



VSL

# Precision interferometry for traceable sub-nanometer displacement measurements

**Dirk Voigt**

Dimensional Metrology

VSL R&D

Precision Fair 2011

1 December 2011



Precision Fair 2011

# Dutch Metrology Institute

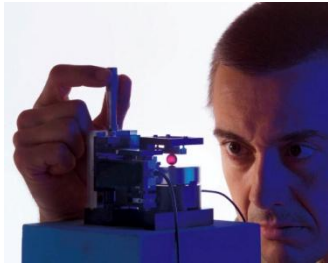


- **National Metrology Institute:**  
part of Holland Metrology Group  
private company (shareholder TNO)
- **Public task:**  
**national standards**  
**metrology infrastructure**
- **Broad scope:**  
**dimensional metrology**, photometry,  
chemistry, flow and electrical power





# Holland Metrology



- National measuring standards



- Type approval metrology & gaming
- System certification
- Calibration & verification

- Netherlands
- Belgium
- Italy



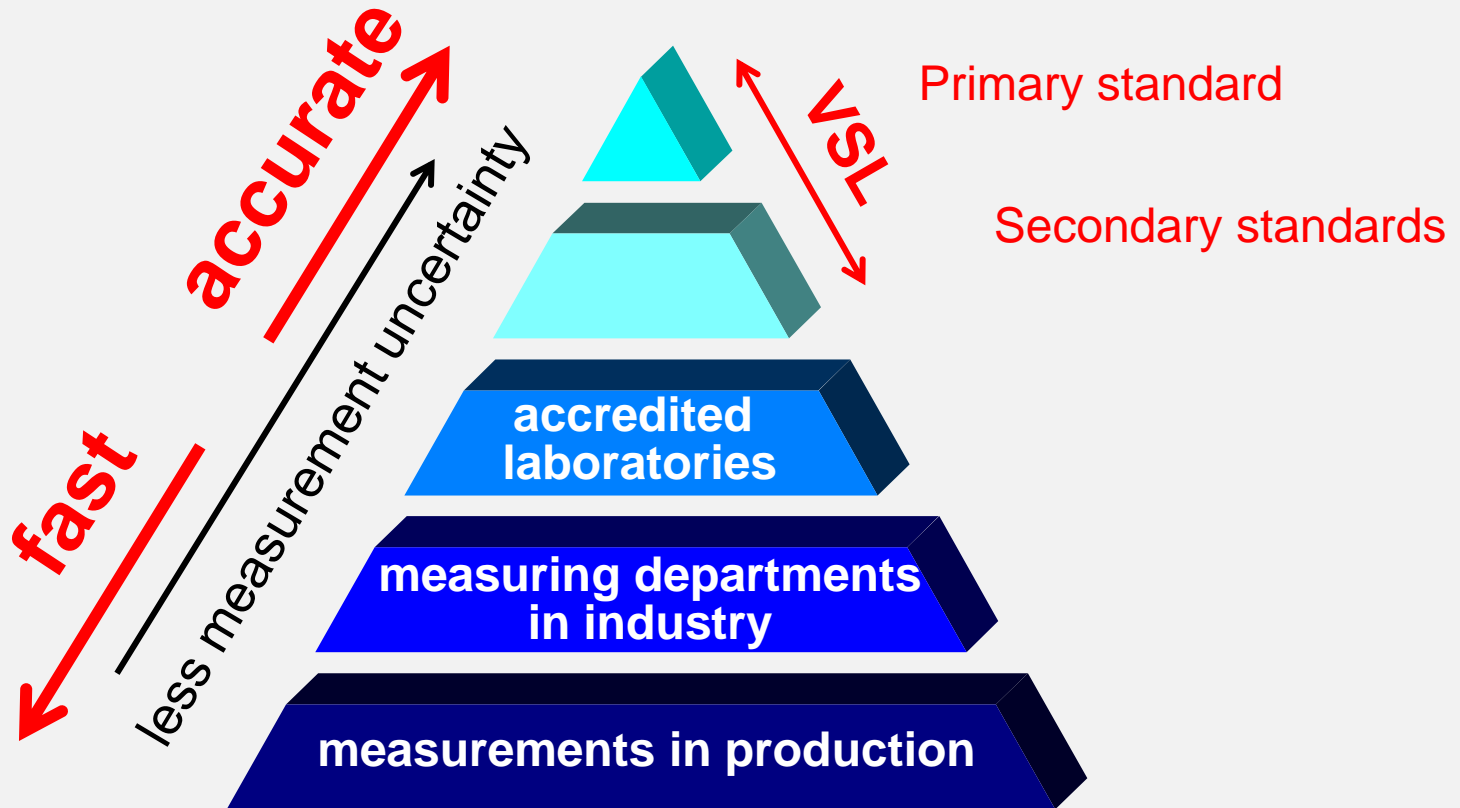
- Inspection & enforcement
- Metrology & gaming
- Independent

## Services:

- Calibrations of lowest uncertainty
- Reference materials
- Instrument validation
- Consultancy, metrology support, complex calibrations
- Training

**VSL is independent** (before 2009: **NMi Van Swinden Laboratorium**)

# “Snel en nauwkeurig”



# High Tech Systems and Materials

## Semiconductor industry – Wafer steppers



### Metrology Needs:

- Sensors: **calibration**
- Materials, connections: (bolts, glue, bonds) **drift stability**



### Metrology platforms

- **“fast and accurate”**
- picometer scale
- cost efficiency



**Roadmaps:** ITRS, EuMat, Euromet, **Top Sectors (NL)**

# Time Scales

Scanning  
microscopy



Production equipment  
Lithography



Transfer standards  
Gauge blocks



Space  
Photonics  
Consumer products



Recalibration interval cost factor

Minute

Week

Year

Lifetime



# Dimensional Calibrations

## Coordinate Measuring Machines

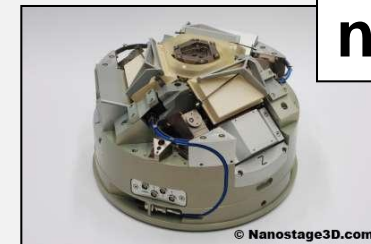
- **F25 micro-CMM (Zeiss / VSL)**
- tactile and optical metrology (imaging)
- $\mu\text{m}$  accuracy / cm range



