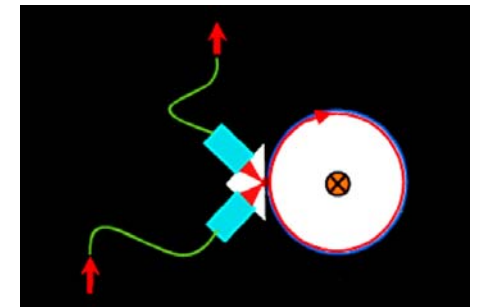
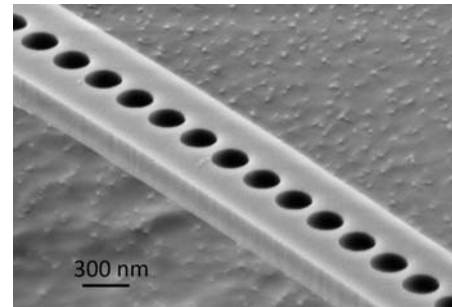


# *THERMODYNAMIC MINIATURIZED SENSORS AND STANDARDS AND THE QUANTUM SI*



**GREGORY F. STROUSE**

**Associate Director for Measurement Services  
Physical Measurement Laboratory (PML)**

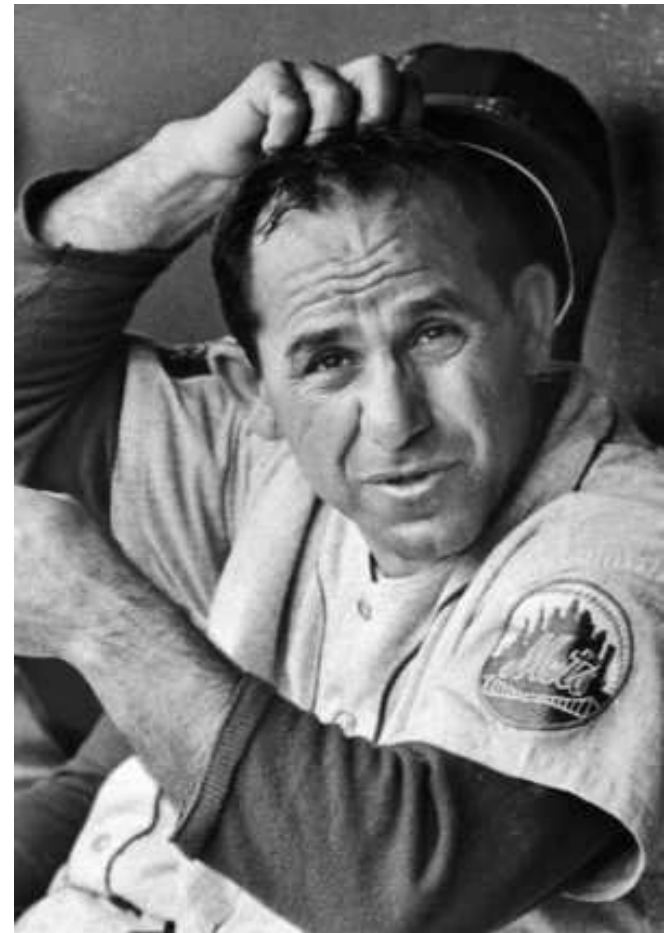
**[gregory.strouse@nist.gov](mailto:gregory.strouse@nist.gov)**



## Future of Metrology?

*“It’s hard to make predictions,  
especially about the future”*

Yogi Berra



# Outline

- Few words on the Système international d'unités (the SI)
- Trend towards a “Quantum SI”
- Trend towards “Embedded Standards”
- Implications for measurement of thermodynamic quantities
- Final thoughts

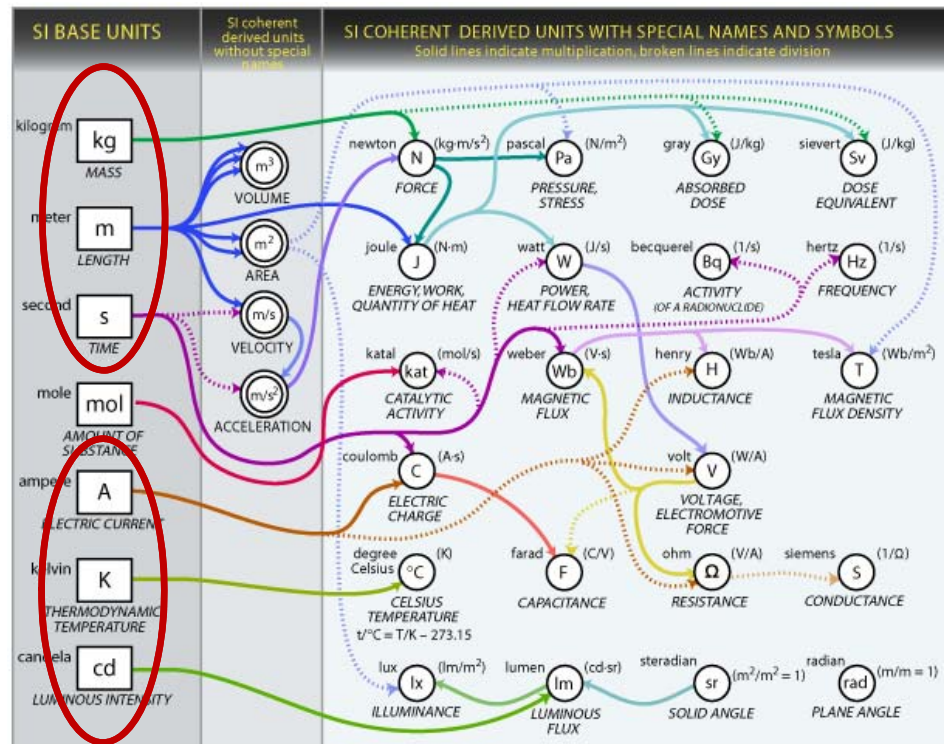
# SI is the Modern, Harmonized Metric System

**PML is responsible for 6 of 7 units**

NIST seeks to ensure that SI is...

- Scientifically based
- Defined by consensus
- Realized in practice
- Disseminated for routine uses
- Disseminated for new and novel uses
- Maintained and improved

**SI underpins *all* measurements, whether expressed in metric units or otherwise**



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# Classical to Quantum SI

## Meeting the Metrology Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

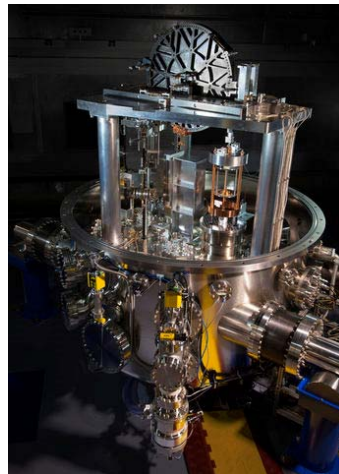
- **Quantum SI**

- Quantum phenomena
- Fundamental and atomic constants

- Tying metrology back to fundamental atomic quantities

- Removing artifacts as defining the SI

*NIST Watt Balance*



- **kelvin**

- Boltzmann constant

- **kilogram**

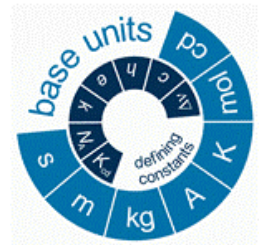
- Planck constant

- **ampere**

- Elementary electric charge

- **mole**

- Avogadro constant



# What do We Mean by “Quantum SI?”

## Consider the History of the Meter:

1889: International Prototype Meter (Artifact)

GOOD



1960: *The meter is the length equal to 1,650,763.73 wavelengths in vacuum of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the levels  $2p_{10}$  and  $5d_5$  of the krypton 86.* (11<sup>th</sup> CGPM, Resolution 6)

