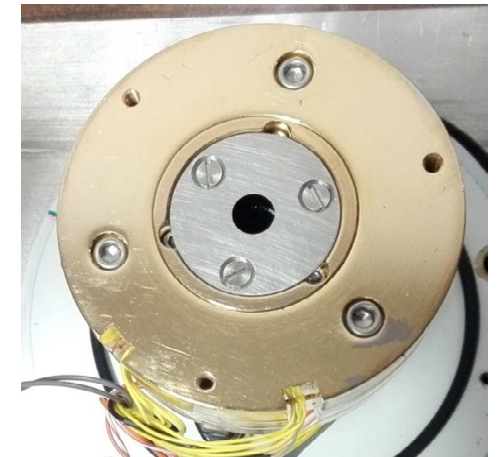
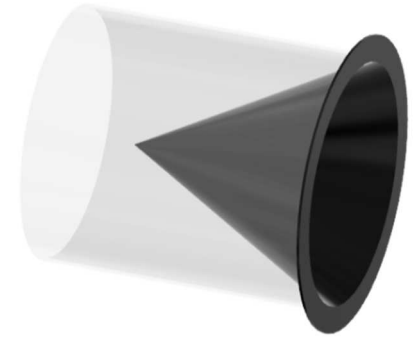
2. Characterization of cavity radiometers

This means *“identifying sources of error, quantifying errors and their effects on a specific reported value [in our case, on solar irradiance] in a statement of uncertainty”*
(NIST Engineering Statistics Handbook)



3. Fundamentals of AHF

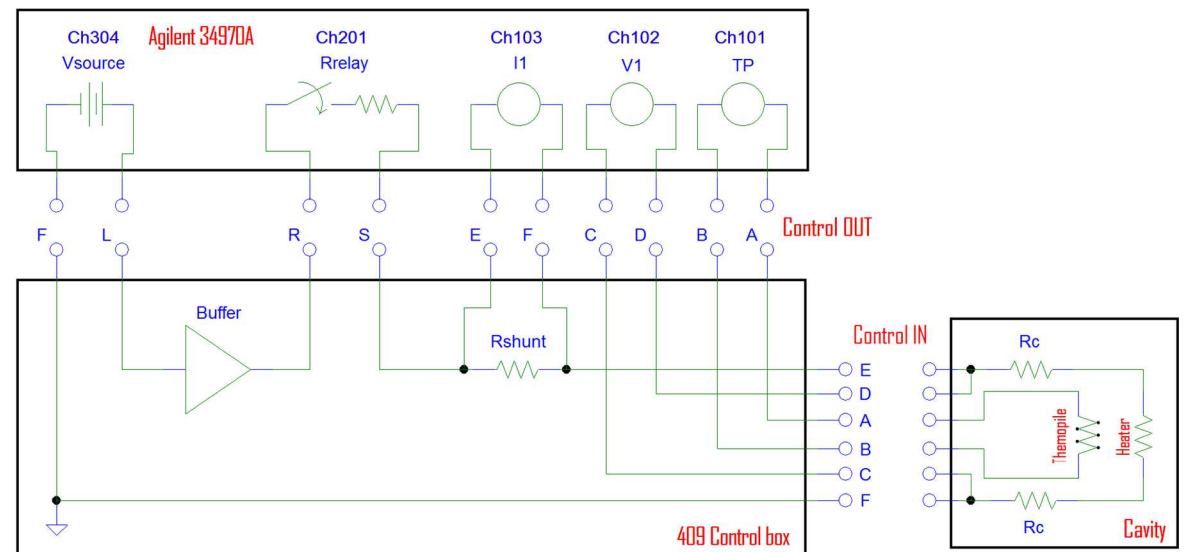
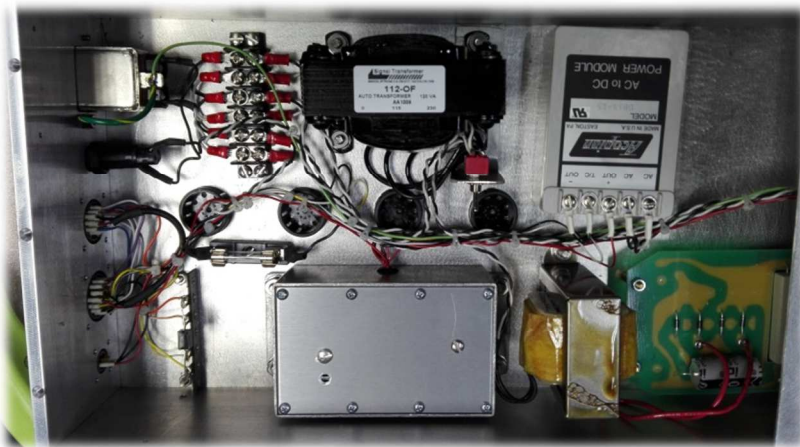
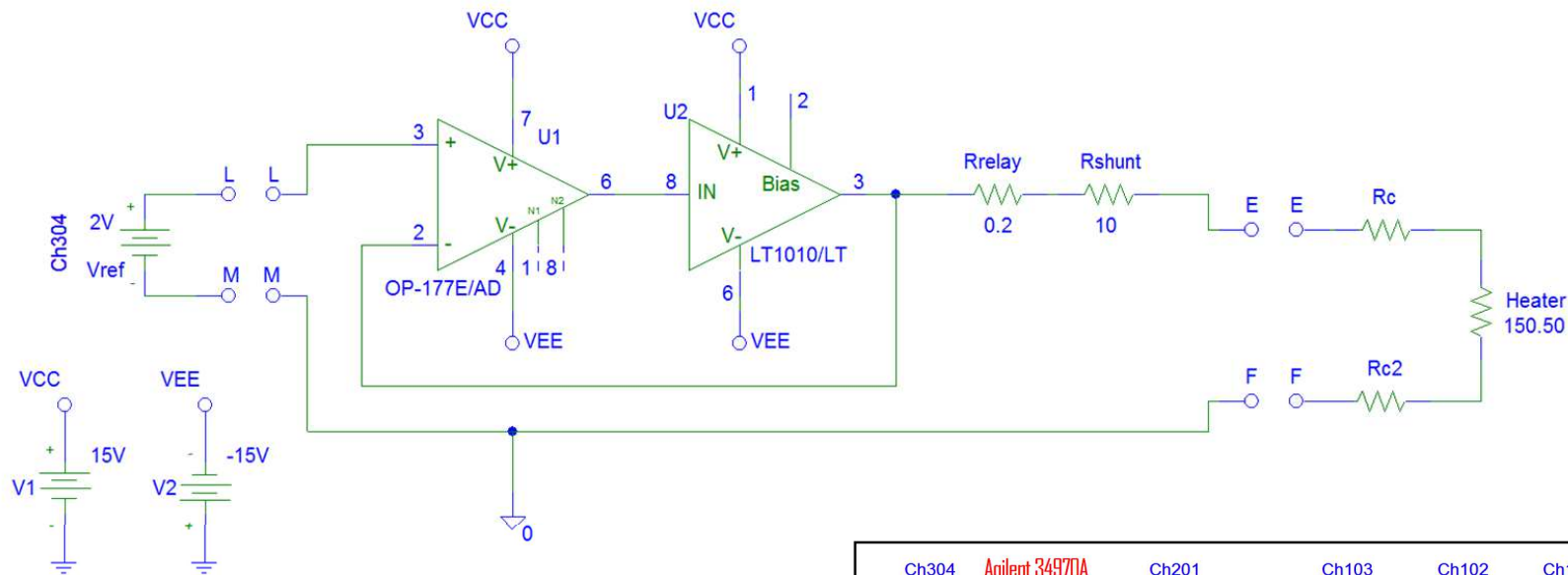
- Passive-type cavity radiometer
- Double cavity structure on thermopile with a toroidal structure
- Precision aperture of 50 mm², FOV = 5°



3. Fundamentals of AHF

→ Heater electrical circuit, sensing and operation mode

- Head sensor + control box + external datalogger (DL)



3. Fundamentals of AHF

- (Radiant) solar power $P_S = A \cdot \alpha_C \cdot \gamma \cdot E \quad \rightarrow V_{TS} - V_{T0} = k_S \cdot P_S$
- (Electrical) heater power $P_E = I_H \cdot V_H - I_H^2 \cdot R_C \quad \rightarrow V_{TE} - V_{T0} = k_E \cdot P_E$
- **Equivalence Principle:** *if excitations powers are equivalent / indistinguishable to the effect of heating the cavity, the answer of the system will be the same*

$$P_E = P_S \quad \rightarrow V_{TS} - V_{T0} = V_{TE} - V_{T0} \quad \rightarrow k_E = k_S$$

- **Non-equivalence :** *imperfections in the realization of this principle produce:*

$$k_E \neq k_S \quad \rightarrow \frac{k_E}{k_S} = L$$

- **Measurement model function:**

$$E = \frac{L}{A \cdot \alpha_C \cdot \gamma} \left(\frac{V_{TS} - V_{T0}}{V_{TE} - V_{T0}} \right) \frac{V_I}{R_{SH}} \left(V_H - \frac{V_I}{R_{SH}} R_C \right)$$

E = irradiance (W/m^2)

α_C = cavity absorptance

γ = optical factor (collimator)

L = non - equivalence factor

V_{TX} = thermopile output (V)

I_H, V_H = heater current, voltage (A, V)

R_{SH} = shunt resistance (Ω)

R_C = cavity cables resistance (Ω)

4. Characterization results

→ MMF:

$$E = \frac{L}{A \cdot \alpha_C \cdot \gamma} \left(\frac{V_{TS} - V_{T0}}{V_{TE} - V_{T0}} \right) \frac{V_I}{R_{SH}} \left(V_H - \frac{V_I}{R_{SH}} R_C \right)$$

Characterization

- Calibration of meter, aperture areas, resistances
- Estimation / simulation / numerical calculation of L , α_C , γ
- Testing / evaluation of non-explicit dependences (T , λ , ...)
- Uncertainty budget

→ Calibration of the meter (DL)

- Measurements & control based on an external Agilent 34970A DL
- Calibration carried out by the CMyC *Laboratory of Electricity* in INTA, with the highest accuracy and lower uncertainty attainables.
- Every channel calibrated according to its range of operation and magnitude