$\mu\text{m}$

## Nanometrology

- **metrological AFM (TU/e / VSL)**
- nm accuracy / mm range



nm

## Picometer accuracy, $\mu\text{m}.. \text{cm}$ range?

- capacitive sensors → **Interferometry**

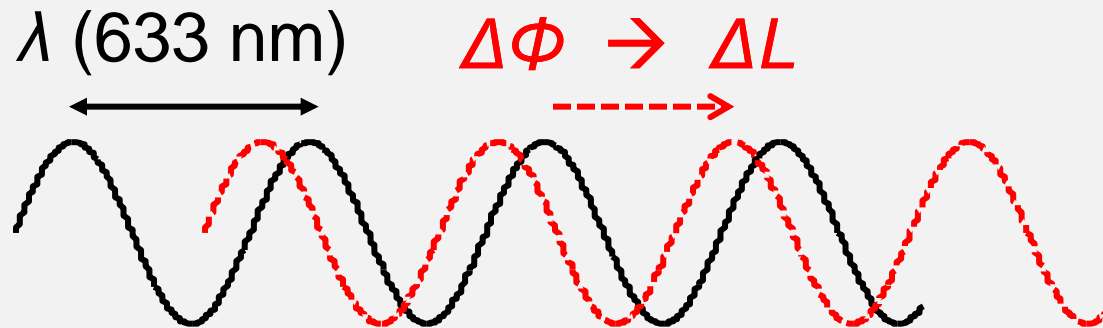
pm



# Optical wavelength ruler

Count wavelength or measure phase change

*Calculate displacement*



Laser wavelength is directly traceable



# Direct traceability to time standard

Displacement  $\rightarrow \lambda$  [m]  $\rightarrow$  frequency  $\rightarrow$  time [s]

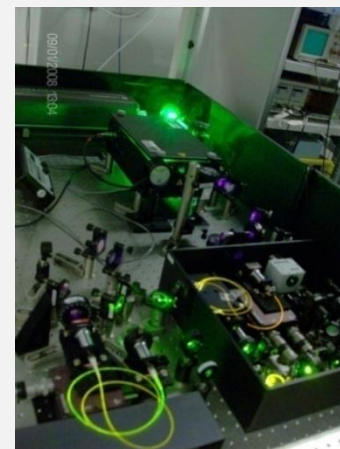
**Laser frequency traceable to atomic clock**

$$f = c / (n_{\text{air}} \lambda_{\text{air}}) = 474 \text{ THz}$$

- Wavelength in air  $\lambda_{\text{air}} = 632.8 \text{ nm}$
- Air refractive index  $n_{\text{air}} = 1.003$

**Sub-nanometer uncertainty and precision**

- Need to know (stable) air  $\Delta n_{\text{air}} / n_{\text{air}} < 10^{-8}$
- Temperature, pressure, humidity, CO<sub>2</sub> concentration



optical frequency comb generator



Iodine stabilized lasers

# VSL Measurement Services

## Measure with sub-nanometer accuracy

- Uncertainty budget and traceability

## Dimensional stability measurement

- Picodrift Interferometer

## Displacement sensor calibration

- Metrological Fabry-Pérot Interferometer

## You can contribute to EMRP

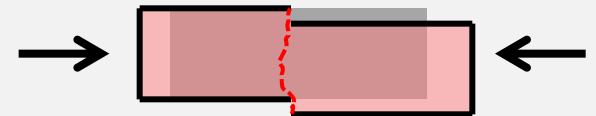
- European Metrology Research Program

# Picodrift – Dimensional Stability

## How measure intrinsic dimensional drift ?

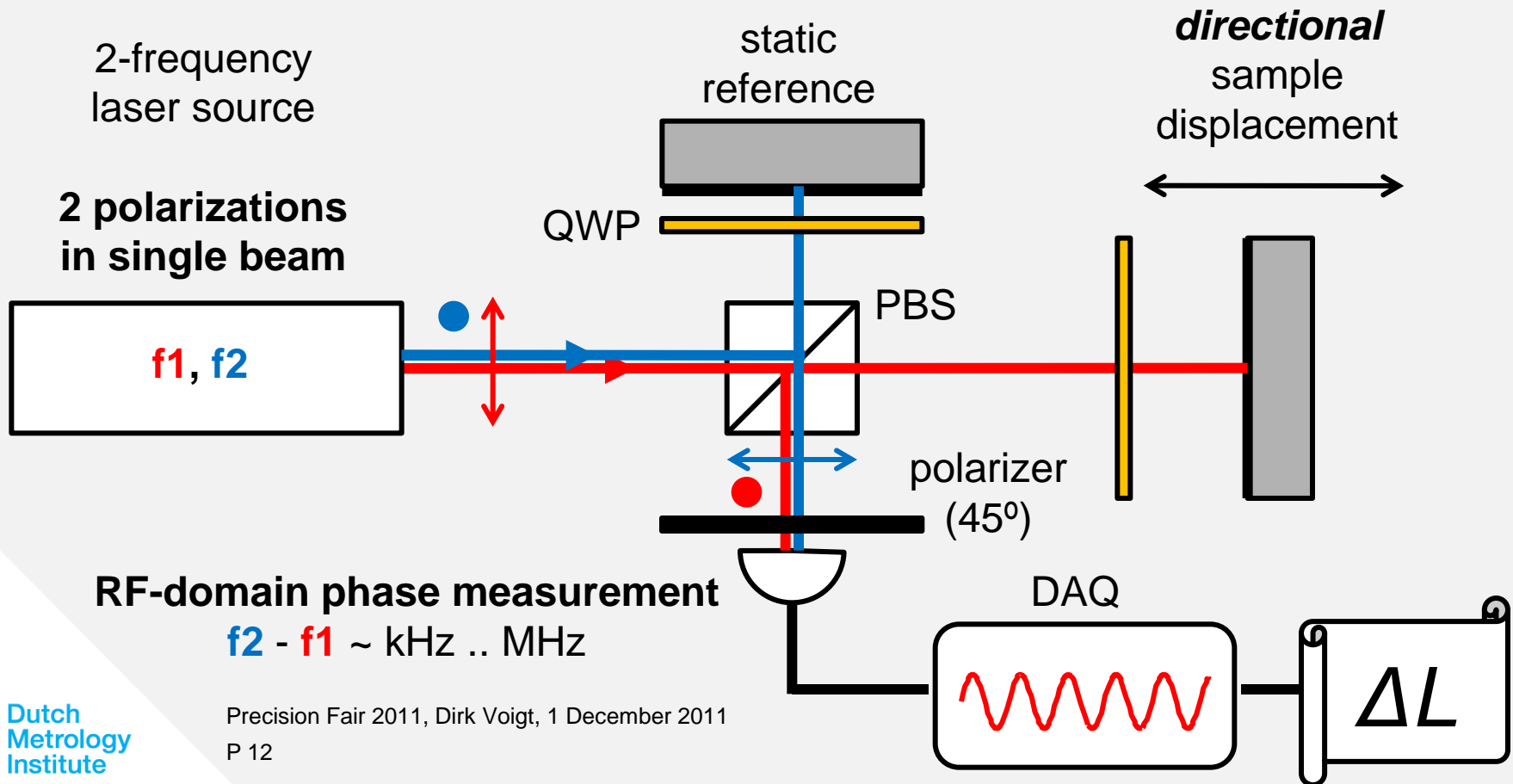
Uncertainty 10 pm (100 pm) over a minute (week)