BETTER



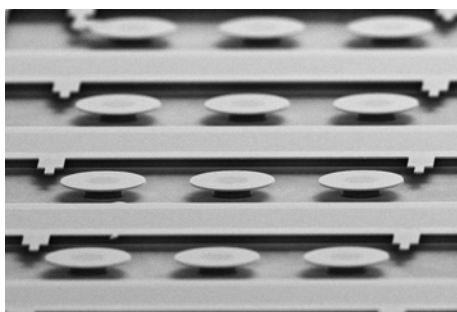
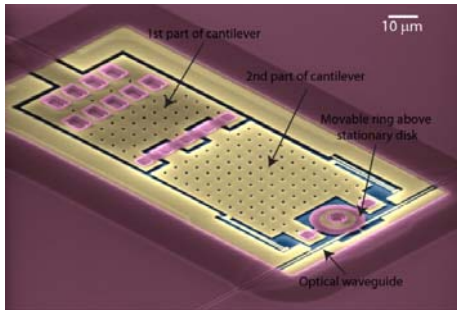
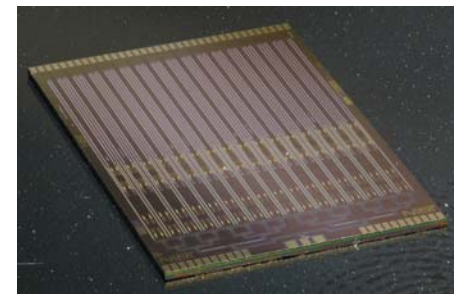
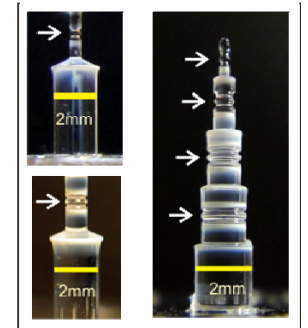
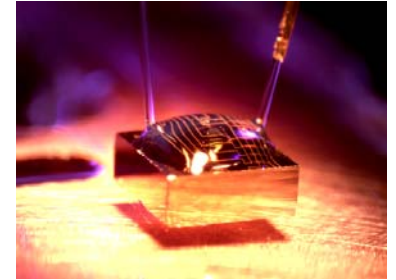
1983: *The meter is the length of the path travelled by light in vacuum during a time interval of  $1/299,792,458$  of a second.* (17<sup>th</sup> CGPM, Resolution 1)

BEST



# Quantum SI Metrology Areas

- Acceleration
- Electrical
- Fluid flow
- Humidity
- Length
- Magnetic field
- Mass and force
- Pressure
- Optical power
- Radiation
- Temperature
- Time and frequency





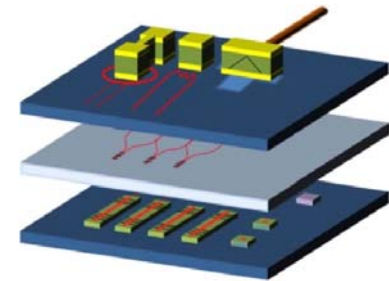
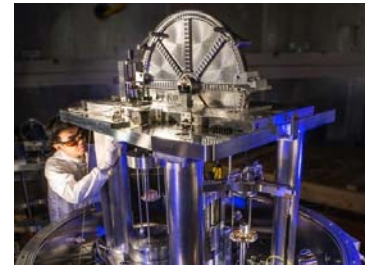
# Outline

- Few words on the *Système international d'unités* (the SI)
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- **Trend towards “Embedded Standards”**
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- Final thoughts

# PML Priority

## Advanced Measurement Dissemination

- Improving dissemination of national standards  
*Using the “21<sup>st</sup> century toolkit” to reinvent best devices and modes for calibration services, e.g., greater stability, wider dynamic range*
- Embedded sensors: “NIST on a Chip”  
*Miniaturized devices that minimize the need for traditional calibration services by using quantum effects*
- Open metrology: Sharing what we know  
*We commit to providing many, varied training opportunities to our customers to facilitate adoption of best practices*

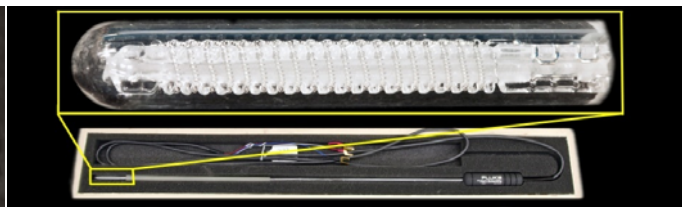


# SI Dissemination Methodologies in Practice



**Send us an artifact;  
We'll measure it and  
return it**

Commercially available  
ITS-90 fixed-point cells



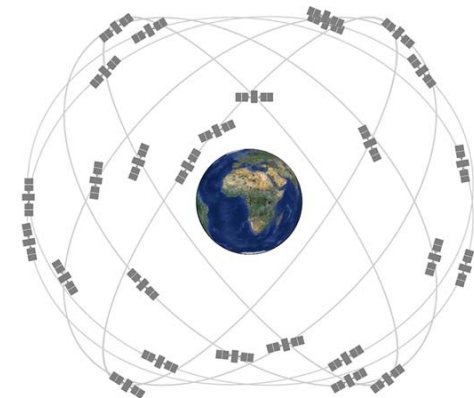
**Send us an instrument;  
We'll calibrate it and  
return it**

Standard Platinum  
Resistance Thermometer



**Don't send us anything;  
Buy one, and we'll ship it  
to you**

SRM 1968, Gallium  
Melting-Point Standard



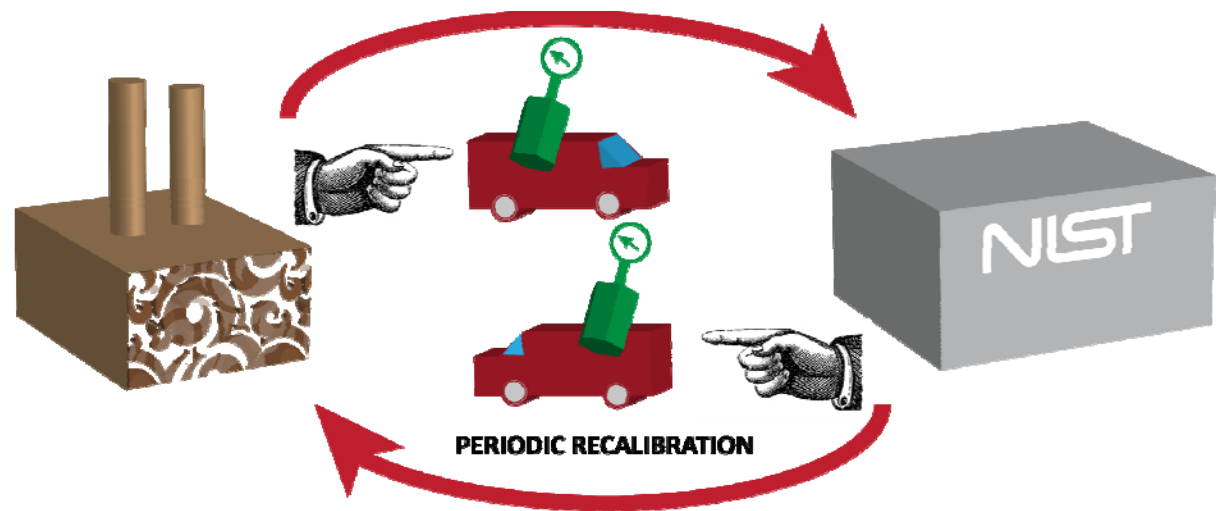
**Don't send us anything;  
We'll observe  
something together**

GPS satellite constellation  
(atomic clocks in orbit)

# Classical Calibration Dissemination Method



Delivery guy:  
He likes things as they are



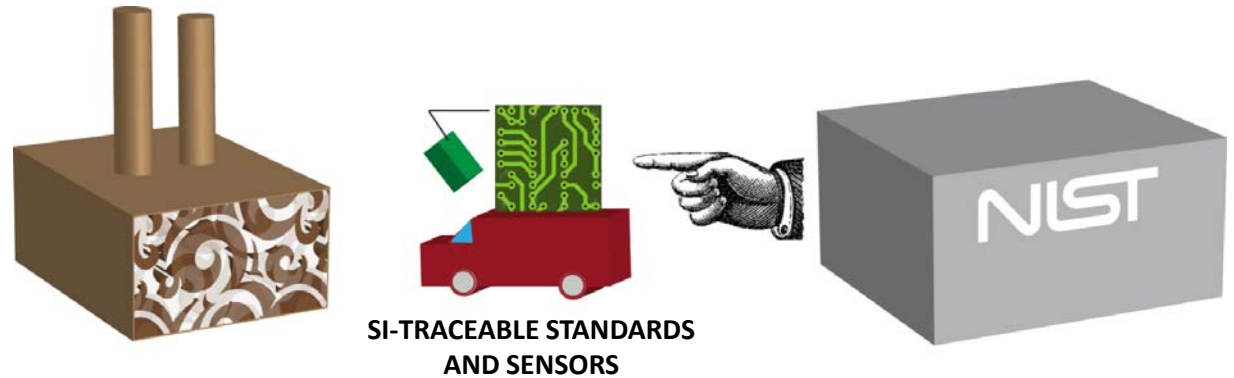
Routine shipment of artifacts  
and instruments for calibration