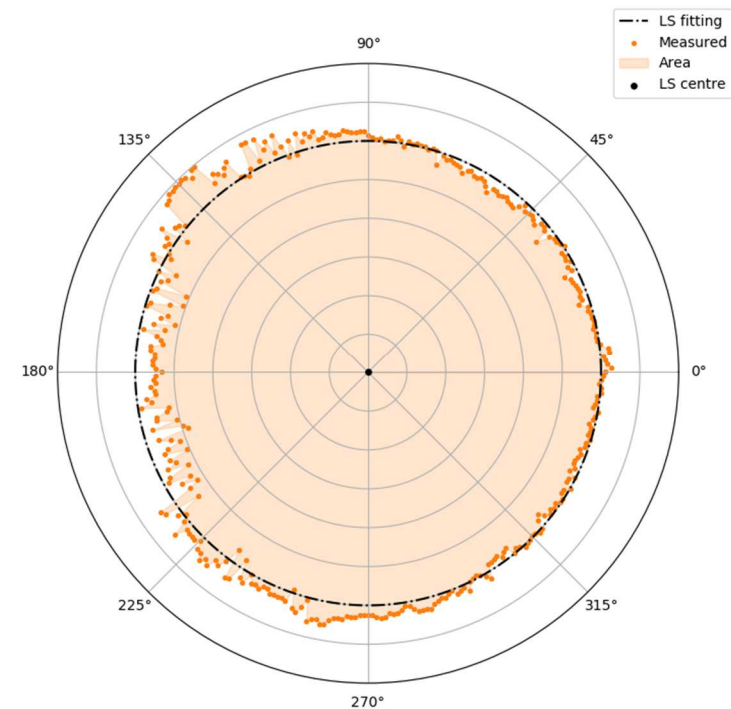
4. Characterization results

→ Calibration of the precision aperture area

- Precision apertures of 8 mm diameter carefully drilled on disks made of Invar, 4 mm thick. Nominal area = 50 mm²
- Carried out by the *Laboratory of Length and Precision Engineering* of the Centro Español de Metrología CEM (Spanish NMI)
- Vision machine (Mitutoyo Ultra Quick Vision 350 Pro) traced to SI, 360 points distributed along the aperture perimeter with resolution of 0.1 μm

$$A_{\text{front}} = 50.183 \pm 0.0015 \text{ mm}^2 (k=2)$$

$$A_{\text{rear}} = 50.163 \pm 0.0015 \text{ mm}^2 (k=2)$$



4. Characterization results

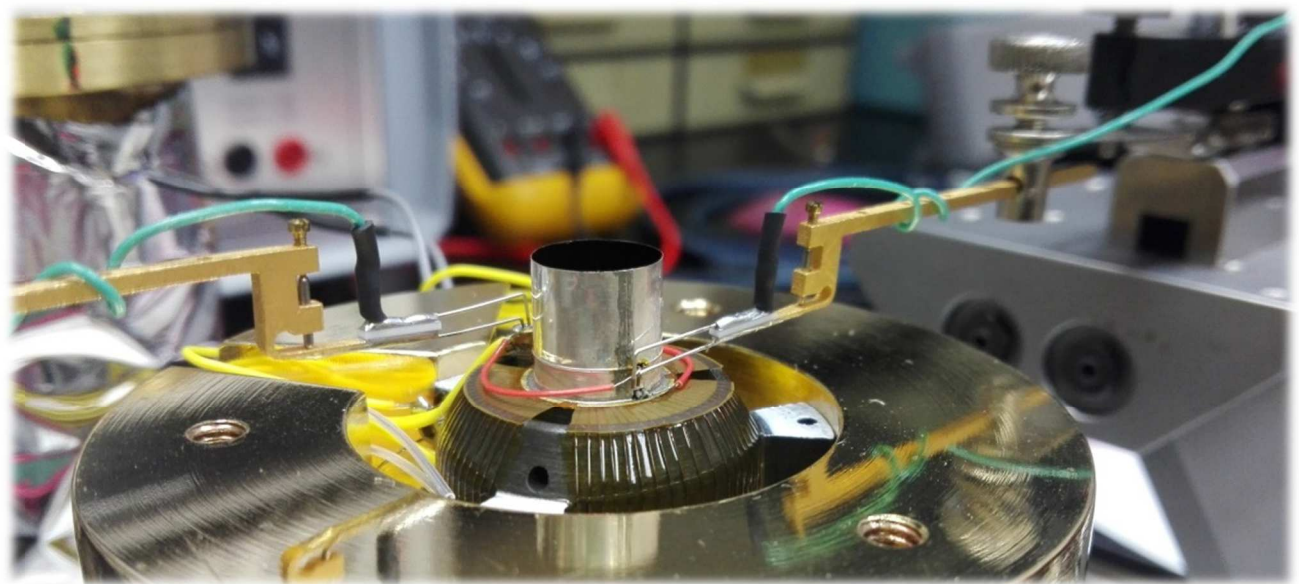
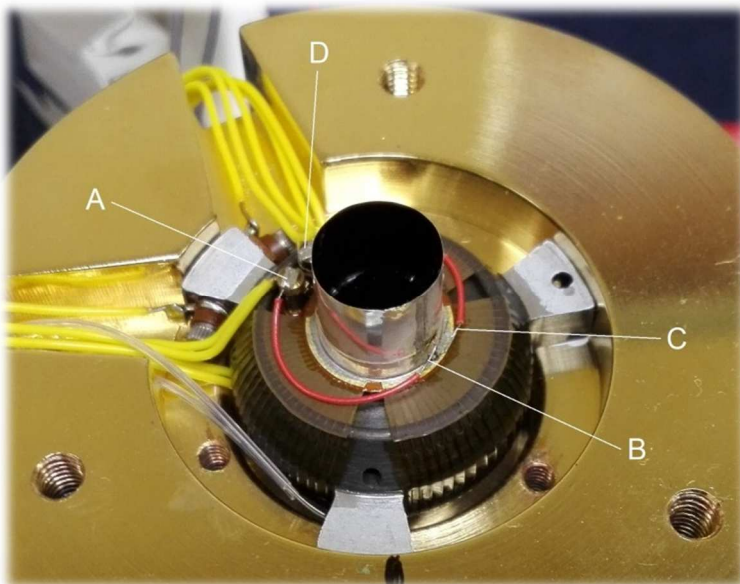
→ Calibration of the resistance of the wires R_C

- Done by the TA *Calibration of Electrical Magnitudes* (PVLab-CIEMAT)
- Calibrated Keysight 34420A micro-ohmmeter
- 4-wire connection with Accuprobe IK2C8C3D tips

$$R_{C-D} = 25.1756 \text{ m}\Omega \pm 0.0048 \text{ m}\Omega$$

$$R_{A-B} = 25.8150 \text{ m}\Omega \pm 0.0048 \text{ m}\Omega$$

$$R_T = 50.9907 \text{ m}\Omega \pm 0.0067 \text{ m}\Omega \quad (k=2)$$

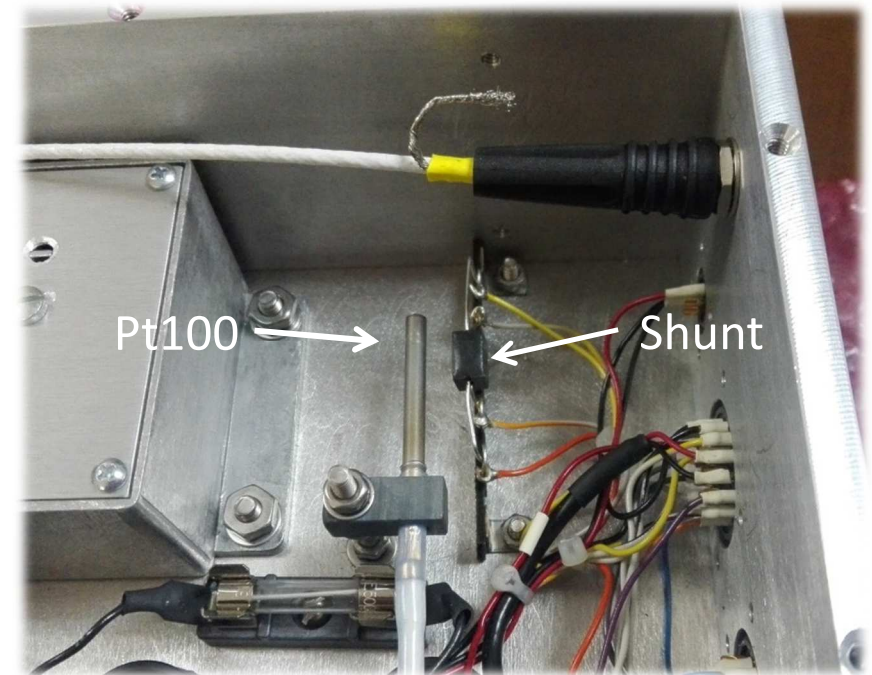
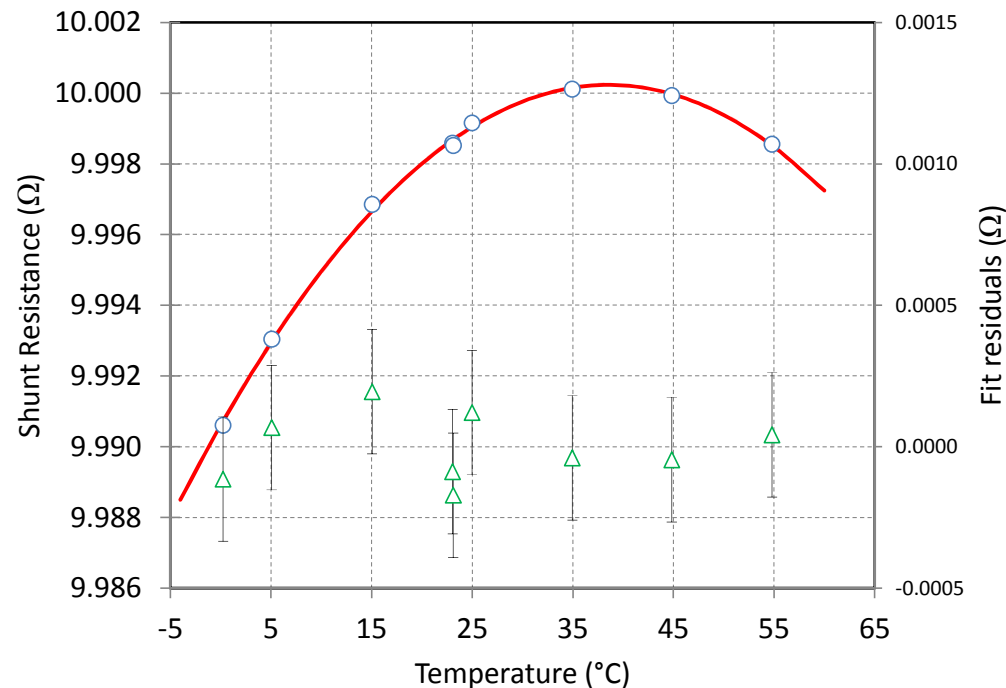


4. Characterization results

→ Calibration of the shunt resistance R_{SH}

- Direct calibration carried out by the CMyC *Laboratory of Electricity* (INTA)
- Addition of a Pt100 sensor close to the shunt to control temperature drifts
- Test of temperature dependence of R_{SH} in the range 0° to 55°C in a climatic chamber in the *Laboratory of Relative Humidity* (DI of CEM, Spanish NMI)