- Instrumentation *insensitive* to perturbations  
...rather than (impossibly) stable
- Discriminate **instability events**  
...from thermal expansion  
...measure fast enough
- **Don't touch**  
...use double-ended optical interferometry



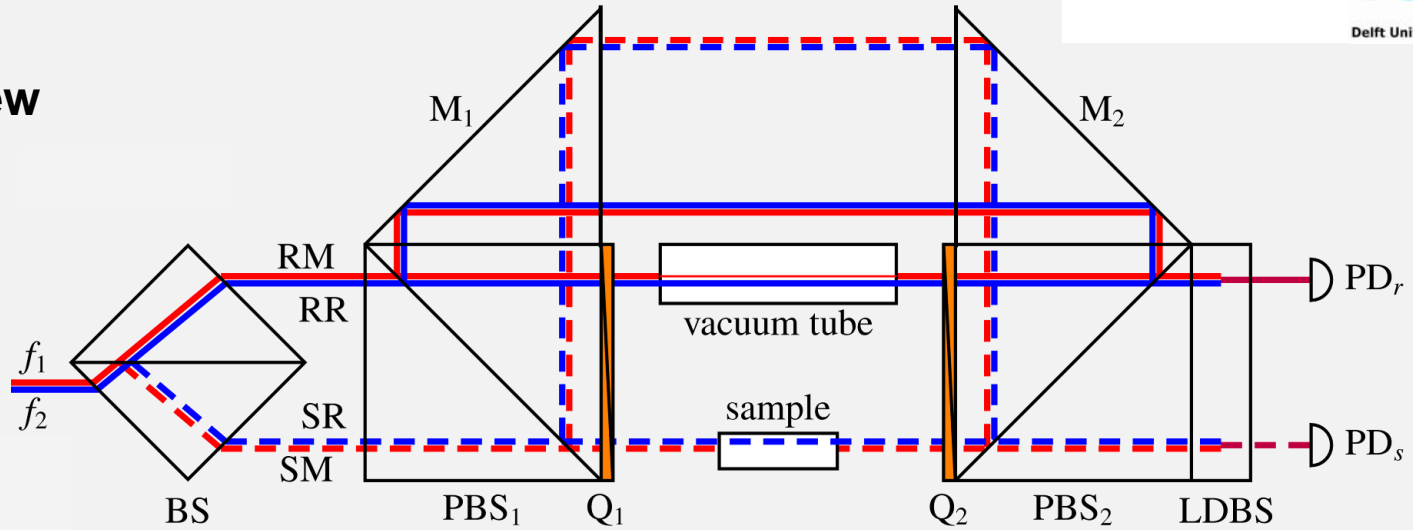
# Heterodyne Interferometers

Commercial state-of-the art ( $\sim$  nm uncertainty)