**Over 14,000 artifacts per year – Expensive modality**

# Advanced Measurement Quantum SI Dissemination



He's got less work to do



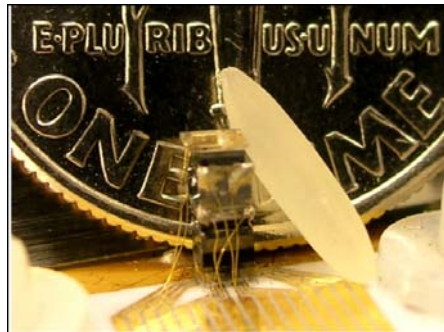
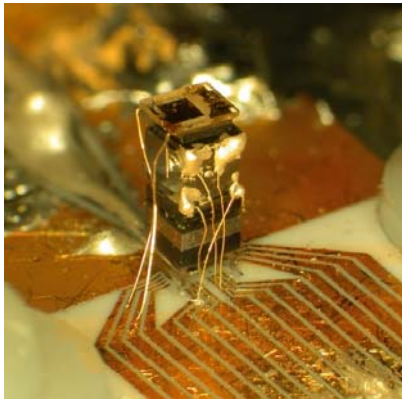
## Technology transfer

- Dual platform standards and sensors
- SI realization outside the walls of NIST
- New faster/lower cost calibration services – on factory floor
- Enhance economic impact through elimination of waste in industrial processes
- Number of calibrations approaches zero

# Emerging Technologies Enable Disruptive Change

- Solid state lasers (e.g., VCSELs)
- Microelectromechanical systems (MEMS)

Example: These technologies enabled the Chip Scale Atomic Clock (CSAC)



NIST Prototype (2004)



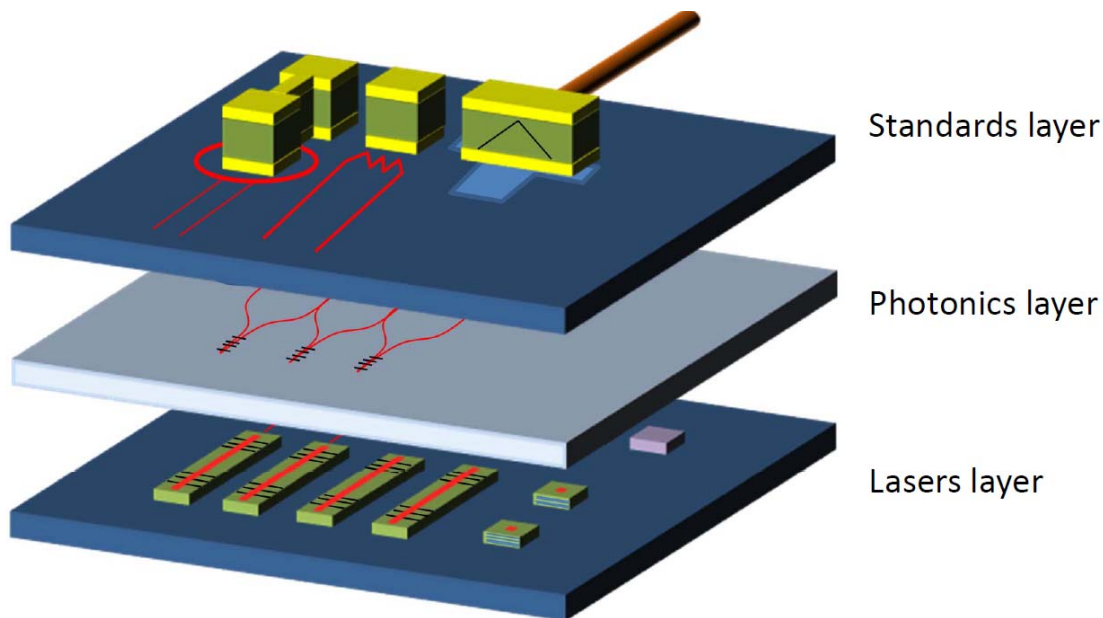
Commercialized (2011)



Optical microresonators on a silicon wafer.  
(Premier issue of *Optica*)



# Embedded Metrology (“Chip Scale”)



NIST Quantum SI Standards and Sensors  
-Dual mode infra-technology

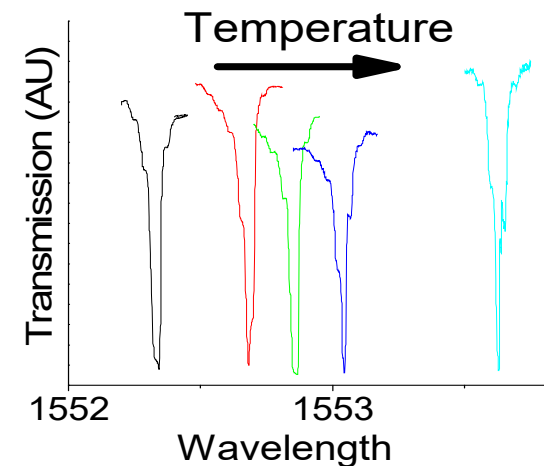
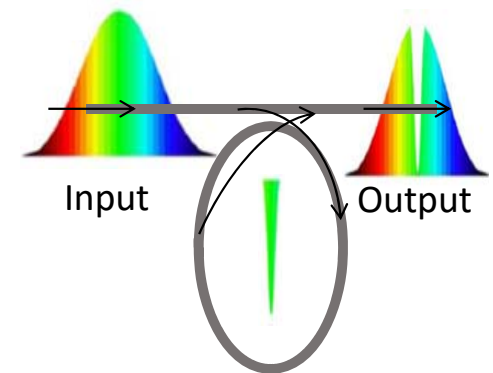
- Flexible
  - Integrated, multi-function standard and sensor platform
- Manufactural
  - Commercialization of designs / recipes to foundry
- Deployable
  - Quantum SI realization and zero-chain traceability
- Usable
  - Rugged and easy to use

# Outline

- Few words on the *Système international d'unités* (the SI)
- Trend towards a “Quantum SI”
- Trend towards “Embedded Standards”
- **Implications for measurement of thermodynamic quantities**
- Final thoughts

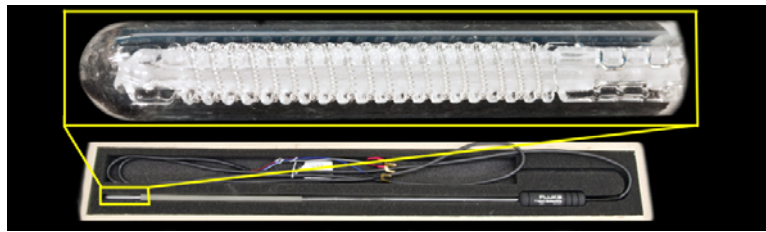
# Photonic Sensors

- Light based sensor
  - Change in physical property (e.g., index of refraction) creates a resonate frequency shift
  - Frequency notch-filter
- Frequency measurement advantages
  - More accurate than electrical
  - Low noise
  - Telecom industry components

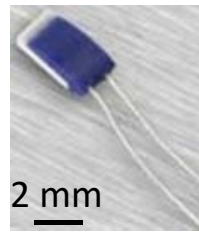


# Photonic Temperature Sensor

## Classical technology: Electrical temperature sensors



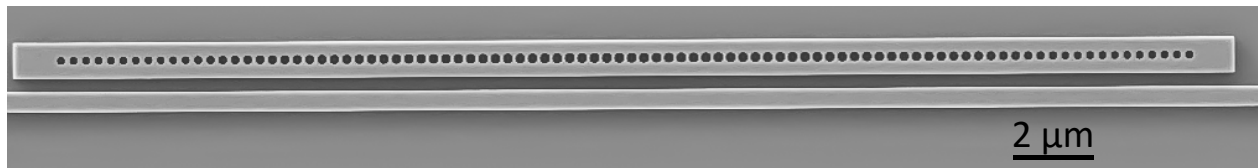
Standard platinum resistance thermometer



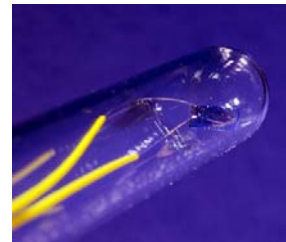
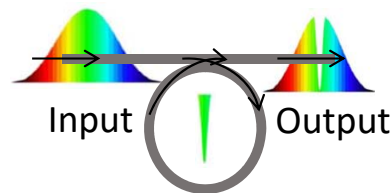
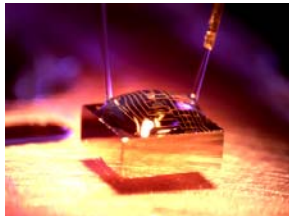
Industrial Pt PRT

