

Determination of the gravitational constant

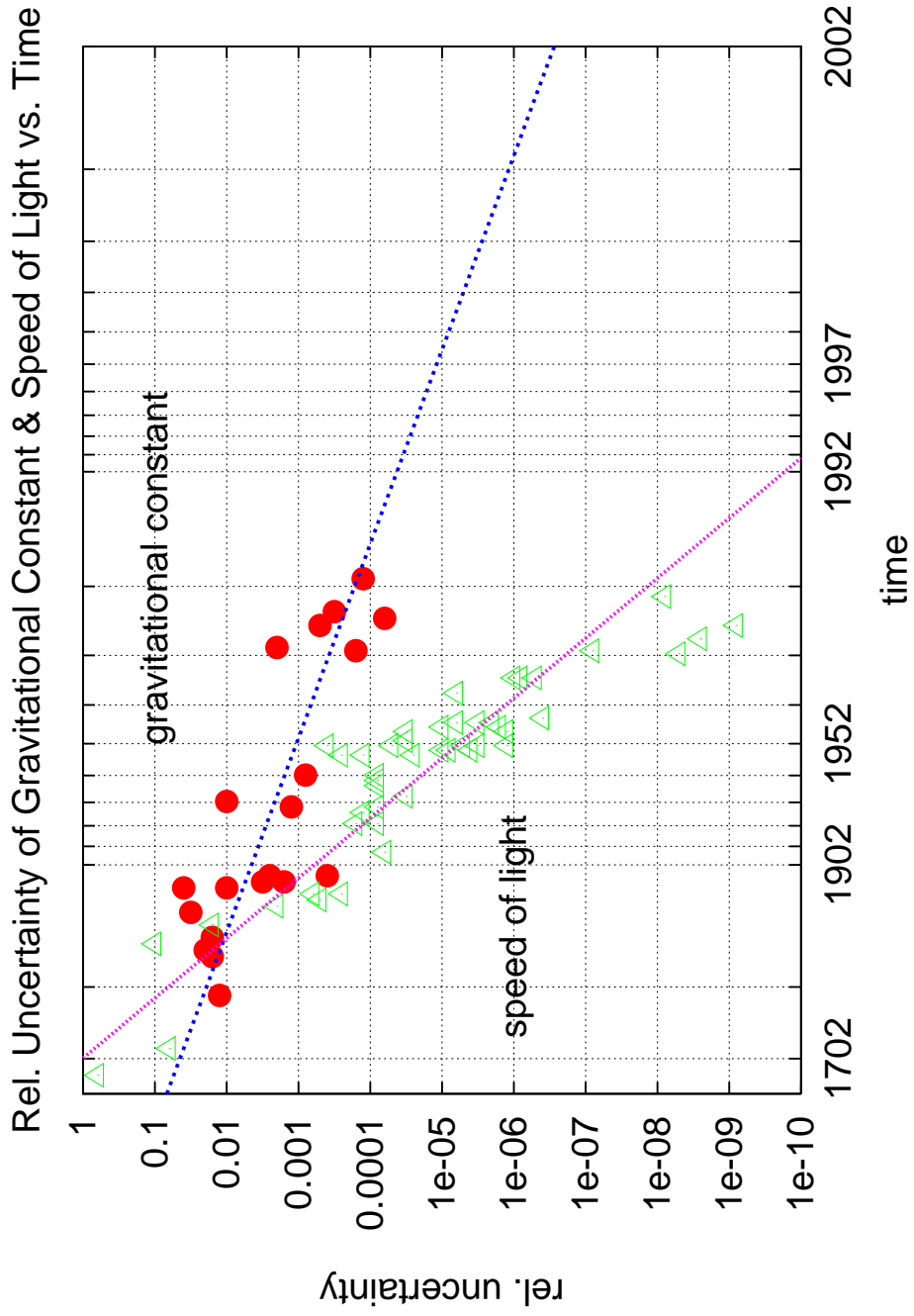
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**Physik Institut
Universität Zürich**

11th October 2001



Motivation -I-



Motivation -II-

CODATA Recommended Values of the Fundamental Physical Constants: 1998

Peter J. Mohr and Barry N. Taylor

National Institute of standards and Technology, Gaithersburg

Rev. Mod. Phys. **72**, 351 (2000).