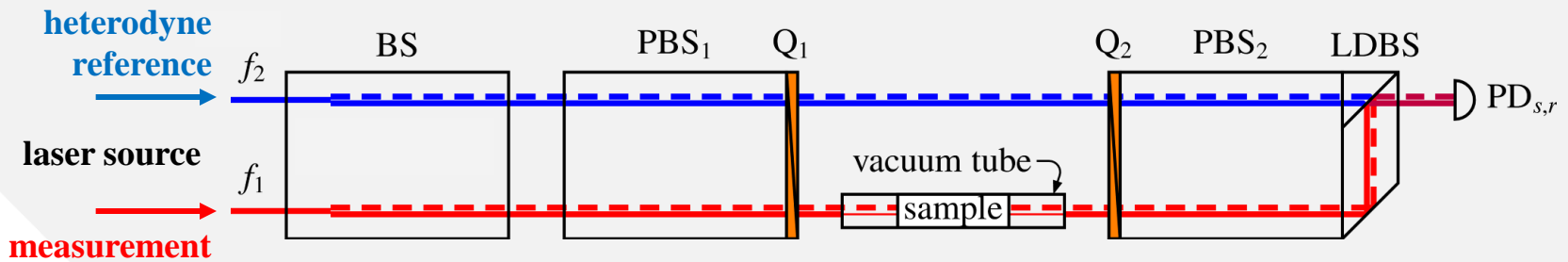


# In insensitive Heterodyne Interferometer

Top View



Side View



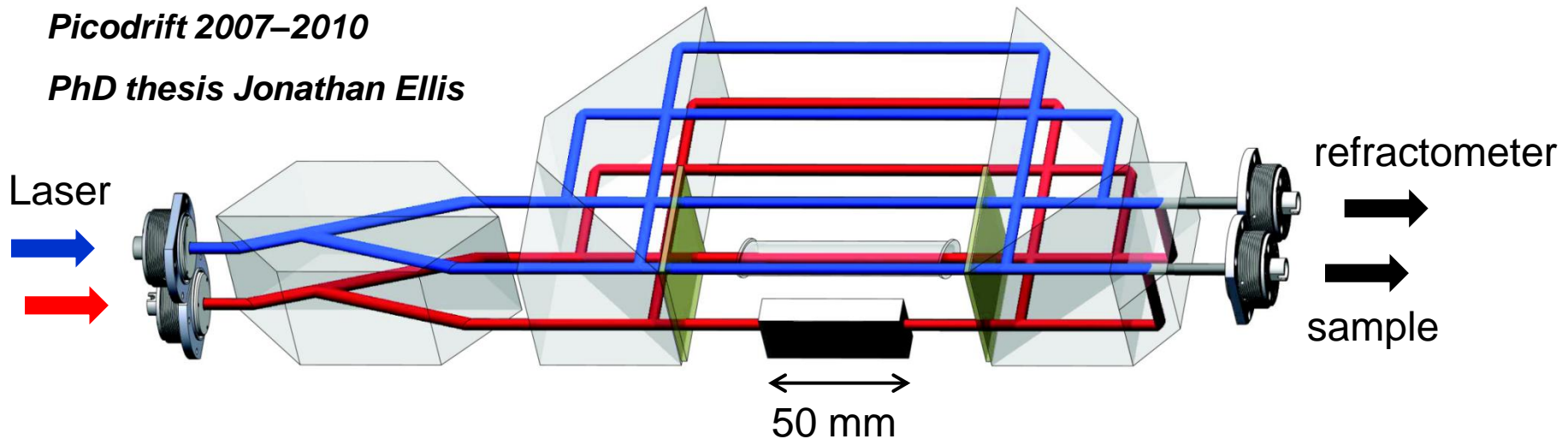
Sample interferometer 

Refractometer 

AgentschapNL IOP Precisietechnologie

*Picodrift 2007–2010*

*PhD thesis Jonathan Ellis*



- Double-ended, balanced heterodyne interferometer
- Spatially separated frequency split source delivery
- In-situ air refractive index compensation (twin-interferometer)
- Monolithic optics (custom TNO), fiber coupled source and detection

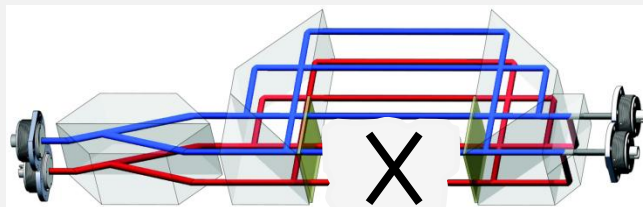
# Pressure-Sealed Test Setup

## Intrinsic system drift stability?

### “Double dead path”:

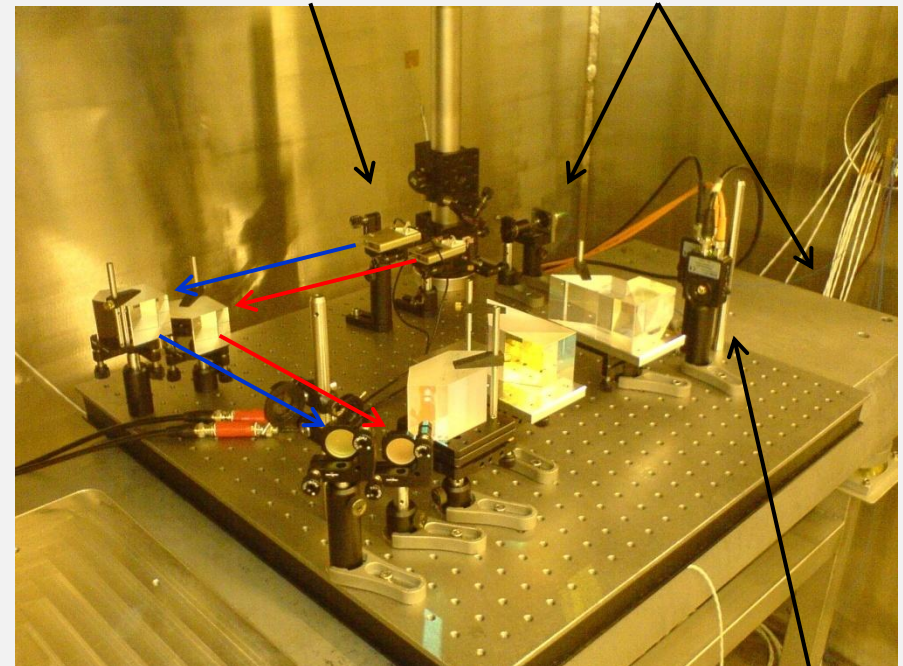
- Empty interferometers  
no sample, no vacuum cell
- Differential displacement:

$$\textit{Drift} = \Delta L_{\text{sample}} - \Delta L_{\text{refractometer}}$$



AOM's ( $f_1, f_2$ )