- $U \lesssim 10 \text{ mK @ } (-196 \text{ }^\circ\text{C to } 500 \text{ }^\circ\text{C})$
- Hysteresis
- Mechanical or thermal shock

## Quantum technology: Photonic crystal cavity sensors

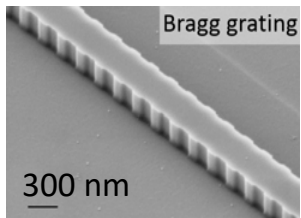


2  $\mu\text{m}$

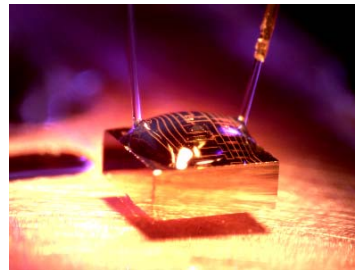
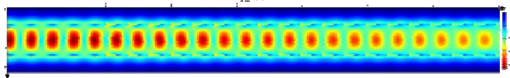


- Micro/nano-scale size
- Can be embedded
- Low cost and weight
- Immune to electromagnetic interference
- Negligible hysteresis
- Fast response time
- Can tolerate harsh conditions and treatment

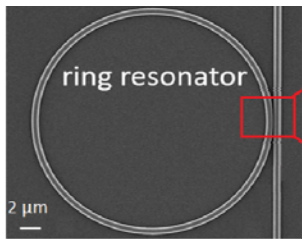
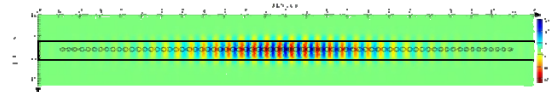
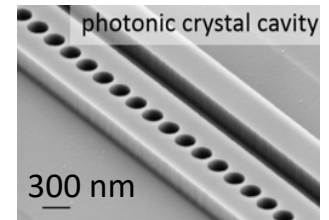
# Photonic Temperature Sensors



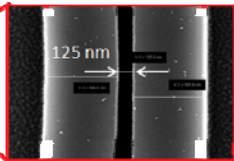
**Si Bragg Waveguide**  
 $U < 1.25 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$



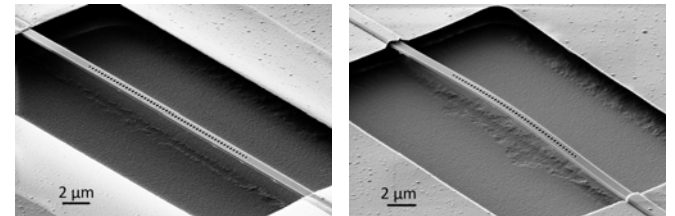
**Si Crystal Cavity**  
 $U < 0.05 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$



**Si Ring Resonator**  
 $U < 0.01 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$



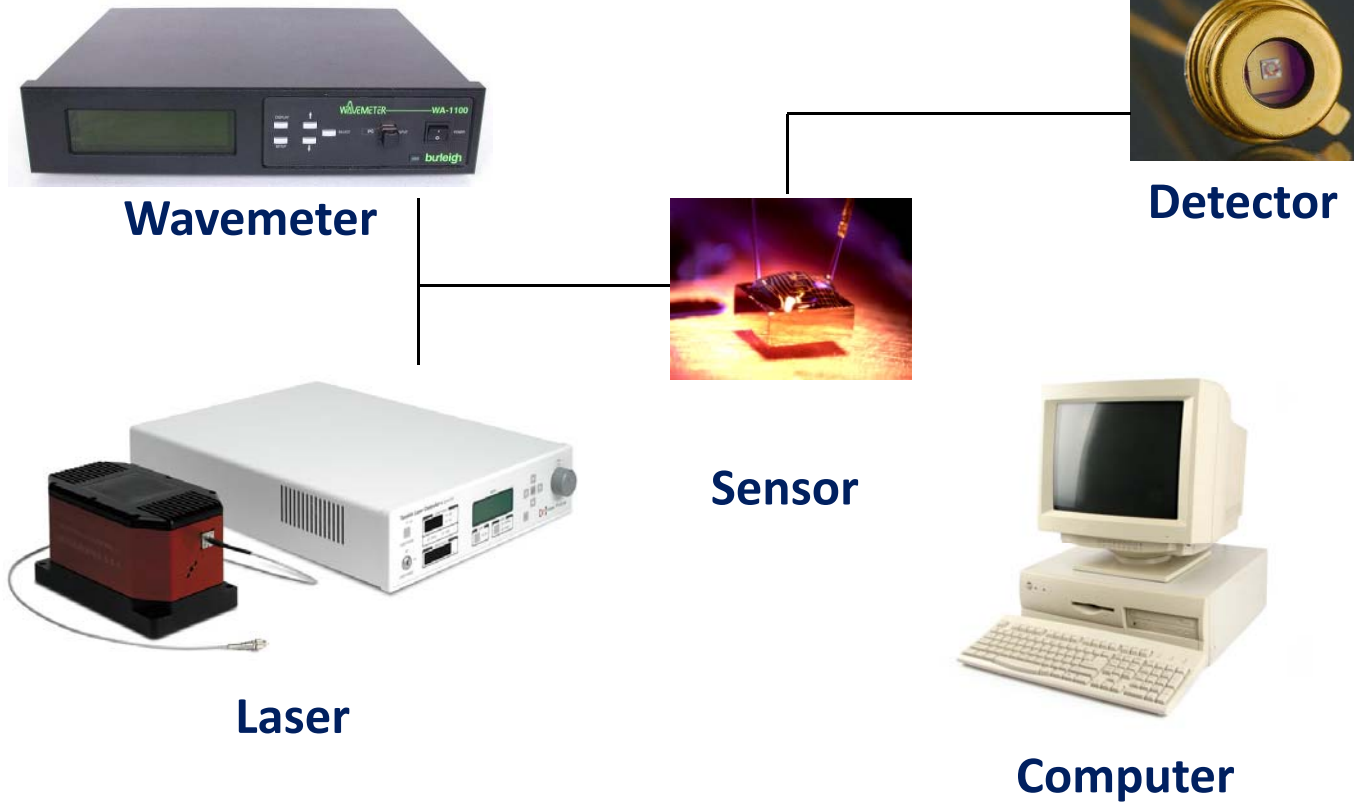
**Si Nanobeam**  
 $U < 0.001 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$



# Integrated Photonics Currently

Sensor measurement  
“platform”:

- Temperature
- Pressure
- Vacuum
- Humidity
- Strain
- Chemicals
- Radiation

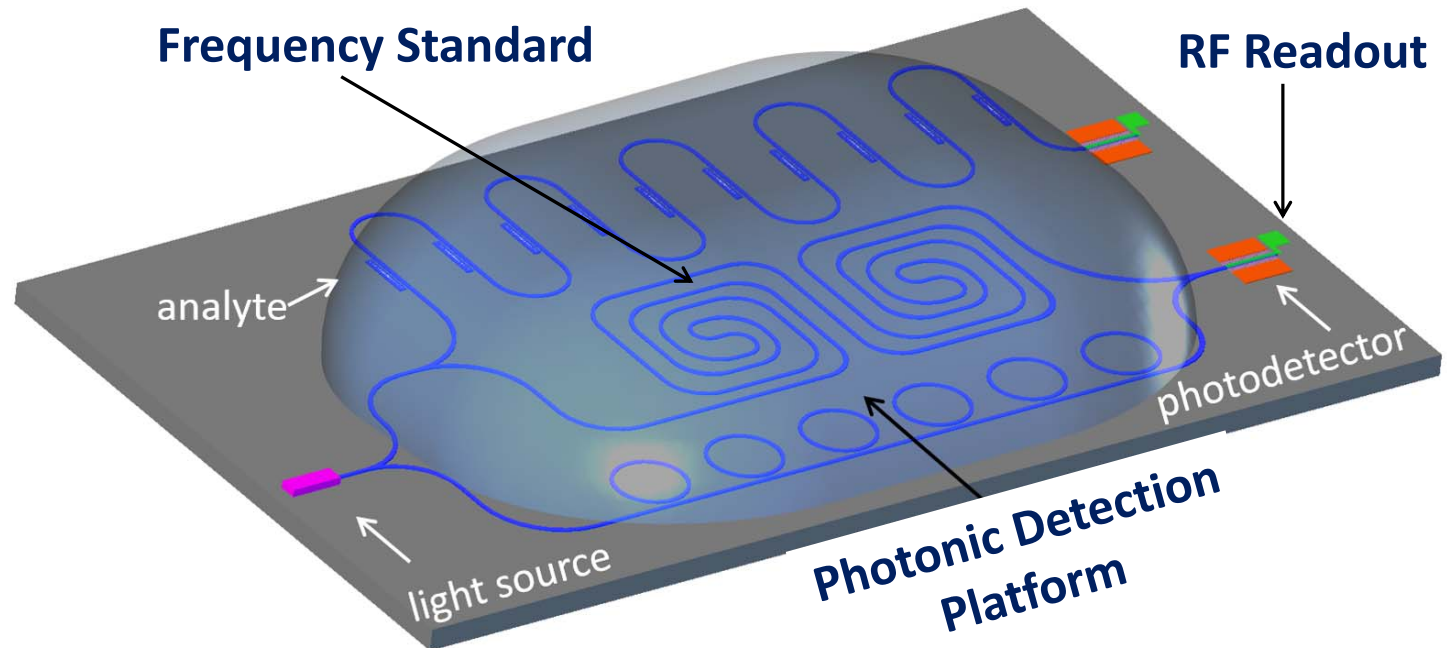




# Integrated Photonics The Future for Mobile Sensing

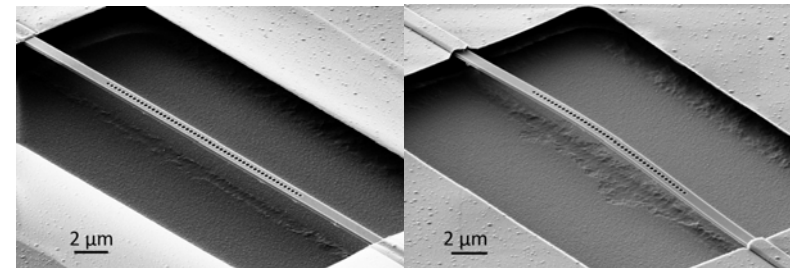
Sensor measurement platform:

- Temperature
- Pressure
- Vacuum
- Humidity
- Strain
- Chemicals
- Radiation



# Possible Route to a Practical “Quantum Kelvin”

- Standard built into the sensor design
  - Nanoscale opto-mechanical silicon beam

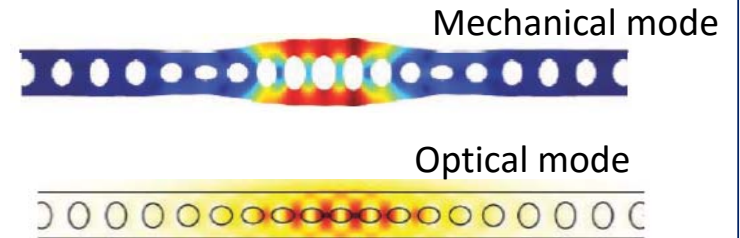


## Mechanical mode (standard)

- Phonon Boltzmann distributions of thermodynamic temperature states created to calibrate sensor temperature response

## Optical mode (sensor)

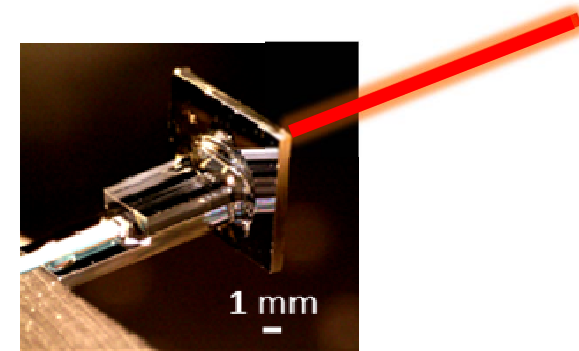
- Temperature-dependent shift in sensor resonance is utilized to make temperature measurements



- $Q \sim 1,000,000$
- Resolution:  $\delta\lambda_{\text{MIN}} \approx 0.1 \text{ pm}$   
 $\delta T_{\text{MIN}} < 1 \text{ mK}$

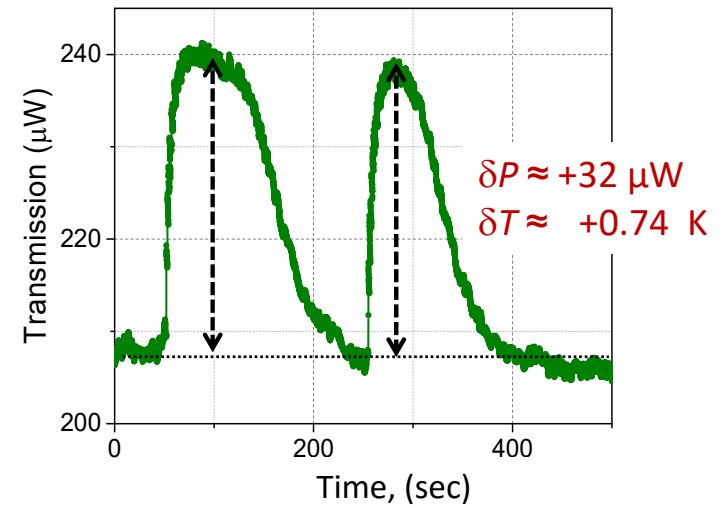
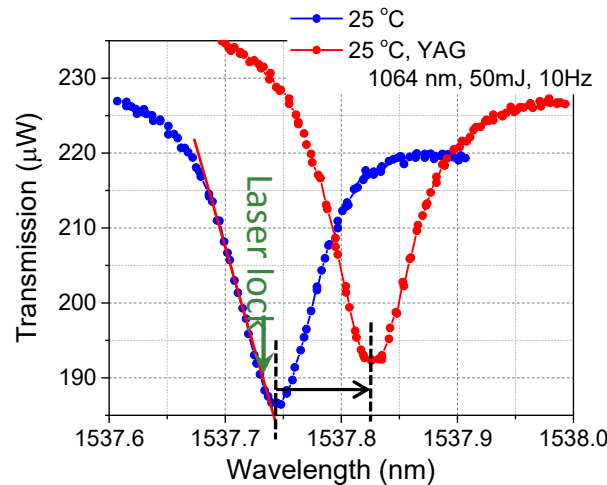
# Steps Toward Si Traceability to Dynamic Temperature

- Dynamic temperature
  - Developing laser temperature traceability (e.g., welding, chip manufacturing, eye surgery)



- First attempt – proof of concept

- YAG laser at 50 mJ
  - $\Delta P = 32 \mu W$
  - $\Delta T = 0.74 K$

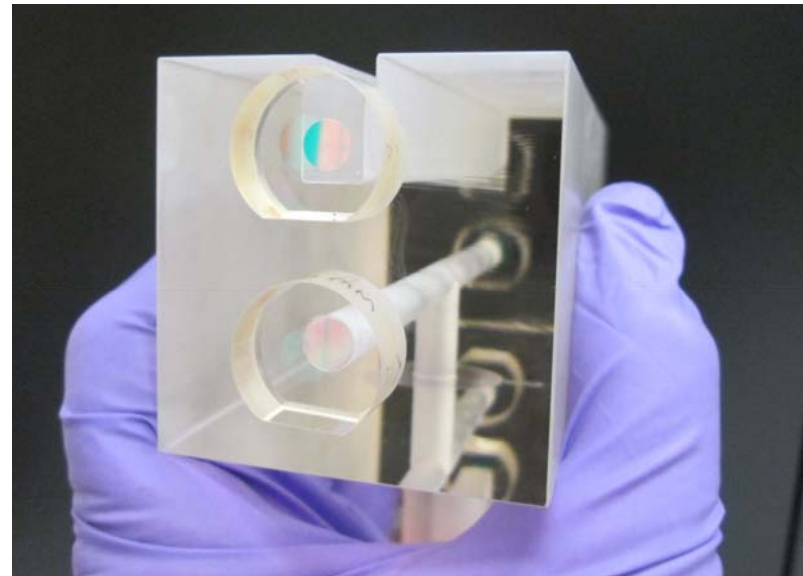


- **SI traceable  $T$  through a photonic sensor**

# Quantum Pressure Standard and Sensor: FLOC (Fixed Length Optical Cavity)

- Compact, portable, quantum-based primary barometric pressure standard
- Replaces multiple commercial gauge technologies
- Range of 1 mPa to 1,000 kPa (10 atm)
  - Eight decades of pressure measurement in one instrument
- Based on refractive index of He (calculable to 0.1 ppm)

$$n - 1 \propto P / (k_B T)$$

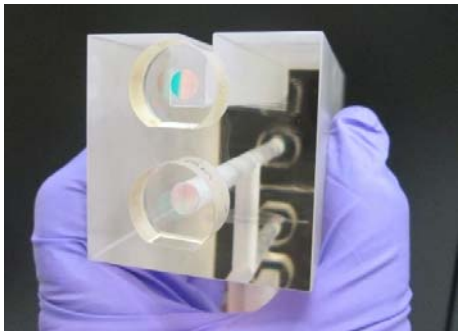


**Fixed Length Optical Cavity (FLOC) gauge measures pressure from optical phase shift between lower channel (high vacuum) and upper channel (gas filled)**