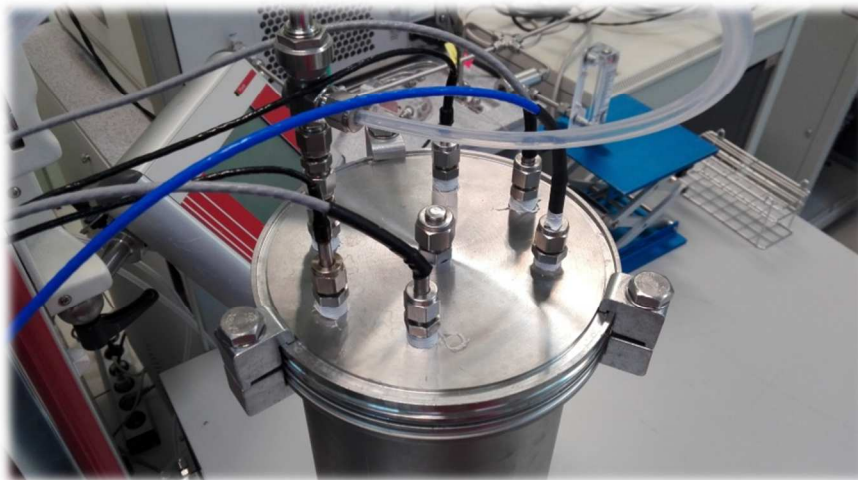
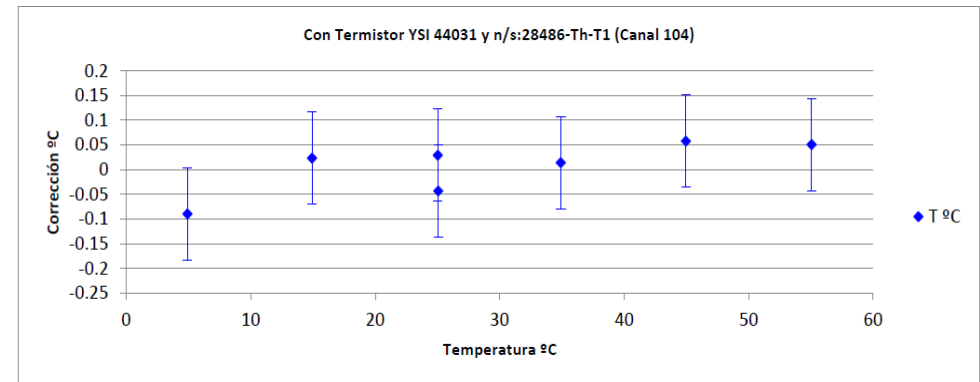
$$R_{SH} = 9.99869 \pm 0.00011 \, \Omega \quad (k=2)$$



4. Characterization results

→ Calibration of temperature sensors

- Calibration of YSI thermistors in the range 0° to 55°C in a climatic chamber in the *Laboratory of Relative Humidity* (INTA)



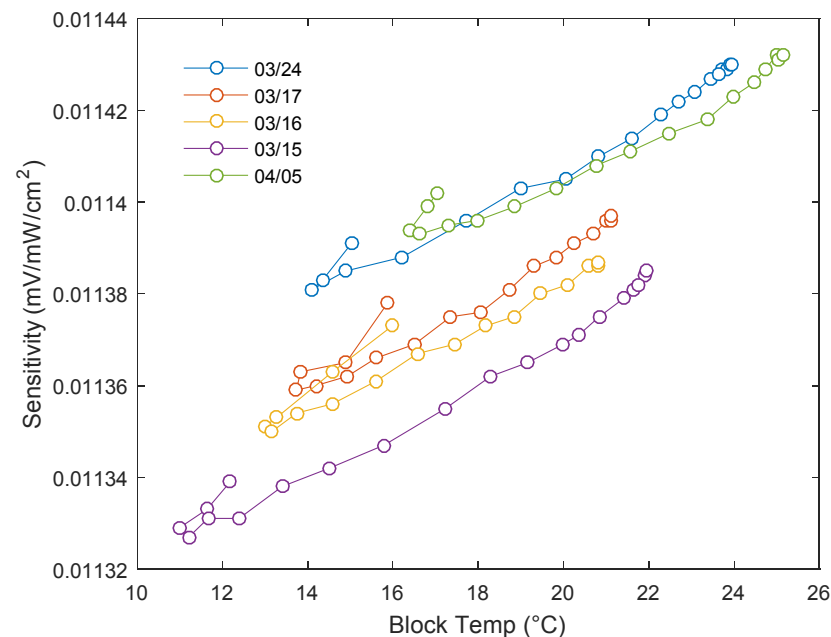
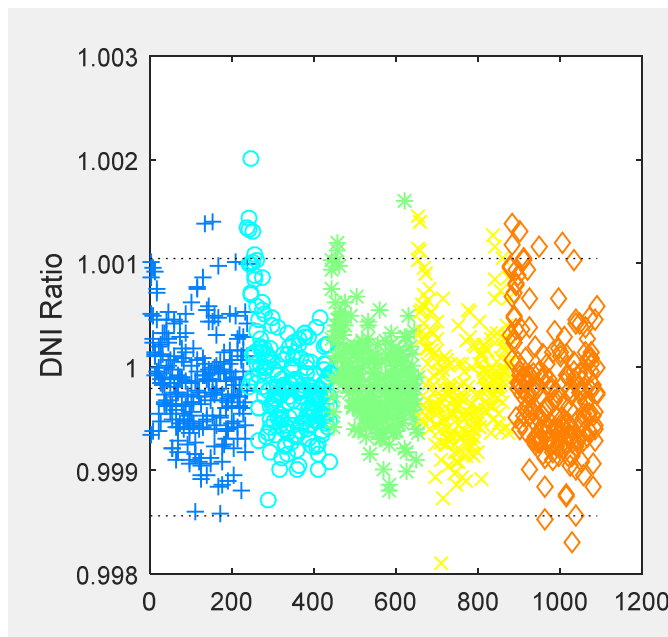
4. Characterization results

→ Thermal characterization of *sensitivity*

- During calibration cycles, AHF software calculates a magnitude called *sensitivity* (mV/mW/cm²), which is then used to calculate irradiance.

$$1/S = \frac{L}{A \cdot \alpha_C \cdot \gamma} \left(\frac{1}{V_{TE} - V_{T0}} \right) P_E \quad E = \frac{V_{TS} - V_{T0}}{S}$$

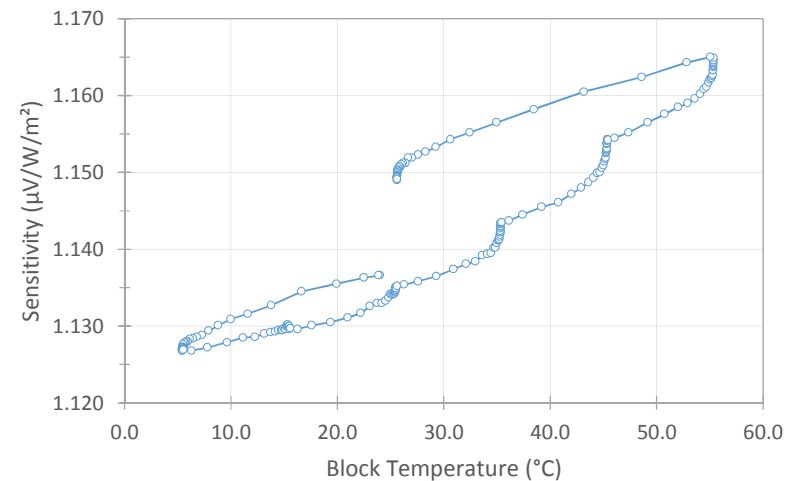
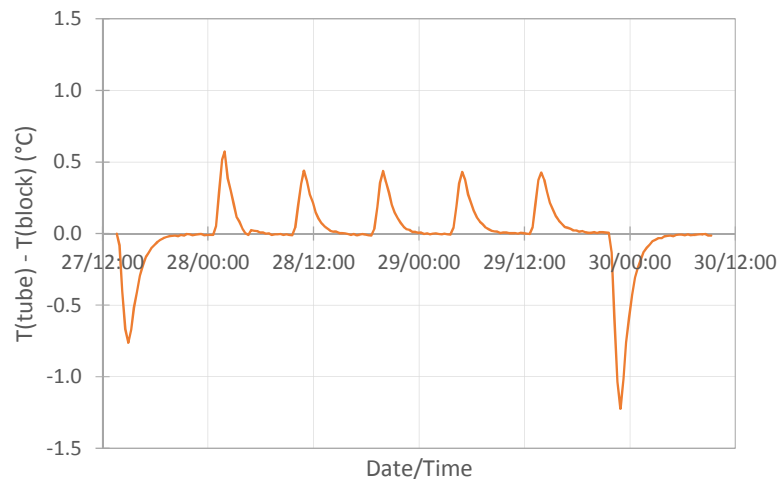
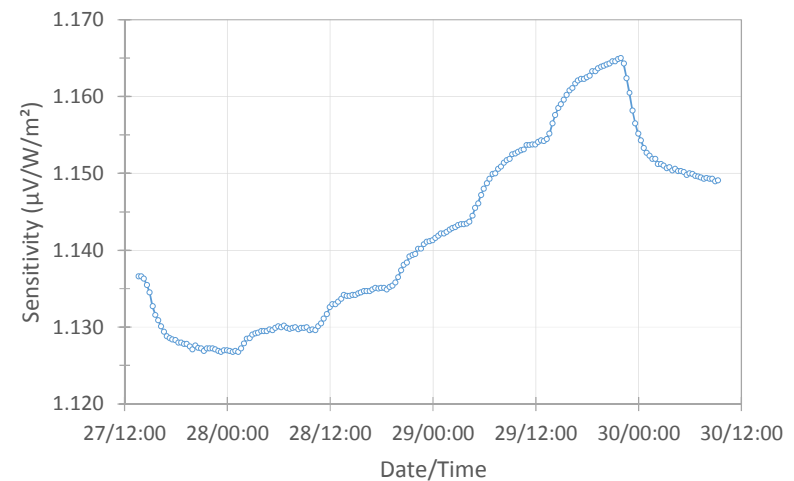
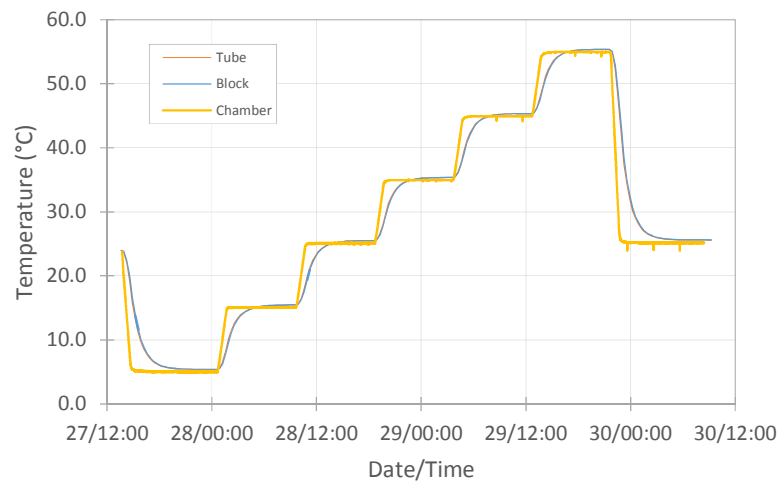
- Temperature affects the evolution of the sensitivity (daily/inter-daily) and it seems to be also related to the “arms-up” effect in first runs.