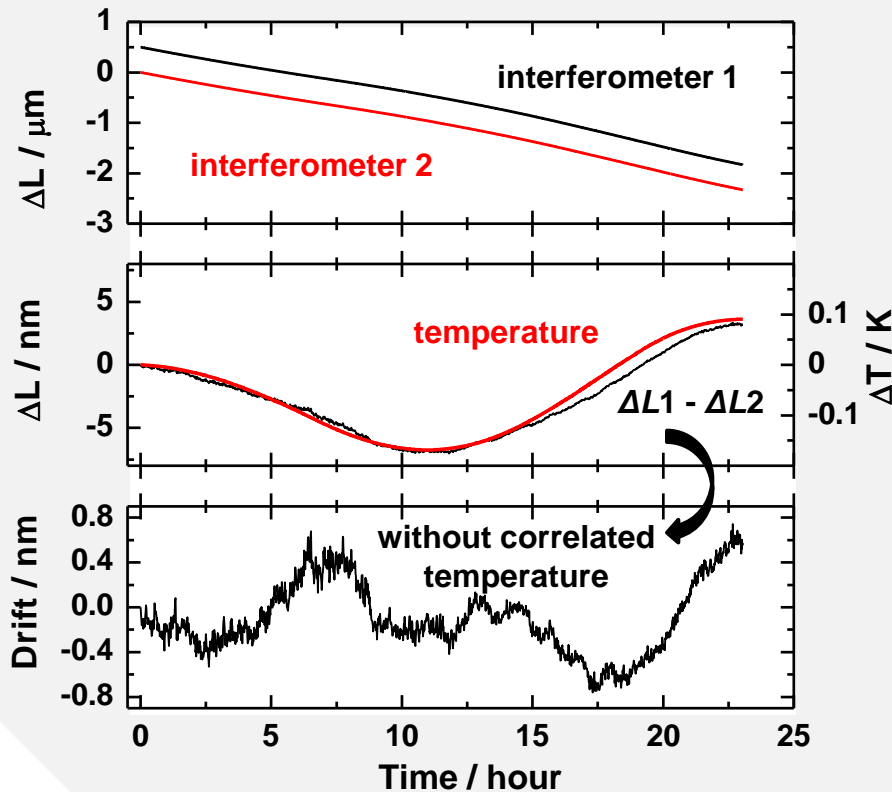
Laser source fiber



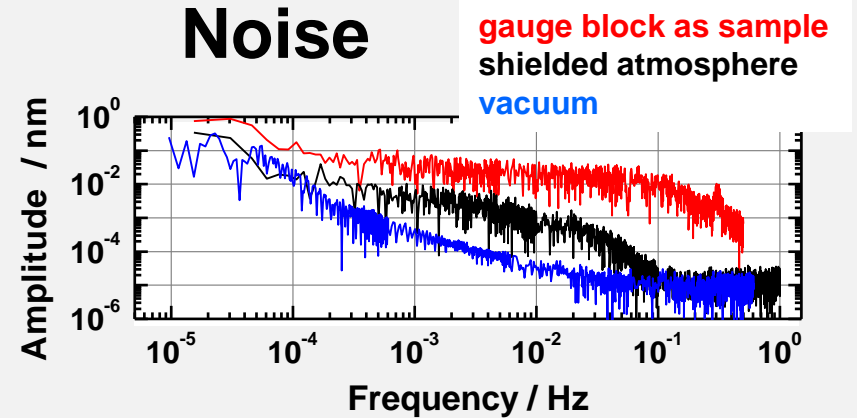
Detectors

# Twin-Interferometer Stability

## Drift



## Noise

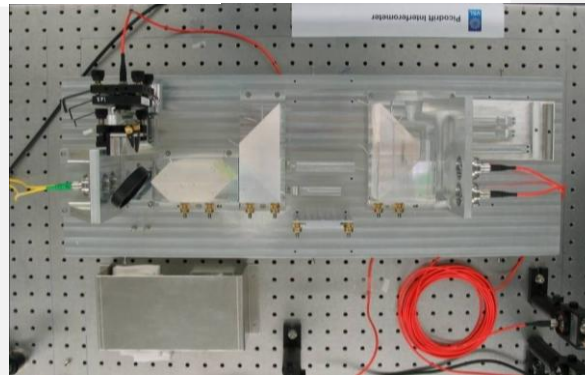
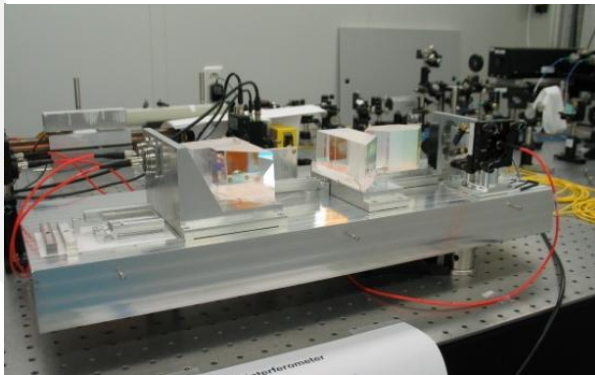
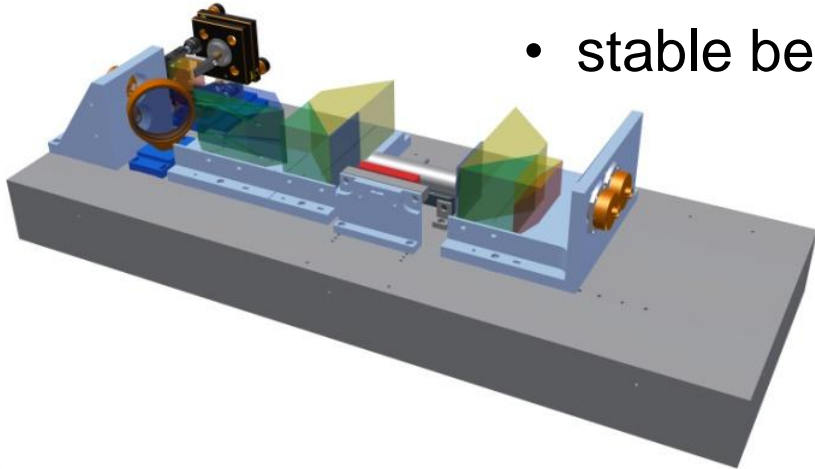


- Sub-nm drift over hours
- 30 pm noise level over a minute
- Need **stable temperature & refractometer** or vacuum



# Picodrift ... next steps

- stable VSL *Nanolab*
- stable bench



- Custom optics and kinematic bench by TNO
- added heterodyne optical reference pick-up

# Sensor calibration

## What do we need ?

- Resolution, precision, accuracy
- Displacement range
- Referencing interface, sensor alignment
- Drift stability, dynamics (**fast?**)

## Accuracy:

- *Systematic* uncertainty budget
- Traceability

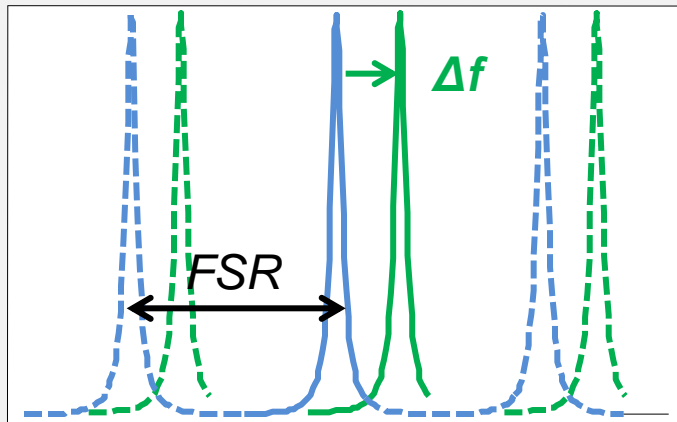
# Fabry-Pérot Interferometry

Laser frequency tracks cavity length change  $\Delta L$

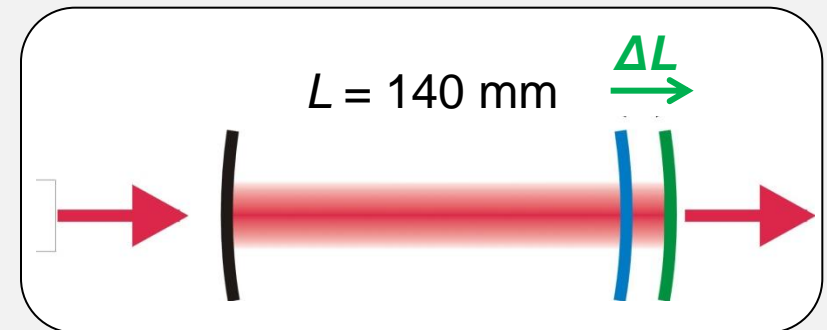
→ Sensitivity 3.4 MHz/nm, high resolution