# Key Advantages of Photonic Pressure



Hg manometer

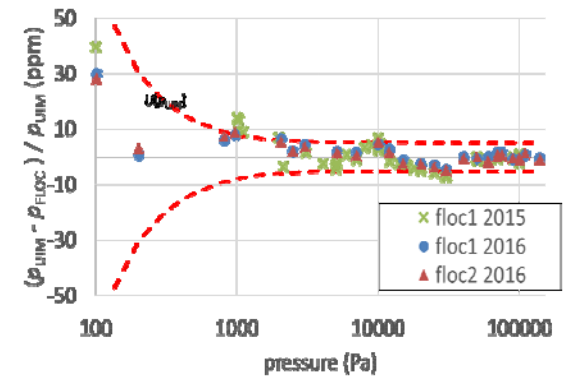
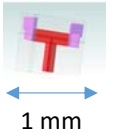


Photonic standard

- Elimination of mercury-based pressure standards
  - 400 year old technology
- 35× more sensitive
  - Resolution of 0.1 mPa
- 100× faster
  - Replaces inherently slow electrical-based measurements
- 1,000× lower pressure range
- Uncertainty smaller than Hg manometer
- Dual standard and sensor

**Brings SI to the factory floor:**

- Pressure
- Length
- Reducible to size of cell phone

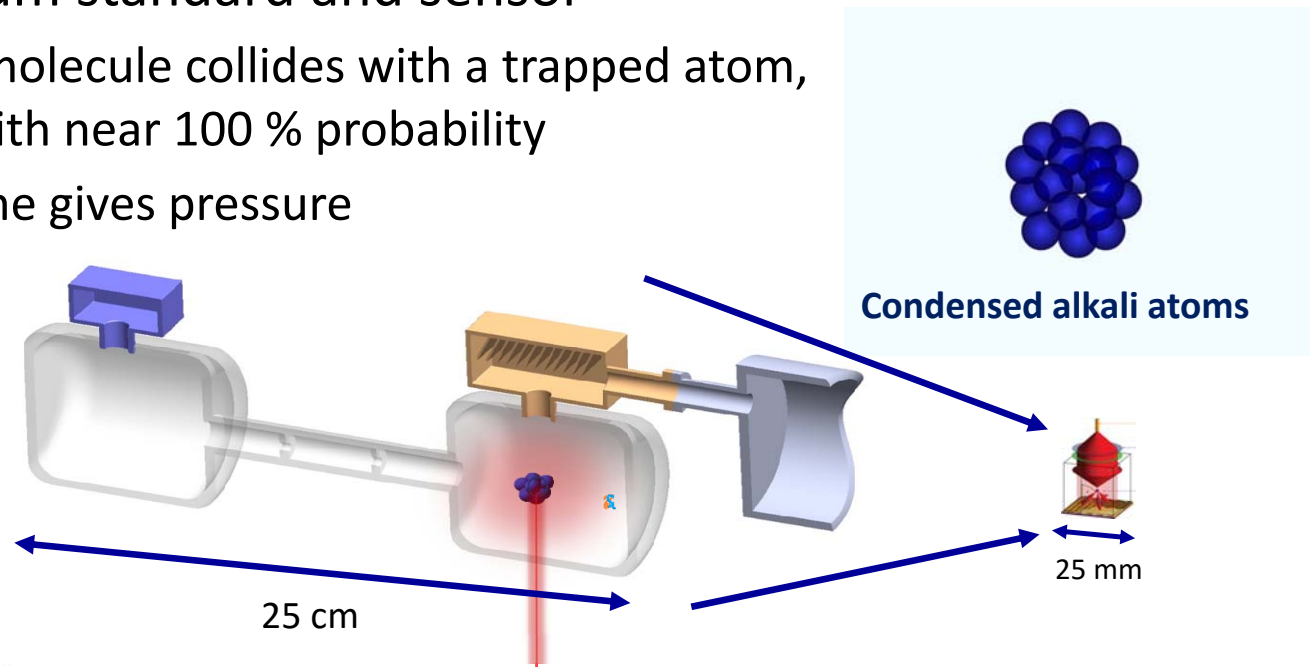


# Cold Atom Vacuum Standard (CAVS)

- First-principle realization for UHV ( $10^{-6}$  to  $10^{-9}$  Pa) and XHV ( $\leq 10^{-10}$  Pa)
- Quantum-based vacuum standard and sensor
  - When a background molecule collides with a trapped atom, the atom is ejected with near 100 % probability
  - Measuring trap lifetime gives pressure

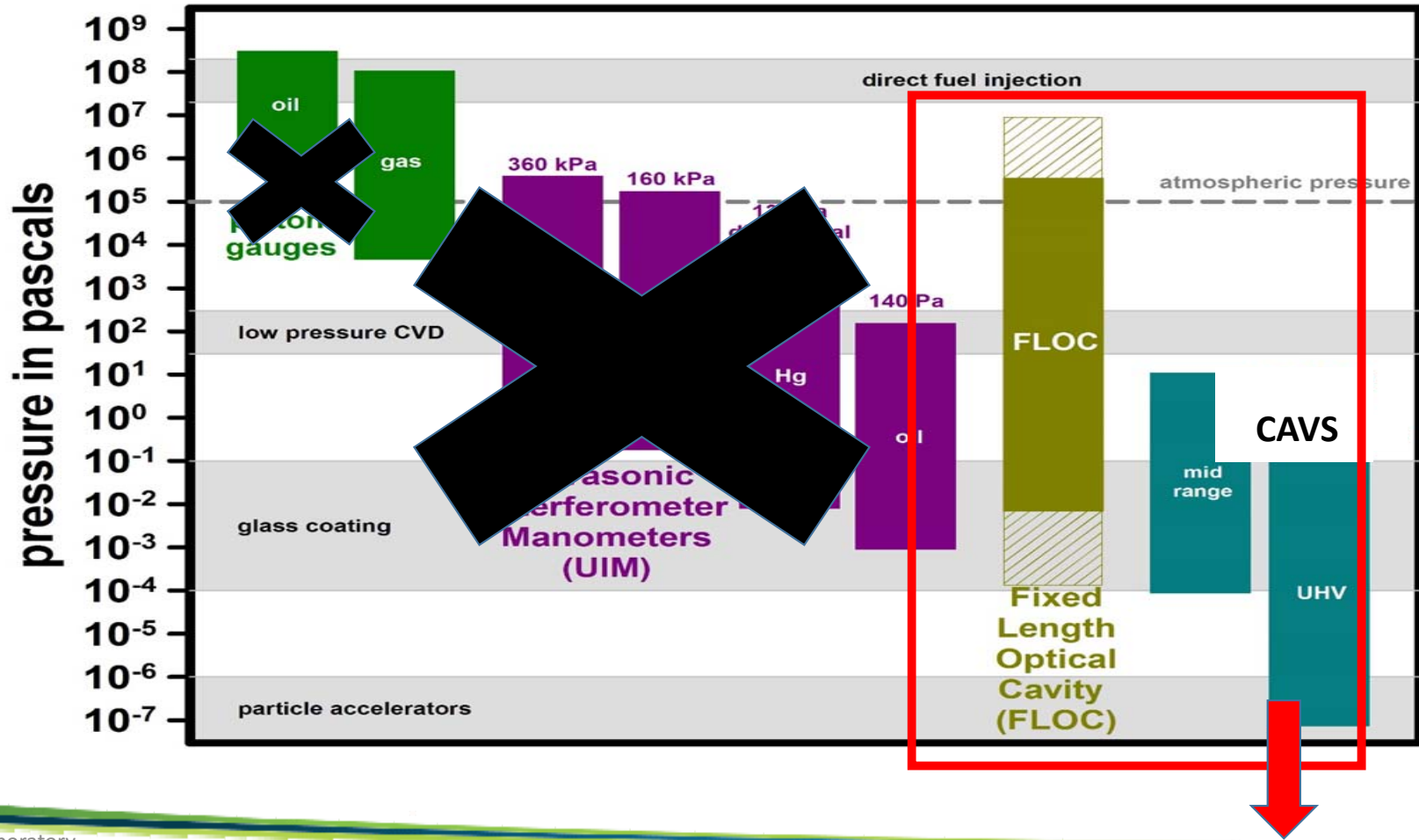
**Quantum SI realization –  
reducible to cell-phone size**