4. Characterization results

→ Thermal characterization of sensitivity

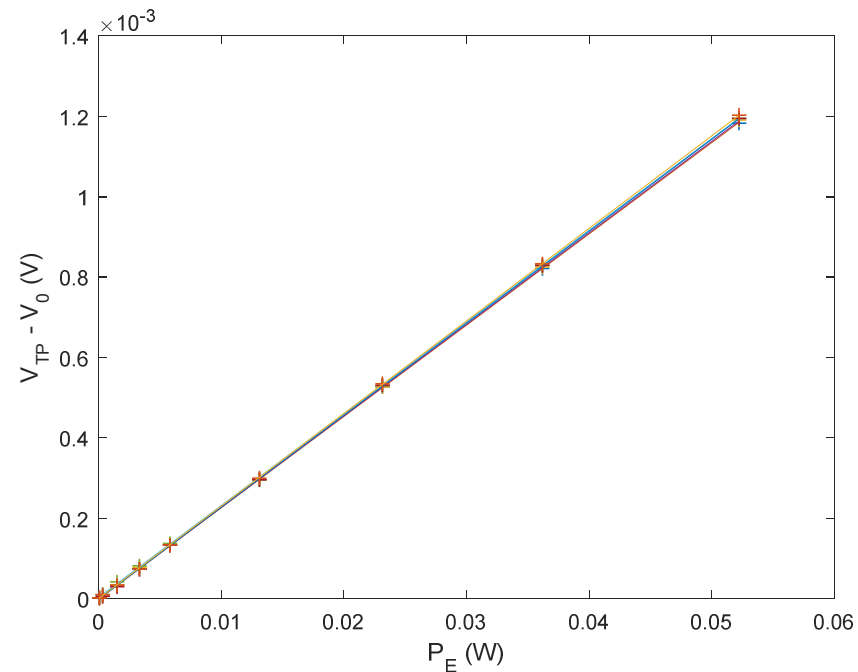
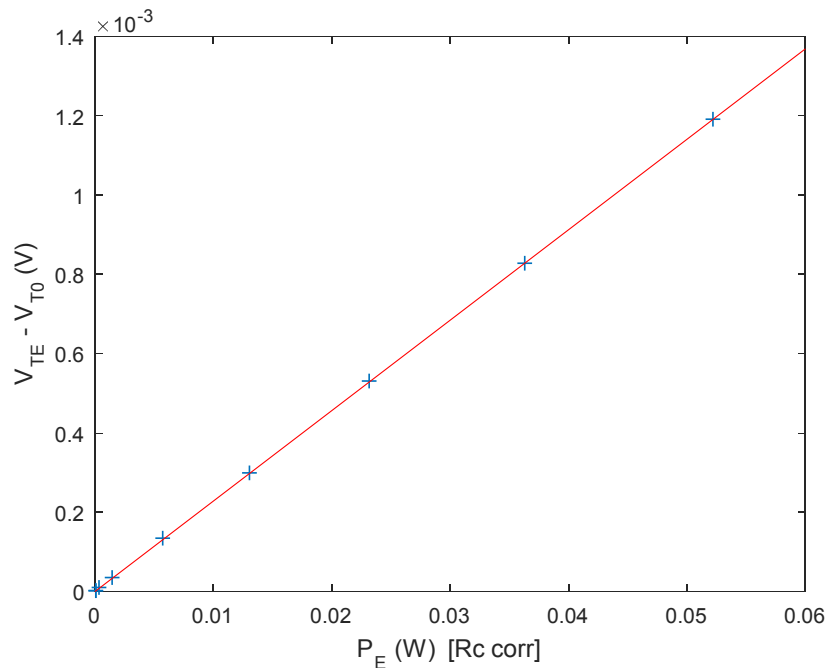
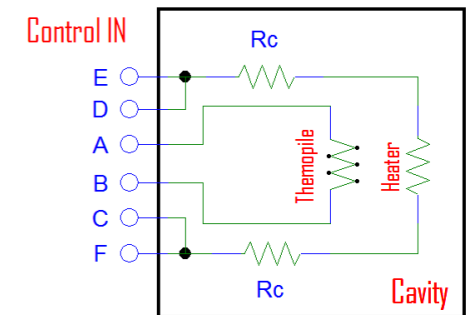
- Specific experiment for testing dependence of sensitivity on T in a climatic chamber while AHF was illuminated with an external radiant source (green laser)



4. Characterization results

→ Testing on thermopile linearity on electrical power

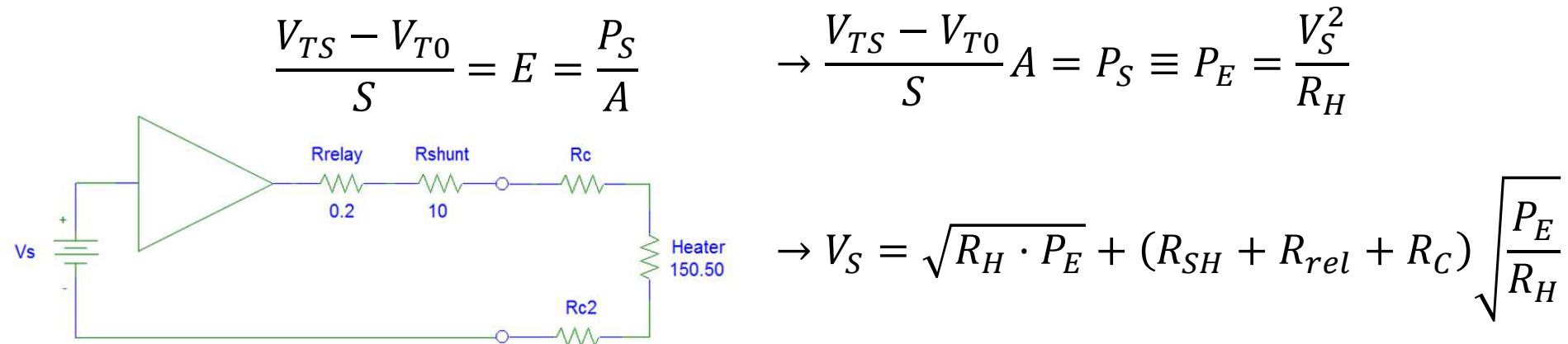
- Done in the TA *Calibration of Electrical Magnitudes* (PVLab-CIEMAT)
- Check of thermopile output $V_{TE} - V_{T0}$ vs P_E with a Fluke 5520A calibrator as current source, by using Agilent 34970A and Keysight 34420A as meters
- Test at different temperatures inside a climatic chamber



4. Characterization results

→ Realization of the Electrical Substitution Principle and the non-equivalence factor

- *Equivalence* during AHF operation is realized in terms of (near) *equal powers* instead of *equal temperatures* during open and closed phases.



- In practice, this works fine because the thermopile output signal is extremely linear with both radiant and electrical power:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 1/S &= \frac{L}{A \cdot \alpha_C \cdot \gamma} \left(\frac{1}{V_{TE} - V_{T0}} \right) \cdot P_E \\ V_{TE} - V_{T0} &= k_E \cdot P_E \end{aligned} \right\} \rightarrow k_E = S \frac{L}{A \cdot \alpha_C \cdot \gamma} \quad \rightarrow \text{slope}$$

4. Characterization results

→ Realization of the Electrical Substitution Principle and the non-equivalence factor

- Due to this *particular* way to apply the equivalence principle, and the linearity of the thermopile at the normal levels of power (>20mW), it was proposed to use the definition of the non-equivalence factor for directly calculating it

$$L = \frac{k_E}{k_S} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} V_{TS} - V_{T0} = k_S \cdot P_S \\ V_{TE} - V_{T0} = k_E \cdot P_E \end{array} \right.$$

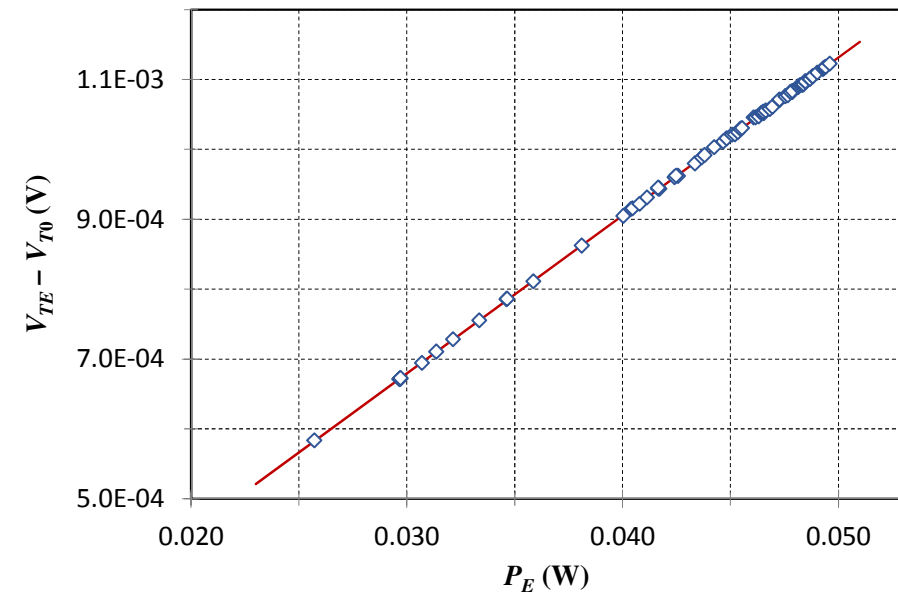
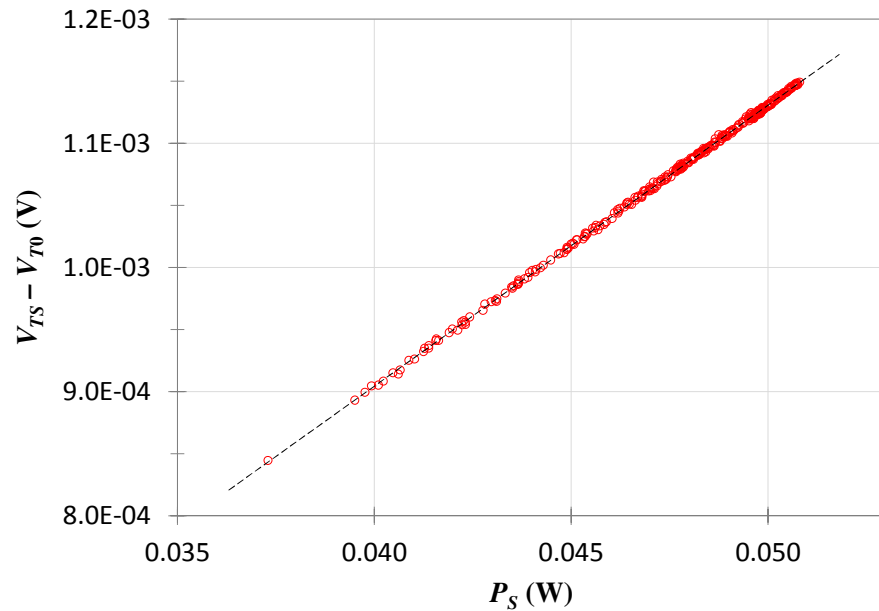
- Slopes of the straight lines are obtained from a least squares fit
- Both thermopile output signals be measured: 1) with the same instrument (DL) than in normal operation; 2) during the same periods for have equal working conditions
- A reference that determines P_S is needed