Laser **locked** to resonance

Cavity transmission



Laser frequency



$$\Delta L = \frac{\Delta f}{FSR} \cdot \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

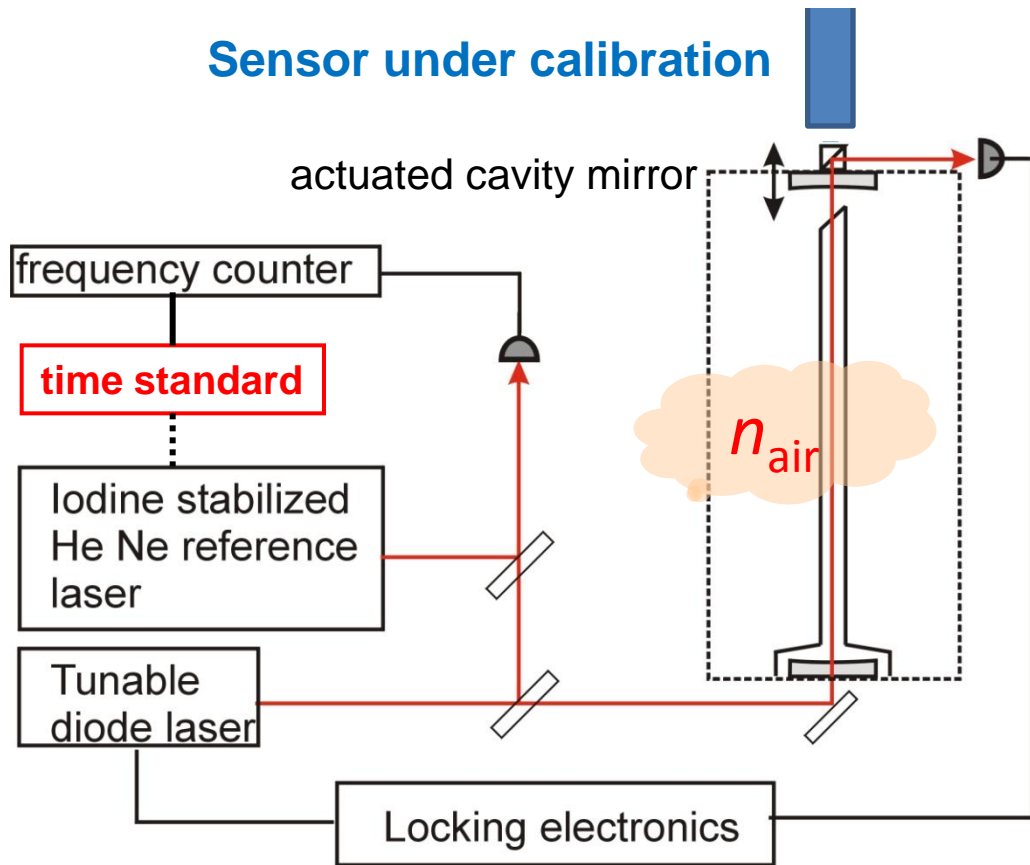
$$FSR = \frac{c}{2nL}$$

*Free Spectral Range 1070 MHz*

# Metrological FPI

## Traceable displacement calibration

### Sensor under calibration

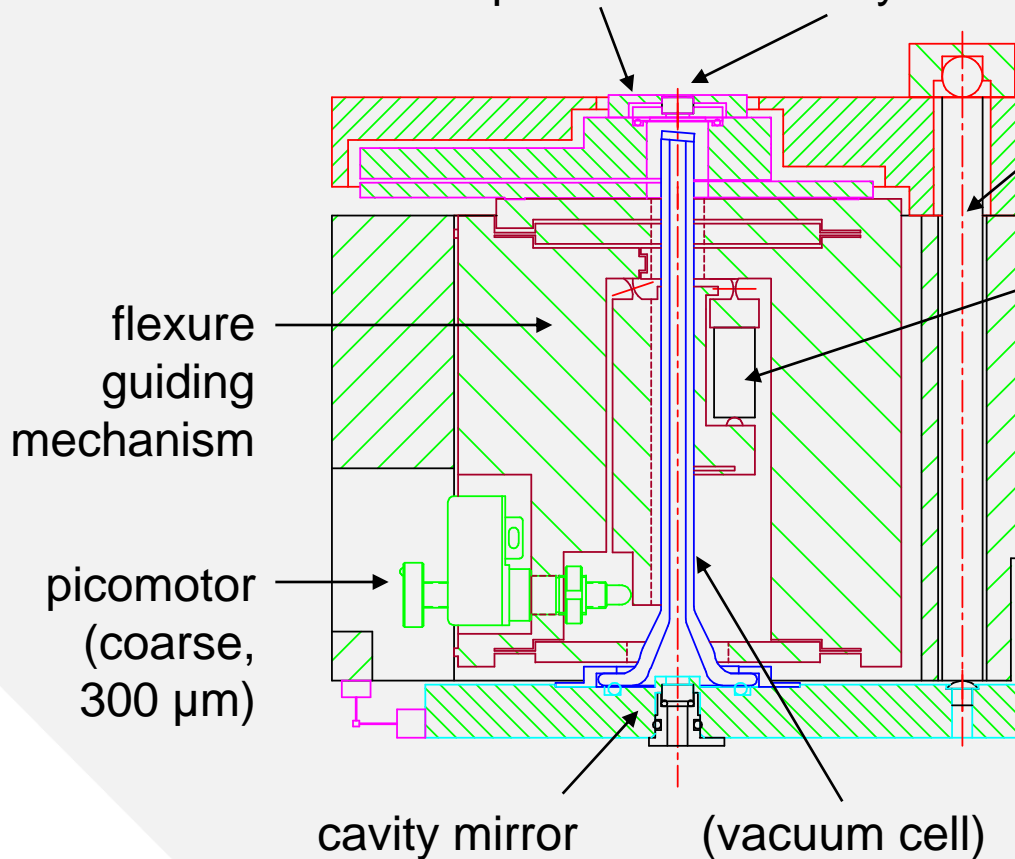


- **Versatile referencing to sensors:**  
capactive  
inductive  
optical
- **Climate logging:**  
temperature  
pressure  
humidity  
CO<sub>2</sub>
- (vacuum or Helium cell)