- Accelerators
- Semiconductor mfg
- Space sciences
- Surface sciences
- Quantum Information

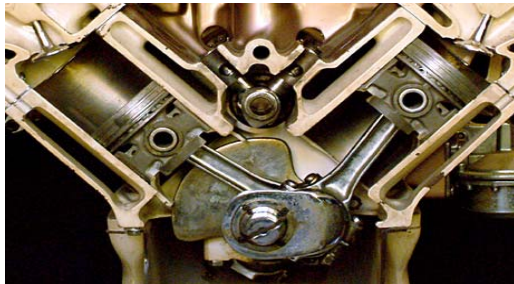




## NIST pressure and vacuum standards

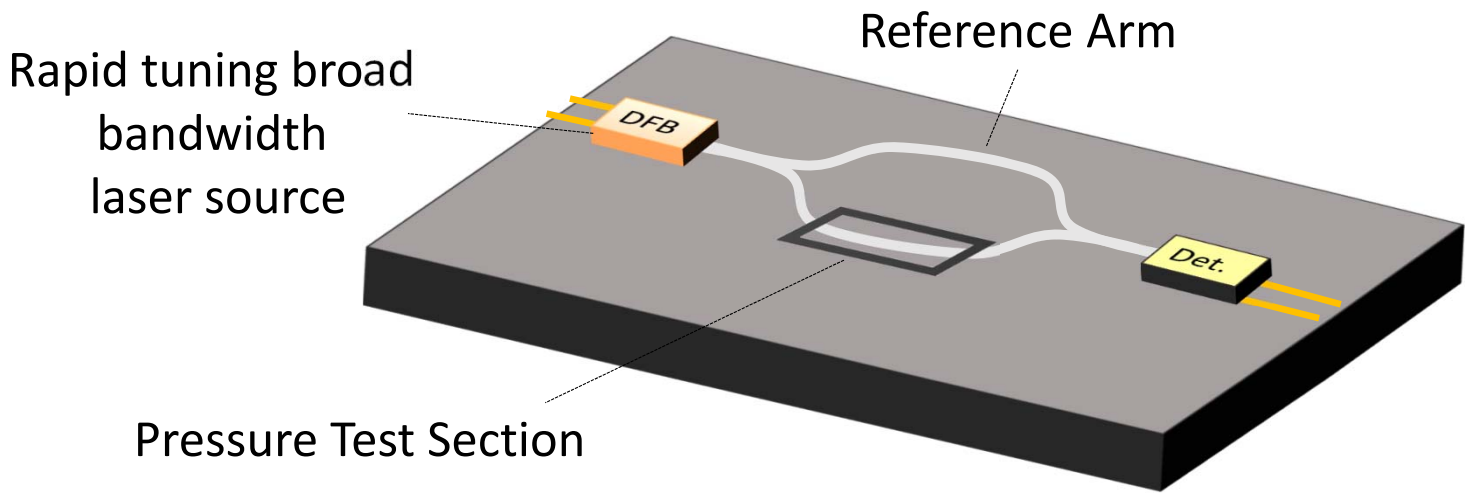


# Dynamic Pressure – SI Traceability



- Static vs Dynamic SI Traceability
  - Dynamic is the next frontier
- Standards
  - SI traceable impulse standards and calibration methods are not available
- Sensors
  - Pressure sensors are only as good as their calibrations
- Develop new SI Traceable Standard and NoaC sensors

# Next Frontier: Dynamic, Impulse Measurement Standards

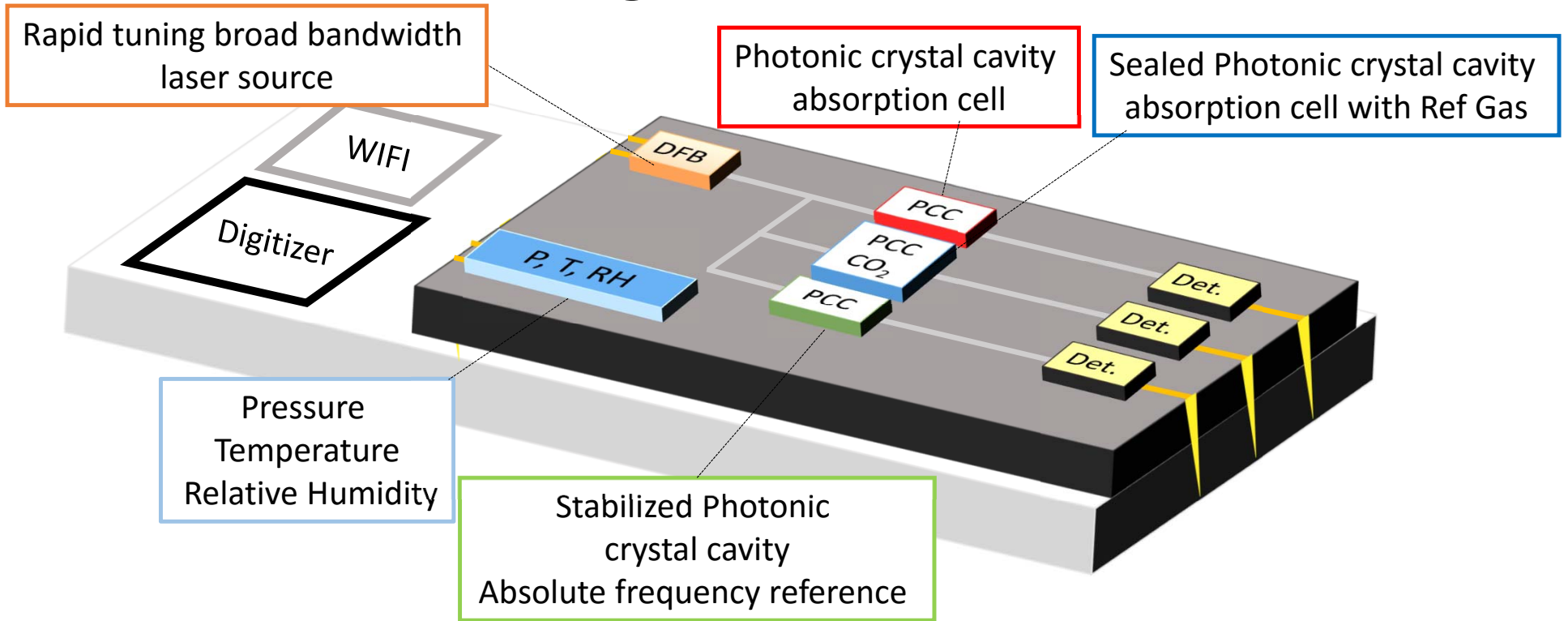


**Design Specifications**

- Size 2 mm × 1 mm
- High sensitivity
- High speed > GHz
- Dynamic range ≈ 10 % of operating pressure

Temperature Compensated, Dynamic Pressure Sensor  
Mach-Zehnder based Design

# Long Term Vision

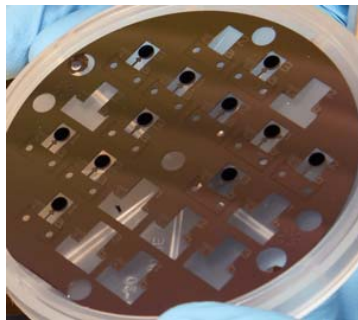
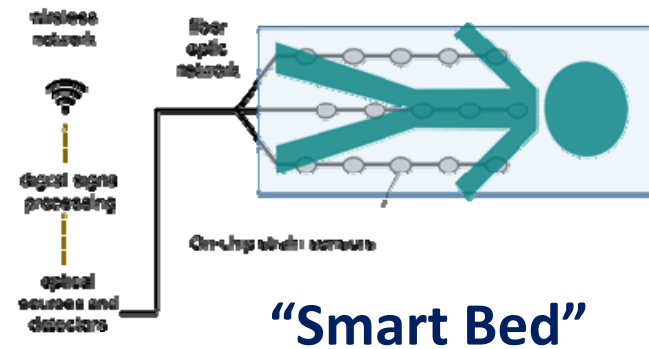


Fully integrated dynamic measurement sensor for pressure, temperature, relative humidity, and chemical species

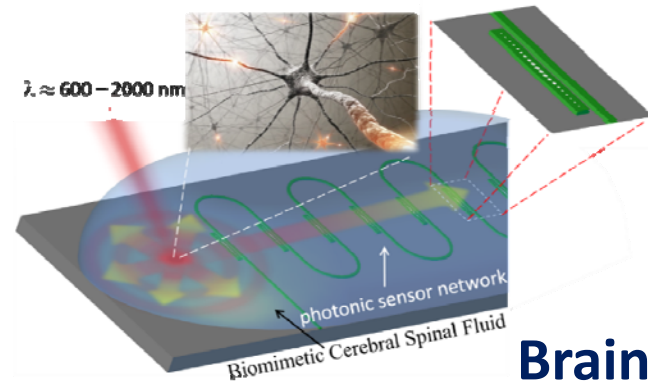
# Other Applications – Studies in Progress