→ Data recorded during IPC-XII have been used for this

4. Characterization results

→ Realization of the Electrical Substitution Principle and the non-equivalence factor

- Data recorded during IPC-XII (2015) used for computing slopes
- Uncertainty calculated by Montecarlo method for k_E , k_S



$$L = \frac{k_E}{k_S}$$

$$k_E = 22.61276 \pm 0.01715 \text{ mV/W}$$

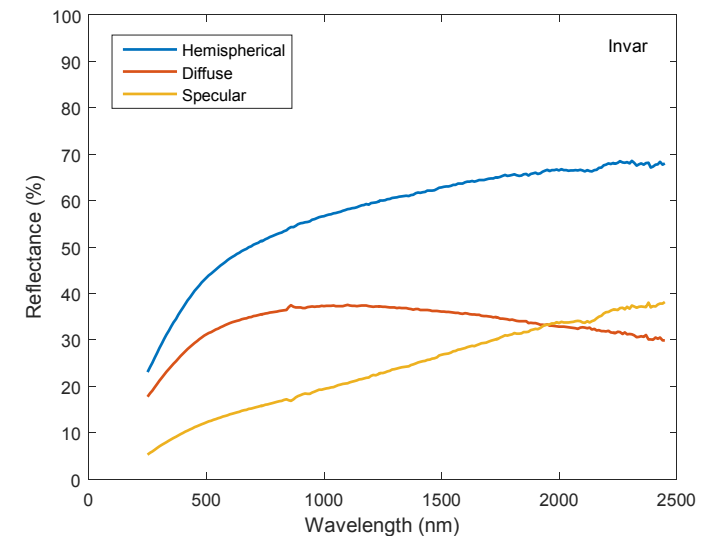
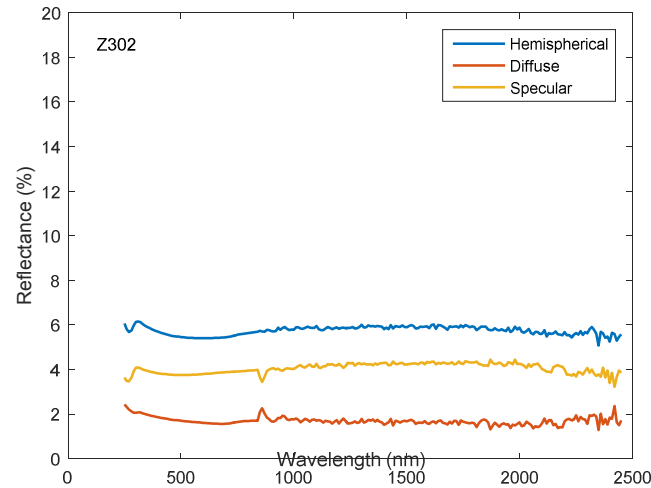
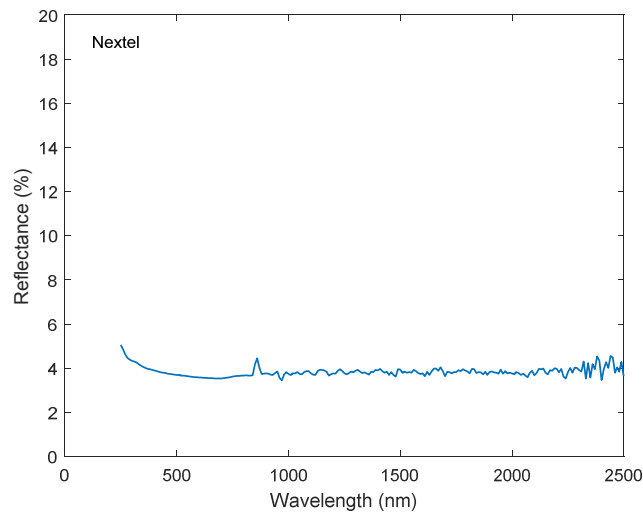
$$k_S = 22.61438 \pm 0.05026 \text{ mV/W}$$

$$L = \mathbf{0.999927 \pm 0.004150} \quad (k=2)$$

4. Characterization results

→ Optical characterization (1)

- Measurement of spectral reflectance (diffuse, hemispherical) of paints and surfaces used in radiometers (for AHF: Chemglaze Z302, Nextel, Invar disk)
- Perkin Elmer Lambda 900 (250-2500nm) and FTIR Frontier (2,5-16 μ m)



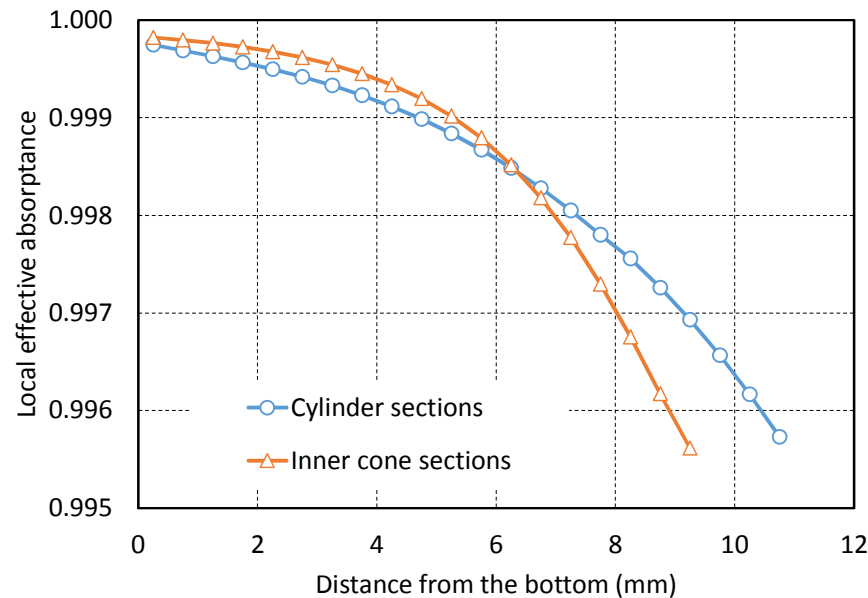
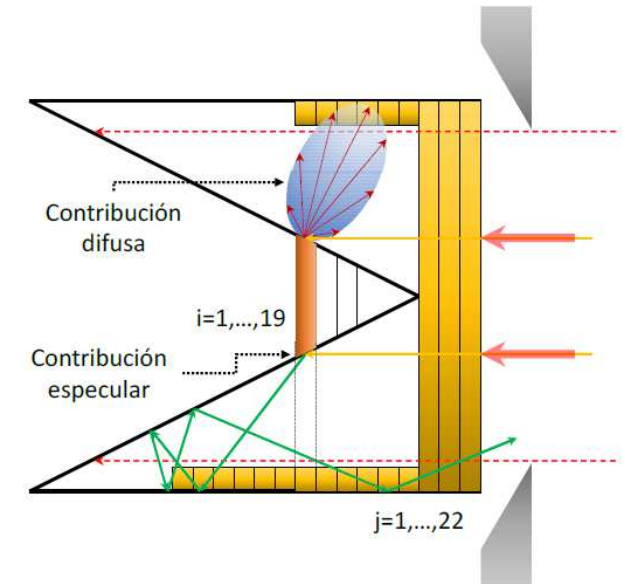
- Calculation of AM1.5D spectral distribution weighted reflectances

Surface	Reflectance (%)		
	Hemispherical	Specular	Diffuse
Z302	5.6304	3.9366	1.6938
Invar	51.5315	17.2855	34.1270
Nextel	3.7203	0	3.7203

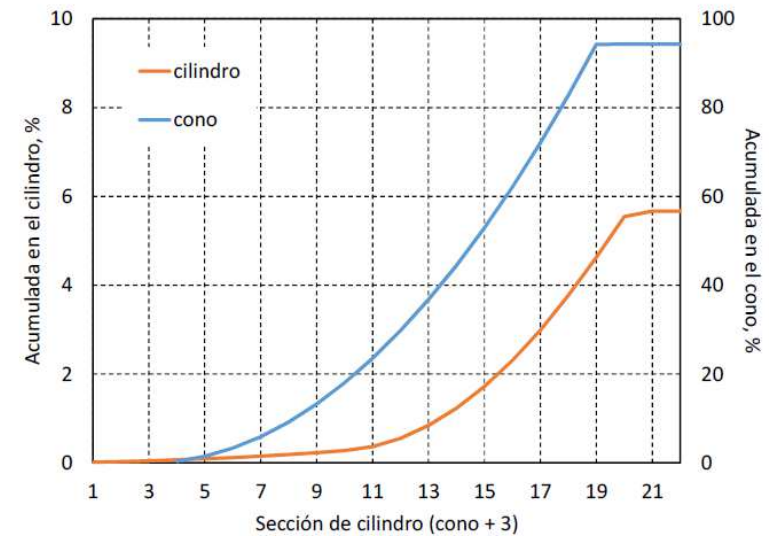
4. Characterization results

→ Optical characterization (2)

- Numerical calculation of absorptance and distribution of radiation inside the cavity by the method of sums (analysis of blackbody emissivities)
- The model only takes into account paraxial optics.