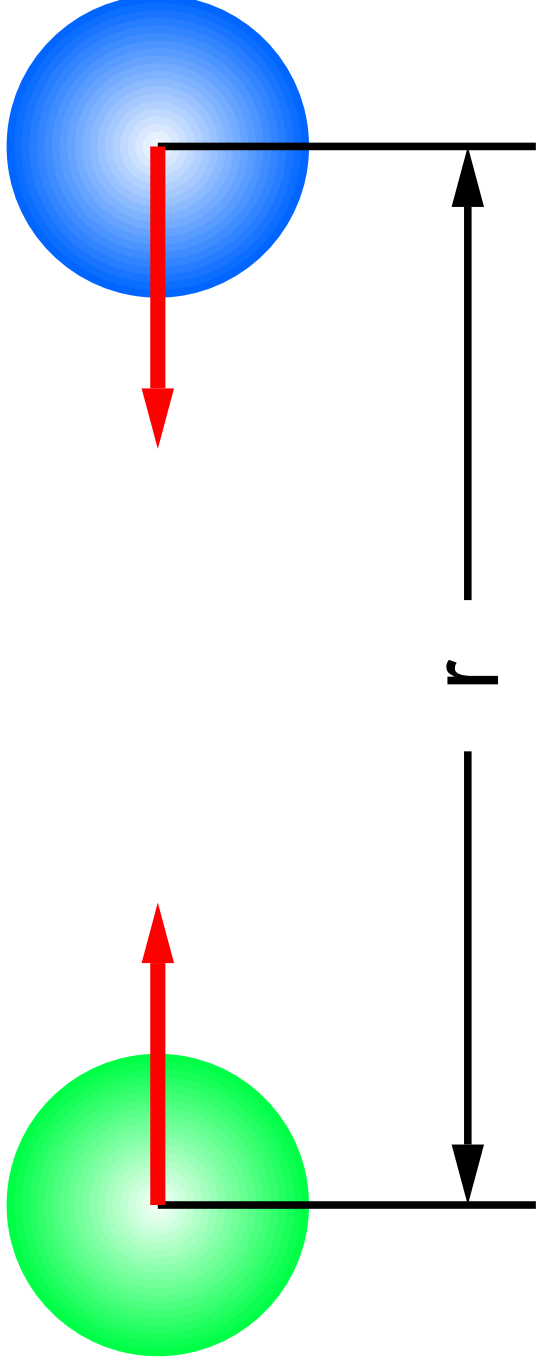
$$G = 6.673(10) \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^3\text{kg}^{-1}\text{s}^{-2}$$