# Metrol. FPI developed by TU/e & VSL

PhD thesis S.F.C.L. Wetzels, TU/e (1998)

actuated interface platform with cavity mirror

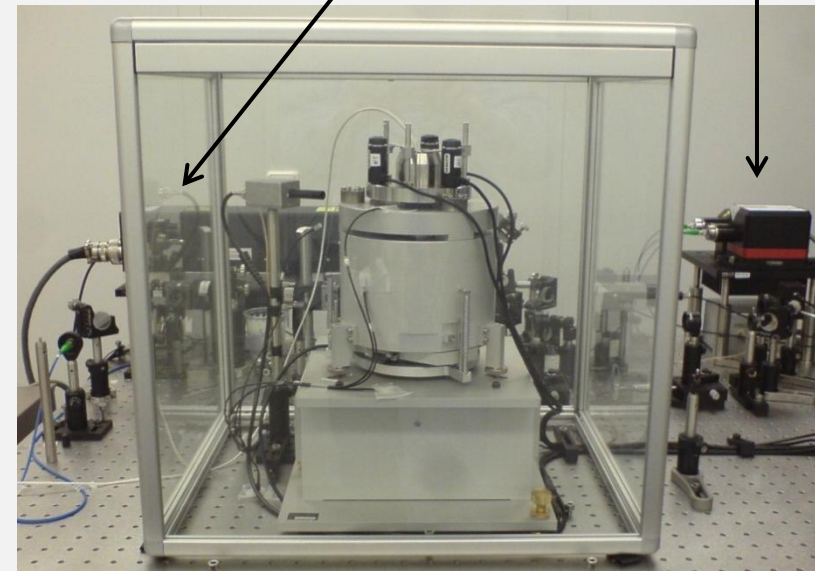


zerodur rod  
(cavity length)

piezo  
(fine)

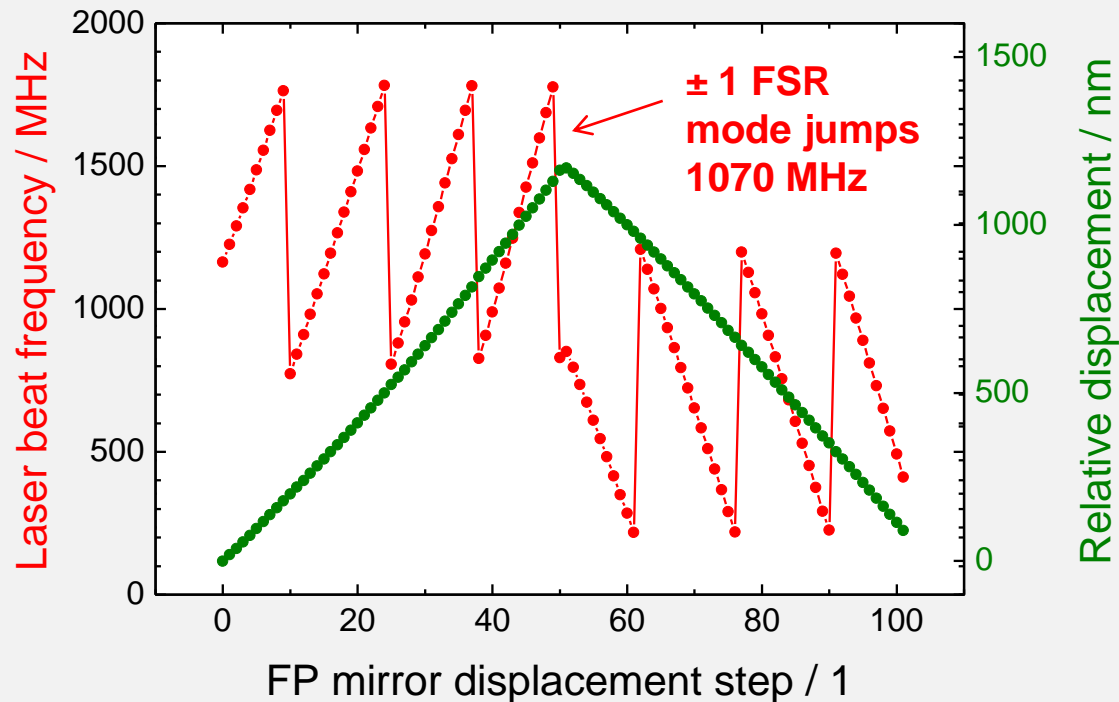
Measurement  
laser

Standard laser



# Metrol. FPI – Measurement Process

- Scanning mirror generates up/down displacement
- Laser locking mode jumps (reference detection limits)