**Infrastructure Monitoring**



**Laser Power Meters**

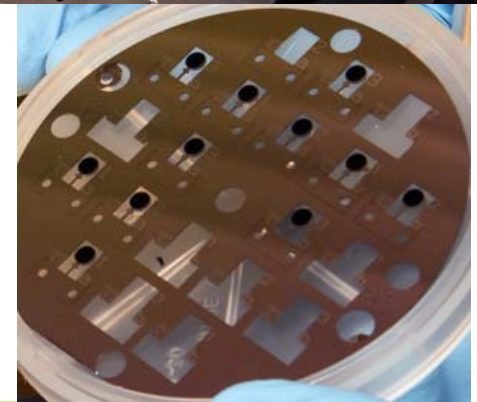
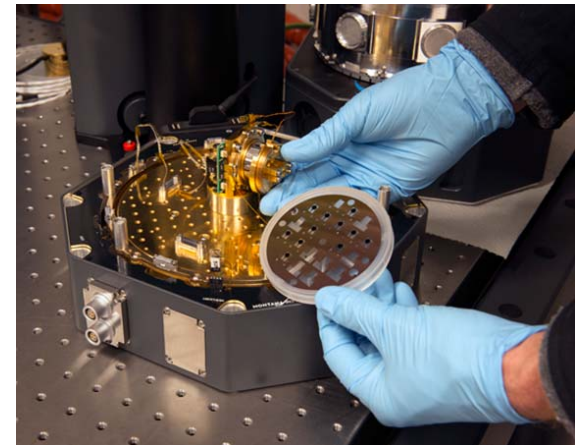


**Brain Imaging**



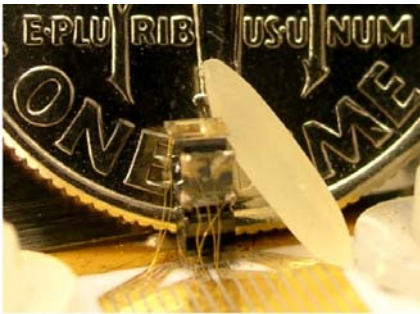
# Nanotube Black—For Laser Power Meters

- >99 % conversion of light (broadband) to heat
- Enabling technology for high-accuracy optical (e.g., laser) power measurements
  - Terahertz [THz] radiation, currently a hot research topic for wireless communications
  - 300 nm to 500  $\mu\text{m}$
- Less expensive, more accurate, more portable than sensor technology it replaces
  - Zero-chain traceability
- Collaboration with PTB (Germany)





# Deployed Quantum SI Enables Technology Infrastructure



**Chip Scale Atomic Clock  
( $10^{-11}$  uncertainty)**



**As commercialized**



**Telecom networks  
>\$2 trillion/year globally**

# Outline

- Few words on the *Système international d'unités* (the SI)
- Trend towards a “Quantum SI”
- Trend towards “Embedded Standards”
- Implications for measurement of thermodynamic quantities
- **Final thoughts**

# Possible Implications for NMIs

- For NIST
  - Focus shifts from artifact calibration to new deployable dual standards and sensors
  - Disruptive SI dissemination
  - Quantum-based metrology
  - Commercialization
- For international metrology
  - Traceability
  - Mutual recognition
  - Accreditation (think 17025)
- For NMIs in the “distant” future
  - What is the future of calibrations?
  - Will we still be necessary for traceability?
- For NIST
  - New metrology frontiers
  - Quantum-based SI everywhere
  - Expertise is still essential
  - Solve really hard problems
  - Training

# Open Metrology – Key NMI Role

With dissemination of advanced measurement technology directly to the end user, training becomes even more critical



**SIM Metrology School**



**Office of Weights and Measures (OWM)  
conducts training classes for trainers**



## Enabling the Next Generation of Metrology

- Embedded Standards
- Ultrastable Lasers
- Optical Clocks
- Advanced Imaging
- Quantum Information
- Nanoscale Measurement
- Redefining the SI

## Custom Measurement Solutions

Take advantage of NIST's unparalleled depth of measurement expertise, world-class facilities, and one-of-a-kind instruments.

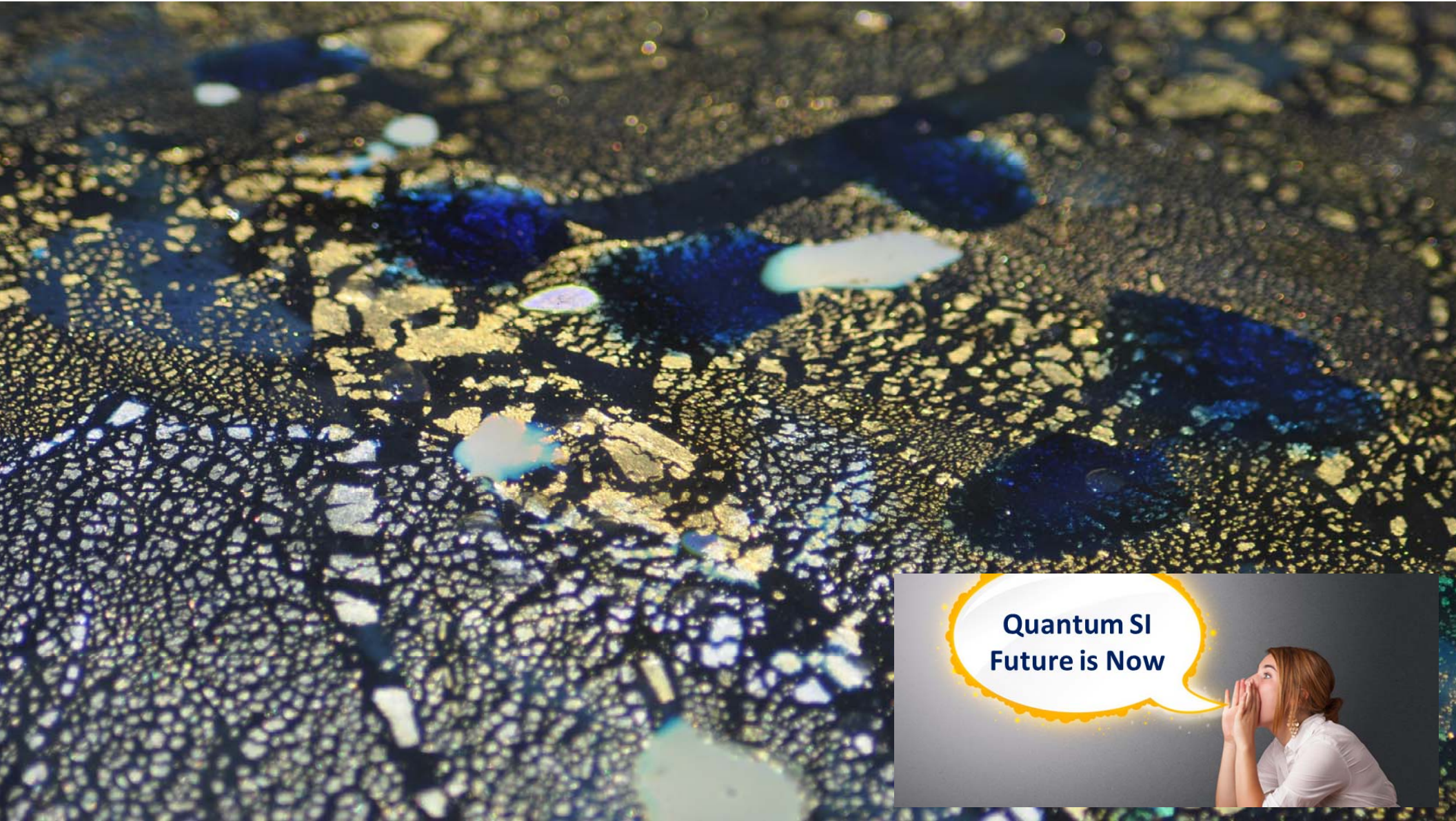
Our metrologists work directly with companies and organizations of all sizes, and have decades of experience in devising individualized measurement solutions.

## Providing Measurement Services

- Calibrations
- Standard Reference Materials
- Standard Reference Data
- Standard Reference Instrumentation
- Training







**Quantum SI  
Future is Now**



**NIST**

**National Institute of  
Standards and Technology**  
U.S. Department of Commerce