$$\text{rel. uncertainty} = 1.5 \times 10^{-3}$$

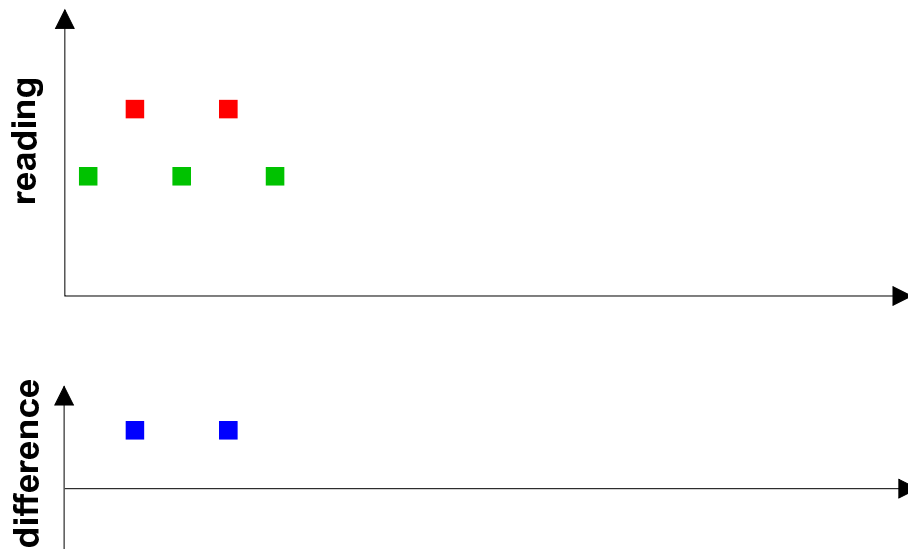
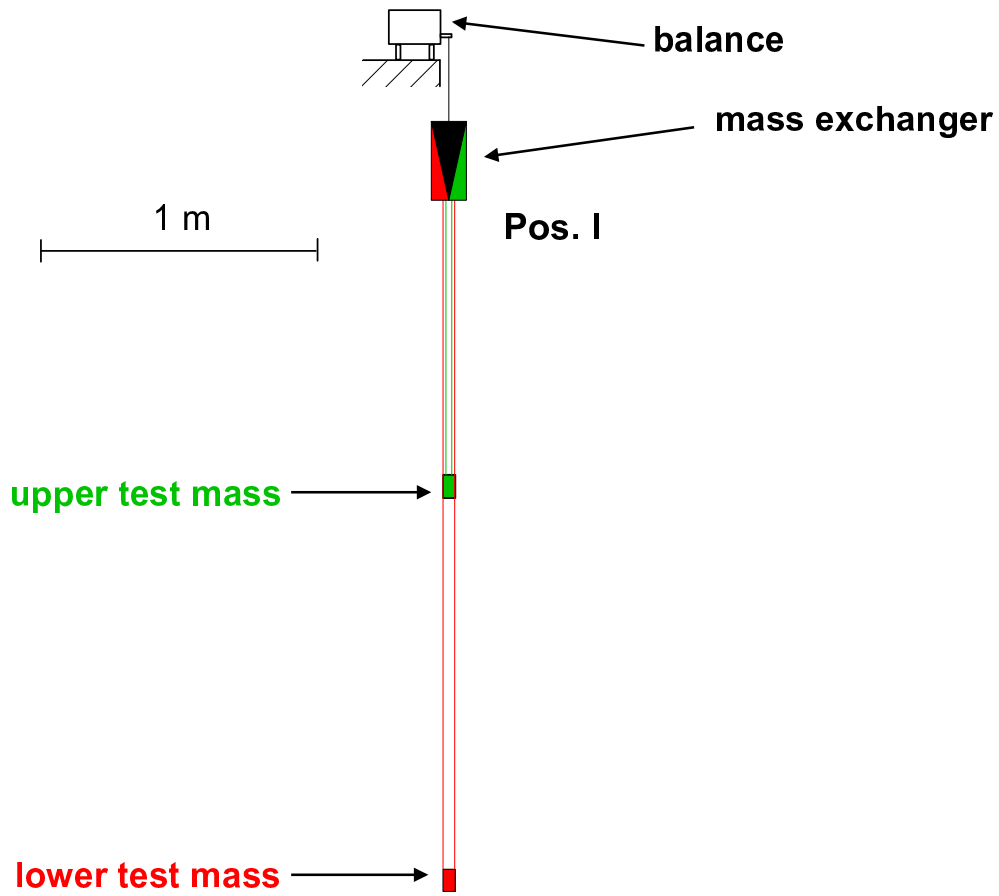


Subject of the Talk

$$\mathbf{F} = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$$

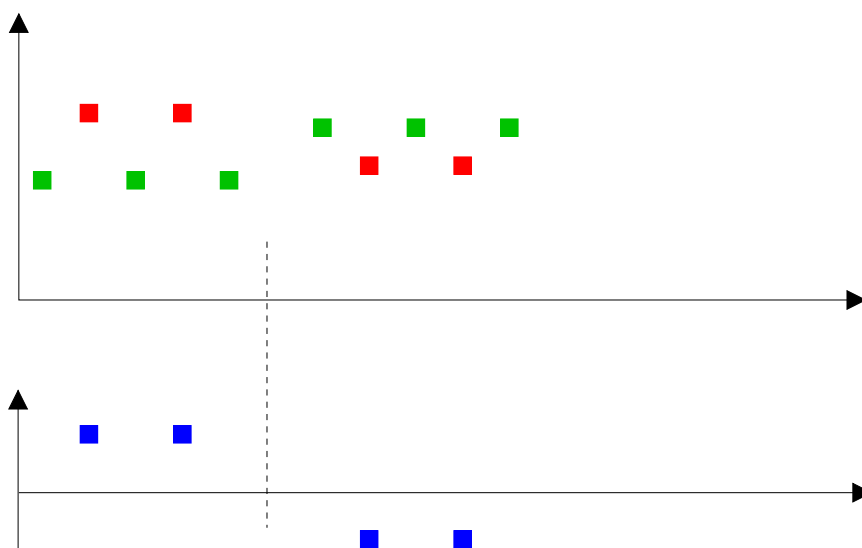
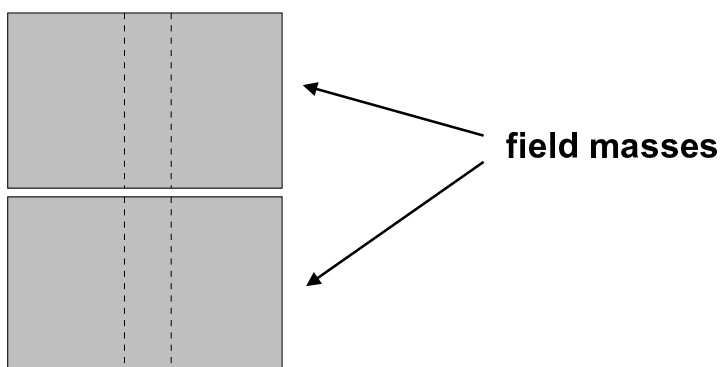