$$\alpha_C = 0.99912 \pm 0.00011$$

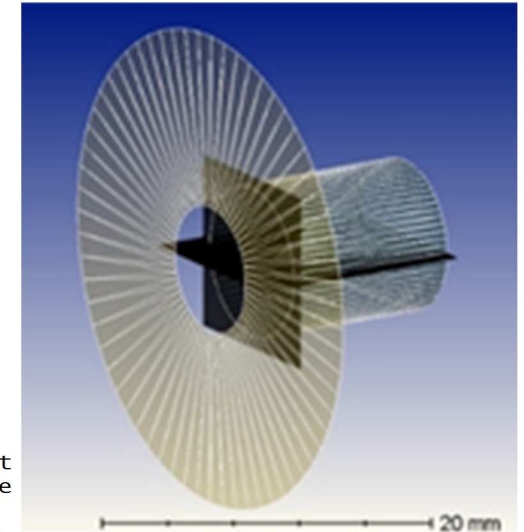
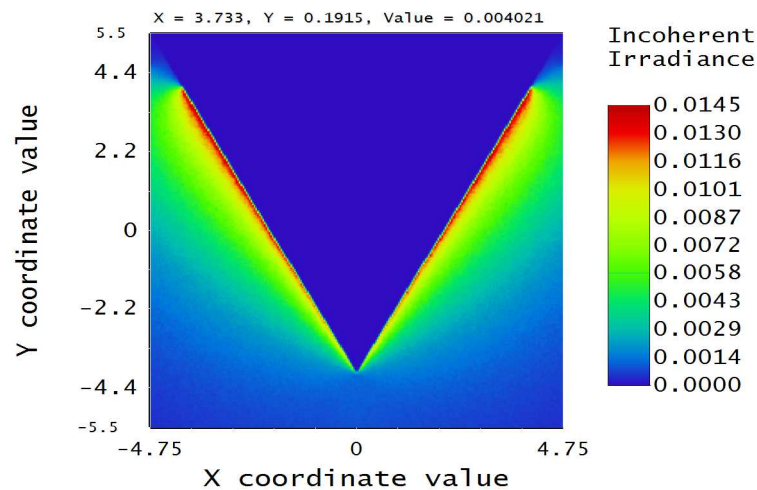
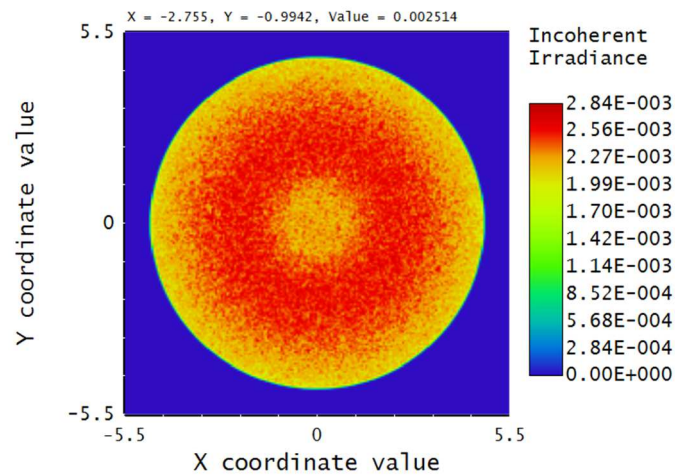


	Percent (%)
Cone	94.3
Cylinder	5.7

4. Characterization results

→ Optical characterization (3)

- Zemax simulation of absorptance and reflectance of the cavity



→ Light exiting the cavity is only due to diffuse component of reflectance

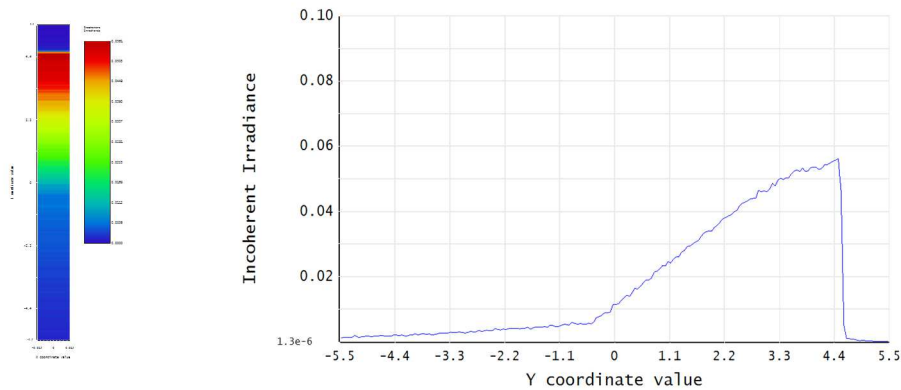
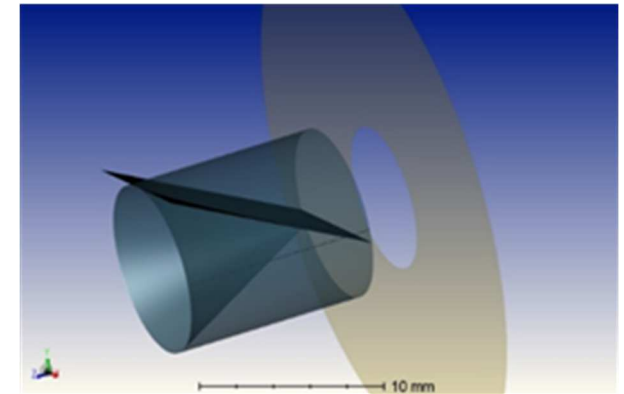
Light source	Input Power	Output power	Reflectance	Absorptance
Monochr.	1 W	1.6668E-03 W	1.6668E-03	0.99833
Sun	0.082974	0.00014297 W	0.0017231	0.99828

4. Characterization results

→ Optical characterization (4)

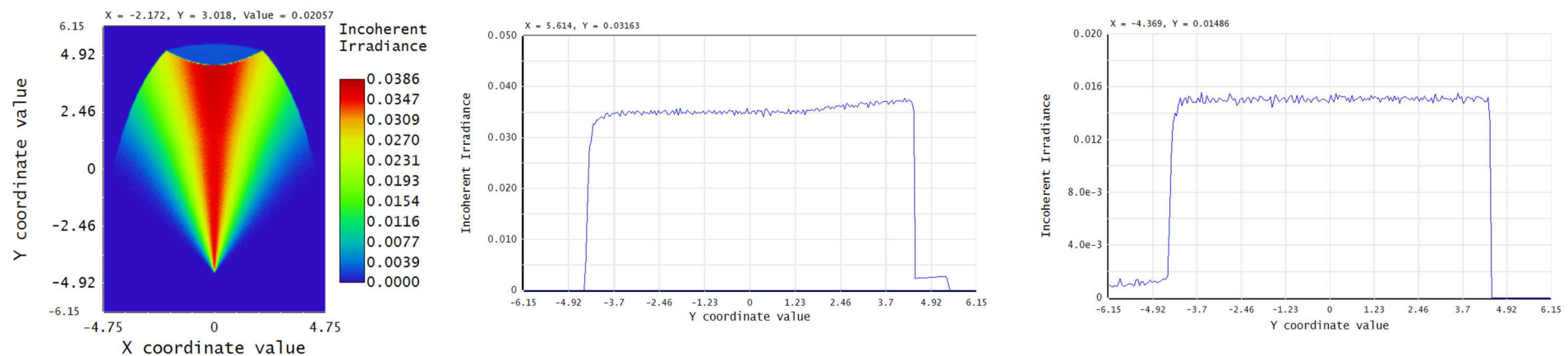
- Calculation of distribution of irradiance inside the cavity

→ Linear detector in the cylinder



	Surface (mm ²)	detector power (W)	Percent (%)
Cone	157.61	$2.366 \cdot 10^{-3}$	94.42
Cylinder	328.30	$5.608 \cdot 10^{-5}$	5.58

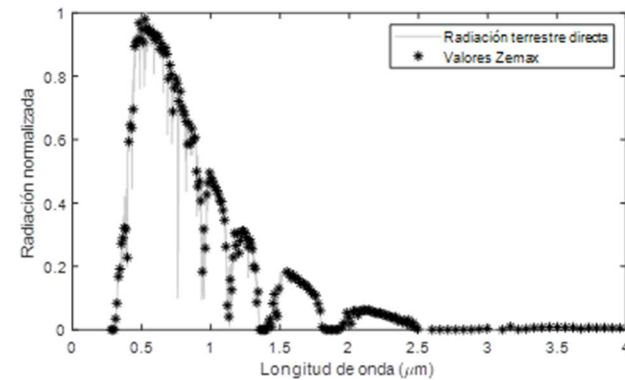
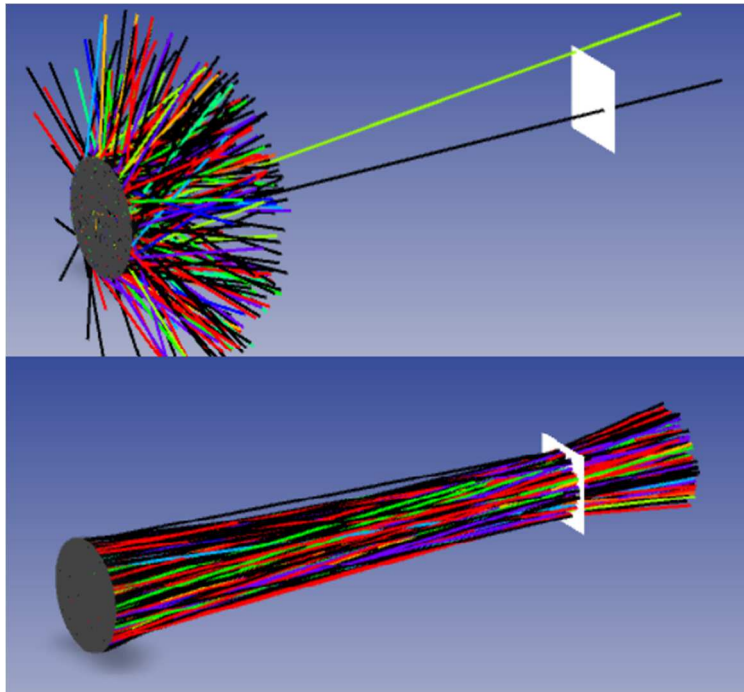
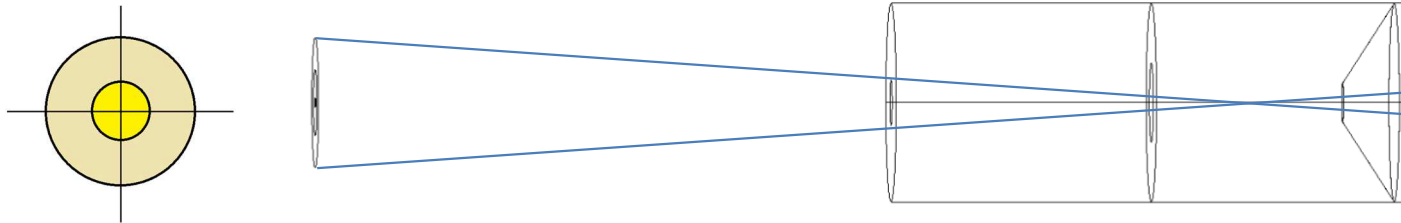
→ Planar detector in the cone