# Metrol. FPI – Uncertainty Budget

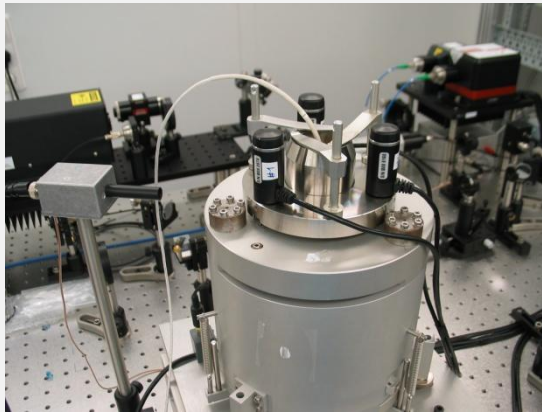
Uncertainty contribution	Displacement 0.3 $\mu\text{m}$	Displacement 300 $\mu\text{m}$
	Standard uncertainty / nm	Standard uncertainty / nm
Frequency measurement	0.01	0.01
Laser lock	0.05	0.05
<b>Alignment (sensor)</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>10</b>
Cavity air gap	0.3	0.3
Brewster window	0.2	0.2
<b>Thermo-mechanical stability</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>
Cavity mirror tilt	0.0004	0.4
Laser gain profile	0.0002	0.002
Cavity length	0.13	0.13
Absolute air refractive index	0.00006	0.06
<b>Total quadrature sum</b>	<b>0.63</b>	<b>10.02</b>
<b>Expanded Uncertainty (k=2)</b>	<b>1.3 nm</b>	<b>20 nm</b>
<b>Resolution</b>	<b>0.05 nm</b>	<b>0.05 nm</b>

PhD thesis S.J.A.G.Cosijns, TU/e (2004)

R. Bergmans *et al.*, Proc. SPIE **4401**, 217 (2001)

# FPI – Have Thermal Stability

- *VSL Nanolab* cleanroom 0.1 °C stable
- External viewing / operating room
- Motorized sensor alignment
- Climate monitoring





# European Metrology Research Programme



## EMRP

European Metrology Research Programme  
► Programme of EURAMET



## Strengthen metrology in Europe

- Joint Research Projects **2009–2016**
- Total budget 400 M€
  - 50 % EU, 50 % national funding
  - funding for National Metrology Institutes and Designated Institutes
  - non-funded participation of partners
- **Generate (inter)national impact for industry and society**

The EMRP is jointly funded by the EMRP participating countries within EURAMET and the European Union.

# EMRP Call 2012 – Target Programs

## Metrology for Industry

- **innovation** in production for new and better products
- competitiveness and efficiency of European industry
- **project participation from industry**

## SI Broader Scope

- development of SI, dissemination: **stakeholder needs**
- fundamental and applied

## Open Excellence

- thematically open, techniques new to metrology

**➔ *Impact is leading !***

# EMRP – Stakeholder Opportunities

## Express your needs

- Call for Potential Research Topics (**PRT**, March 2012)
- Define the topics, submission open to all
  - ➔ EURAMET selects research topics (**SRT**)

## Participate in Joint Research Projects

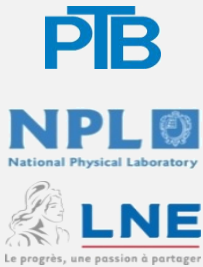
- **Stakeholder:** express interest
- **Collaborator:** express support, contribute
- **Non-funded partner:** contractual **JRP** participant

## Team up

- Partnering meetings (June), JRP proposal (Oct. 2012)
- **Contact VSL**, see also [www.emrponline.eu](http://www.emrponline.eu)



# EMRP Call 2010 – TP Industry



## JRP IND13, “Thermal design and time-dependent dimensional drift behaviour of sensors, materials and structures”



**VSL:** Development of **Picodrift Interferometry**

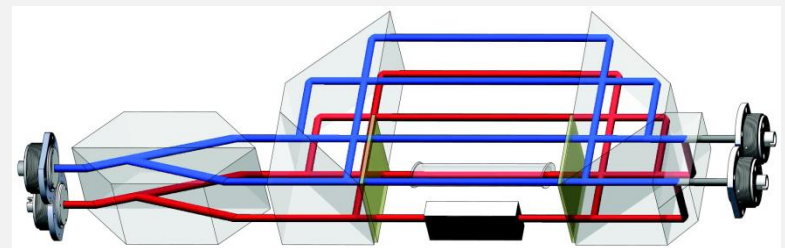
Measure samples from partners / collaborators



public summary

[www.euramet.org](http://www.euramet.org)

[www.emrponline.eu](http://www.emrponline.eu)



This JRP receives funding from the European Union.

# Conclusion: Tell us your needs !

## Sub-nanometer accuracy

- Uncertainty budget and traceability

## Dimensional stability drift measurement

- Picodrift Interferometer

## Displacement sensor calibration

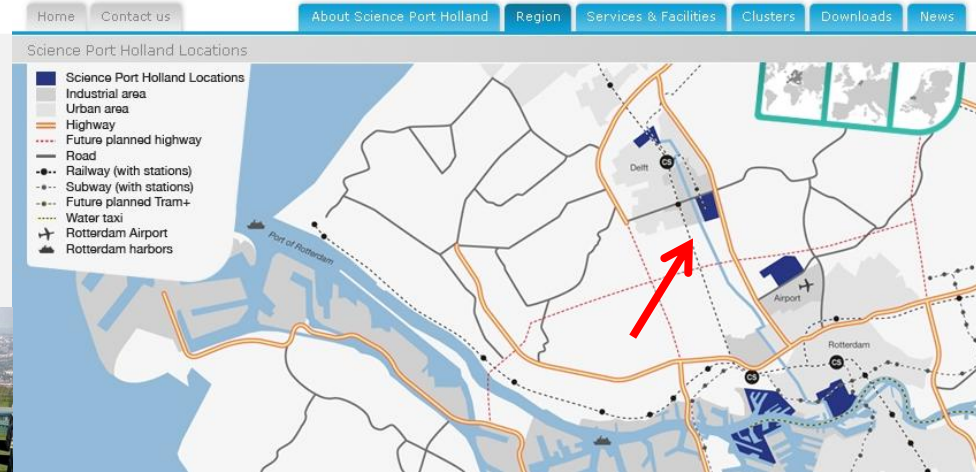
- Metrological Fabry-Pérot Interferometer

## You can contribute to EMRP

- Get your metrology issues solved !



# Find us in Delft *Technopolis*





VSL

## VSL

PO Box 654  
2600 AR Delft  
The Netherlands

T +31 15 269 15 00  
F +31 15 261 29 71  
E [info@vsl.nl](mailto:info@vsl.nl)  
I [www.vsl.nl](http://www.vsl.nl)



Precision Fair 2011

Dutch  
Metrology  
Institute

## Partners



## Funding



Agentschap NL  
Ministerie van Economische Zaken,  
Landbouw en Innovatie



Ministerie van Economische Zaken,  
Landbouw en Innovatie

EURAMET  
European Association of National Metrology Institutes