4. Characterization results

→ Optical characterization (5)

- Zemax simulation of scattering effects due to the collimator tube

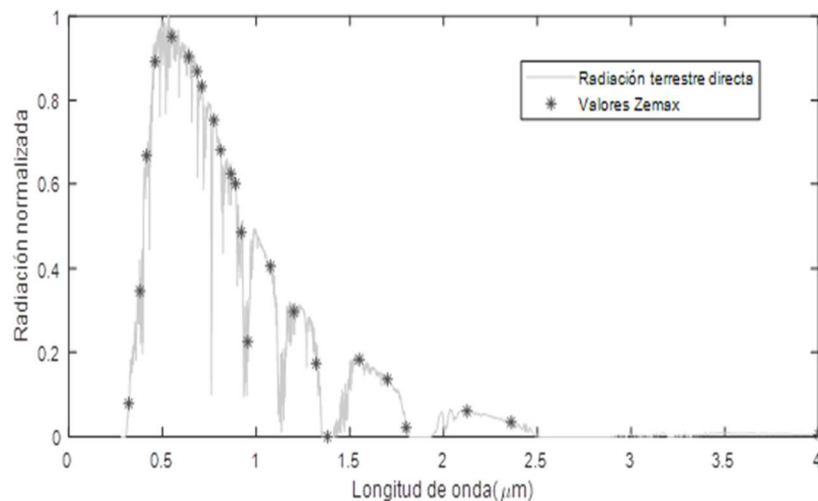
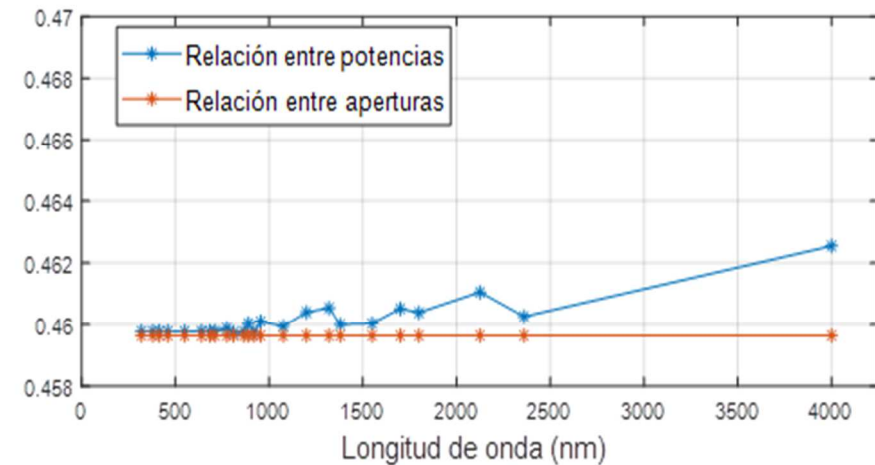
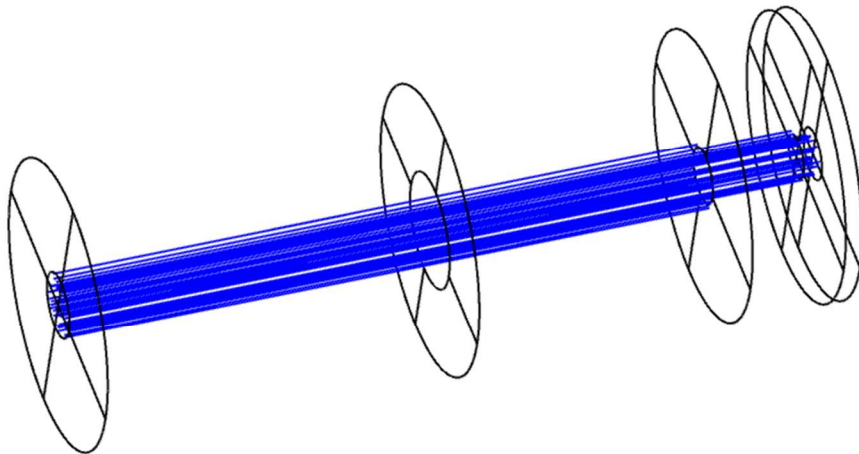


Power w/o collimator	Power w collimator	N	γ (ratio)	SD
3.6890	3.6933	15	1.00117	± 0.00098

4. Characterization results

→ Optical characterization (6)

- Zemax simulation of diffraction effects



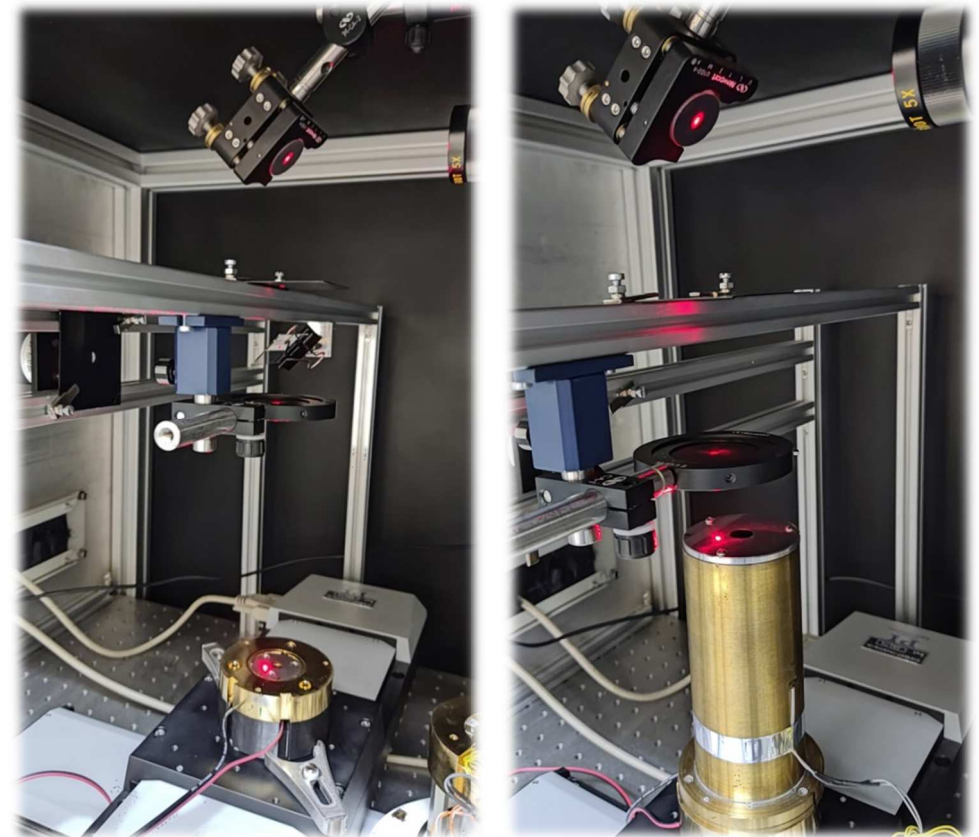
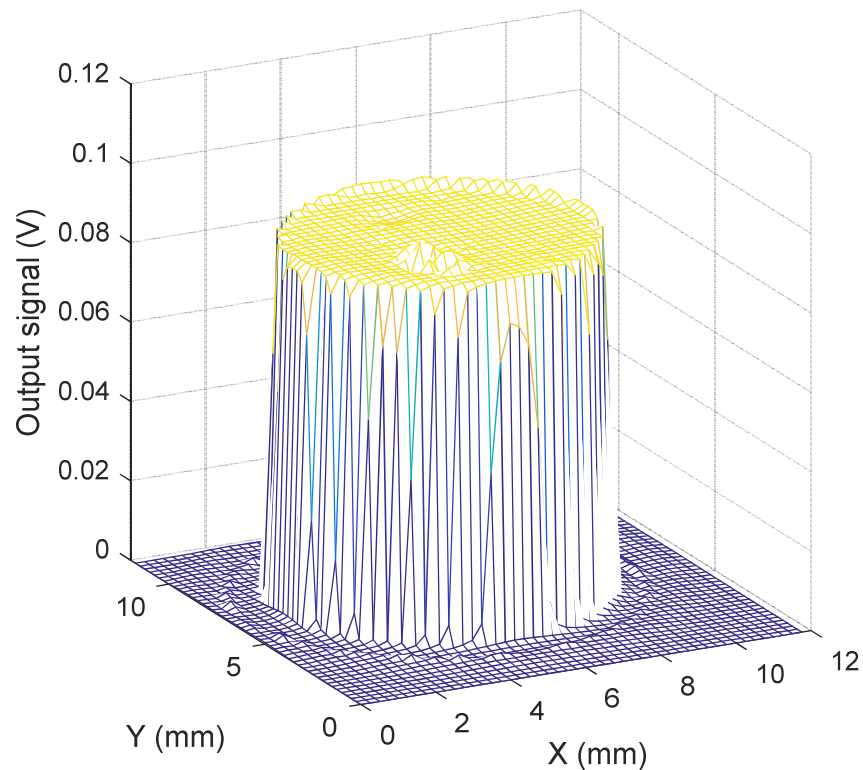
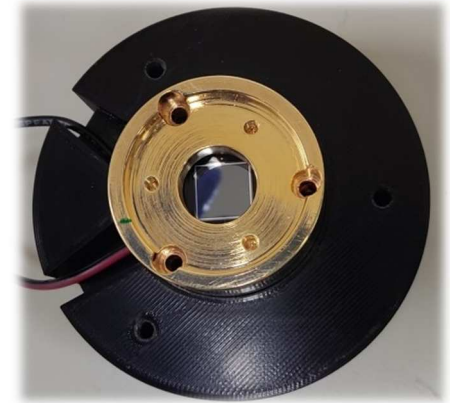
→ Use of a merit function with weighed spectral distribution for computing diffraction effects

R_{POP} [power]	R_{geo} [area]	Diff. Effect	Correction factor
0.45989	0.45964	1.00054	0.99946

4. Characterization results

→ Test on diffraction/scattering effects

- Setup adapted from a LBIC measurement system of PV solar cells, based on a 632 nm laser and a XY motorized table
- Hamamatsu 1337-1010BQ PD placed in the same position as the cavity, AHF original parts on PLA dummy pieces

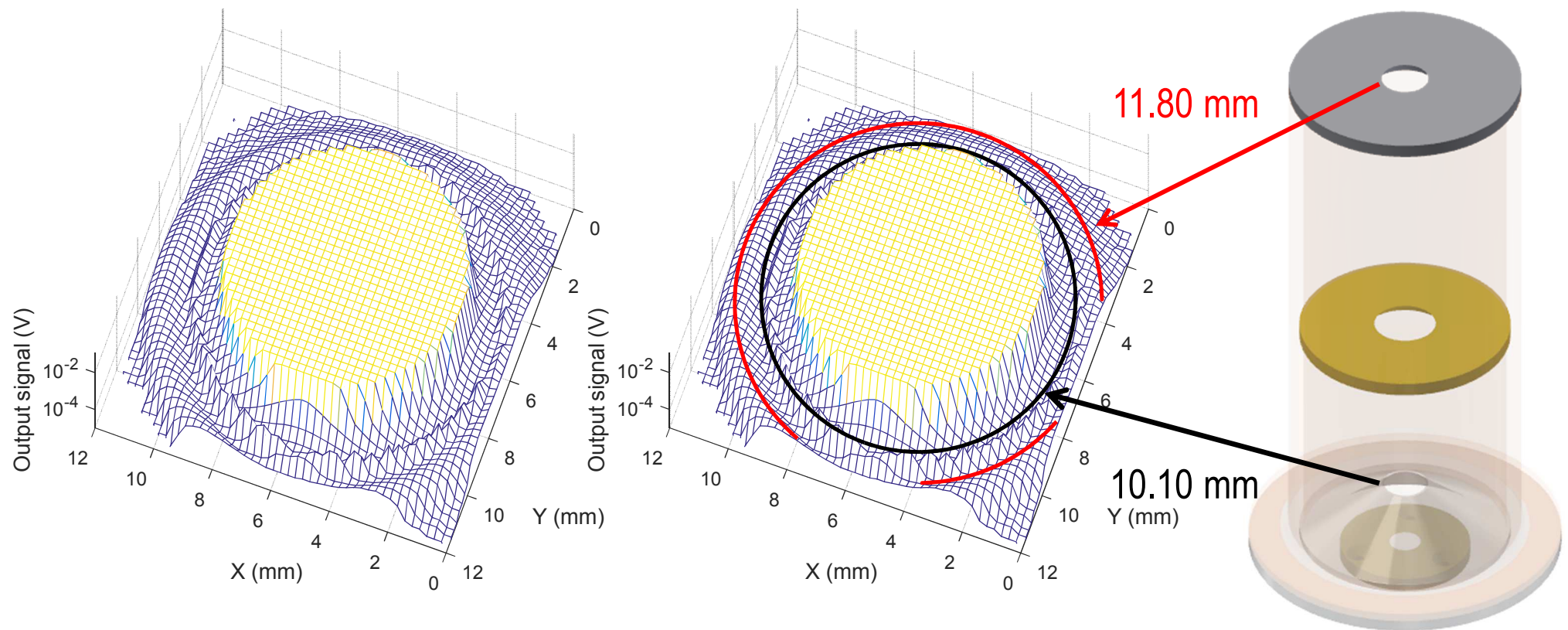


Laser beam $\sim 0.4 \text{ mm}\varnothing$, scanning $\Delta=0.25 \text{ mm}$, 48×48 grid

4. Characterization results

→ Test on diffraction/scattering effects

- View in semilog scale reveals two *rings*, corresponding to diaphragms defining FOV of the collimator



- Possible evidence of diffraction effects
- Improvements in the experimental setup are needed

5. Uncertainty budget

→ Measurement model function:

$$E = \frac{L}{A \alpha_C \gamma} \cdot \left(\frac{V_{TS} - V_{T0}}{V_{TE} - V_{T0}} \right) \cdot \frac{V_I}{R_N} \left(V_H - \frac{V_I}{R_N} R_C \right)$$

→ According to GUM:

$$y = f(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_N) \quad \longrightarrow \quad u_B^2(y) = \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\frac{\partial y}{\partial x_i} \right]^2 u^2(x_i) + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^N \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_j} u(x_i, x_j)$$

→ In our case, neglecting correlation terms:

$$E = f(L, \alpha_C, A, \gamma, V_{TS}, V_{T0}, V_{TE}, V_I, V_H, R_N, R_C) \quad \longrightarrow \quad u_B^2(E) = \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial x_i} \right]^2 u^2(x_i)$$

→ For practical reasons, it is better to calculate relative uncertainty:

$$\longrightarrow \quad \frac{u_B^2(E)}{E^2} = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{E^2} \left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial x_i} \right]^2 u^2(x_i)$$

5. Uncertainty budget

→ Explicitly:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{u_B^2(E)}{E^2} &= \frac{1}{E^2} \left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial L} \right]^2 u^2(L) + \frac{1}{E^2} \left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial A} \right]^2 u^2(A) + \frac{1}{E^2} \left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial \gamma} \right]^2 u^2(\gamma) + \frac{1}{E^2} \left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial \alpha_C} \right]^2 u^2(\alpha_C) + \dots \\
 &+ \frac{1}{E^2} \left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial V_{TE}} \right]^2 u^2(V_{TE}) + \frac{1}{E^2} \left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial V_{TS}} \right]^2 u^2(V_{TS}) + \frac{1}{E^2} \left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial V_{T0}} \right]^2 u^2(V_{T0}) + \dots \\
 &+ \frac{1}{E^2} \left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial V_H} \right]^2 u^2(V_H) + \frac{1}{E^2} \left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial V_I} \right]^2 u^2(V_I) + \frac{1}{E^2} \left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial R_C} \right]^2 u^2(R_C) + \frac{1}{E^2} \left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial R_N} \right]^2 u^2(R_N)
 \end{aligned}$$

...and after some maths...

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{u^2(E)}{E^2} &= \frac{1}{L^2} u^2(L) + \frac{1}{A^2} u^2(A) + \frac{1}{\alpha_C^2} u^2(\alpha_C) + \frac{1}{\gamma^2} u^2(\gamma) \\
 &+ \frac{u^2(V_{TE})}{(V_{TE} - V_{T0})^2} + \frac{u^2(V_{TS})}{(V_{TS} - V_{T0})^2} + \frac{(V_{TS} - V_{TE})^2}{(V_{TE} - V_{T0})^2 (V_{TS} - V_{T0})^2} u^2(V_{T0}) \\
 &+ \frac{1}{\left(V_H - \frac{V_I}{R_N} R_C \right)^2} \left[u^2(V_H) + \left(\frac{V_I}{R_N} \right)^2 u^2(R_C) + \left(V_H - 2 \frac{V_I}{R_N} R_C \right)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{u^2(V_I)}{V_I^2} + \frac{u^2(R_N)}{R_N^2} \right) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

5. Uncertainty budget

Term	Estimate Test value	Uncertainty ($k=1$)	Sensitivity coeff. S/E	Contribution ($\times 10^{-6}$)	Relative contribution
L	0.999 927	0.002 075	1.0001	2075.4	56.62 %
A	50.183 mm ²	0.007 5 mm ²	0.019927 mm ⁻²	149.5	0.29 %
α_C	0.999 12	0.000 06	1.0009	61.2	0.05 %
γ	1.001	0.000 5	0.9990	500.0	3.29 %
V_{TE}	0.956 152 mV	0.002 344 mV	1.0452 mV ⁻¹	1235.6	20.07 %
V_{TS}	0.966 129 mV	0.002 344 mV	1.0344 mV ⁻¹	1223.3	19.67 %
V_{T0}	-0.624 680 μ V	0.002 338 mV	0.010786 mV ⁻¹	12.6	0.00 %
V_H	2.508 384 V	0.000 081 V	0.39884 V ⁻¹	16.8	0.01 %
V_I	0.166 645 V	0.000 0081 V	5.9981 V ⁻¹	25.7	0.01 %
R_C	50.990 7 m Ω	0.003 4 m Ω	6.6464 $\times 10^{-3}$ m Ω^{-1}	22.3	0.01 %
R_N	9.998 69 Ω	0.000 055 Ω	0.099956 Ω^{-1}	5.5	0.00 %
TOTAL u			($k=1$)	2758	100.0 %

6. Traceability to WRR/SI

→ Clarifying the method proposed for determining non-equivalence factor L

- Seems not to be independent of the radiant source (*should it...?*)
- Seems not to be independent of the reference instruments used for defining the radiant power (W) (*should it...?*)
- Seems to be only valid for comparisons against WRR
- It is the largest contribution to the net uncertainty

→ Pending of comparison against trap detectors/cryogenic radiometers of the SI lab scale in IO-CSIC (DI of the Spanish NMI) to confirm

→ Looking for alternative methods of determination of L

→ Experiment in vacuum chamber to evaluate the effect of air convection

6. Traceability to WRR/SI

→ Additional details we want to improve (not all required to finish)

- Evaluation of uncertainty of figures (scattering, diffraction) obtained from Zemax
- Experiment to measure/detect diffraction with the laser beam
- Understanding on the thermal effects on sensitivity
- Add a new micro-voltmeter for readings of thermopile signal, to get lower uncertainty
- Apply all these corrections to our measurements to analyze how much our IPC factor would change.
- Publish...

→ Next steps

- Extend the methodology to other cavity radiometers. PMO6 is on the way... maybe PMO8...
- To design and to build our own cavity...? Let's see... In the future...

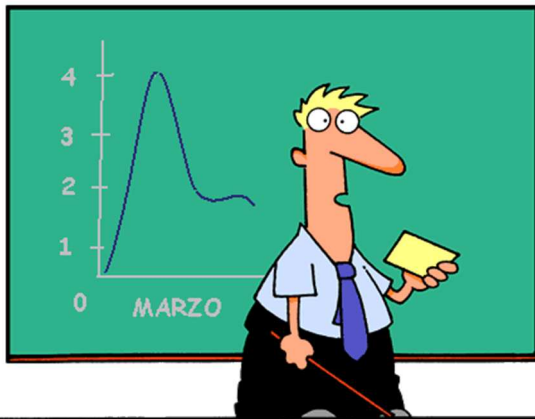
Conclusions

- General process of characterization of radiometers has been explained, and how it has been adapted to the case of AHF
- Experiments and simulations already carried out have been detailed
- Uncertainty budget has been calculated on the basis of the model function. Current figure is about ≈ 2800 ppm, pending of reviewing some contributions
- Several troubles and future work on AHF characterization has been also pointed out.

Calls

- to manufacturers/designers: make your cavities modular, easy to take sensors and components apart for calibration and testing; have spare parts, materials, paints, sensors, etc, available for further research
- to other laboratories/researchers: try to characterize, to calibrate and to know your instruments

On the characterization of an AHF cavity radiometer and its traceability to WRR/SI



→ **Thank you for your attention**

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→ **Thanks a lot to all my colleagues
contributing on this...**

→ **It's your turn... shoot!**