The Principle of our Experiment

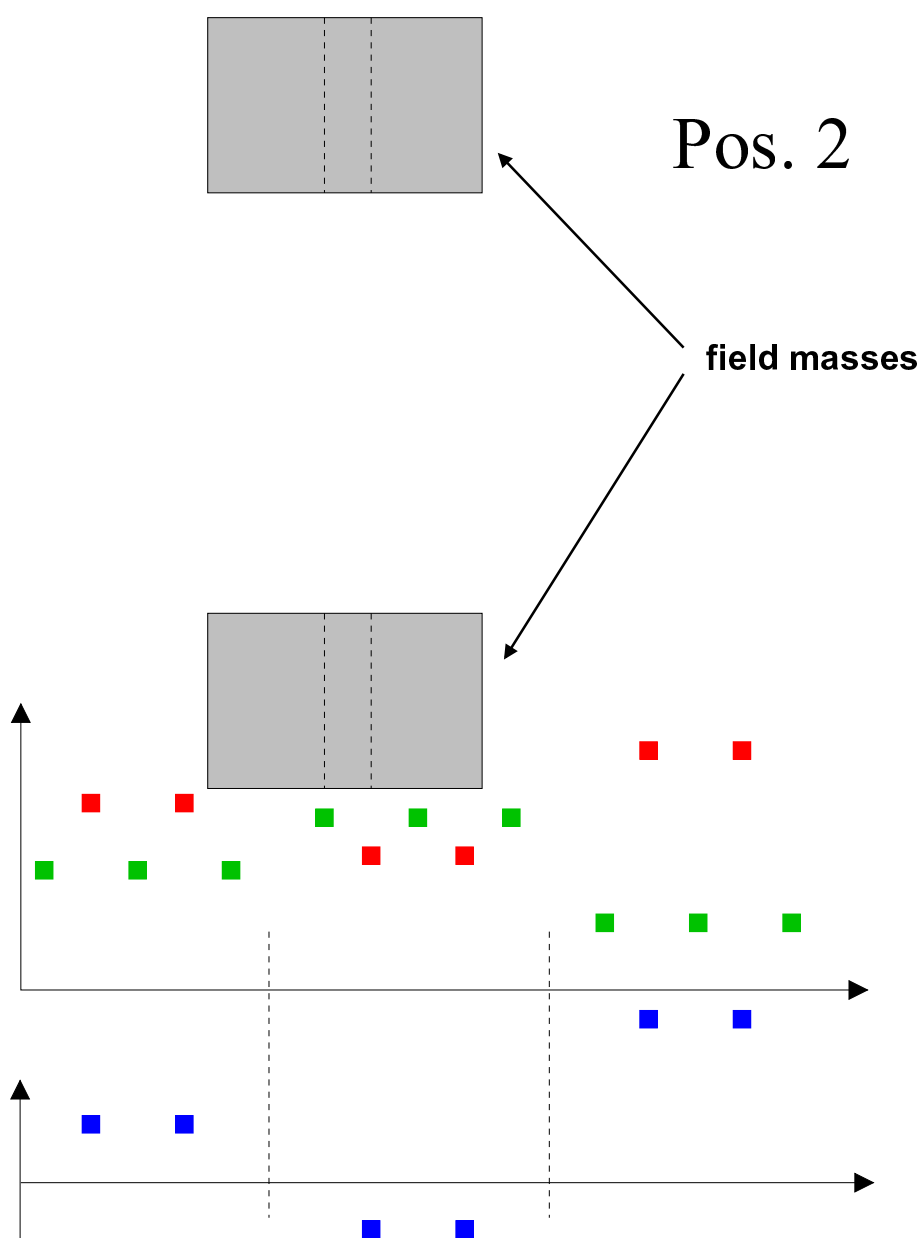


The Principle of our Experiment

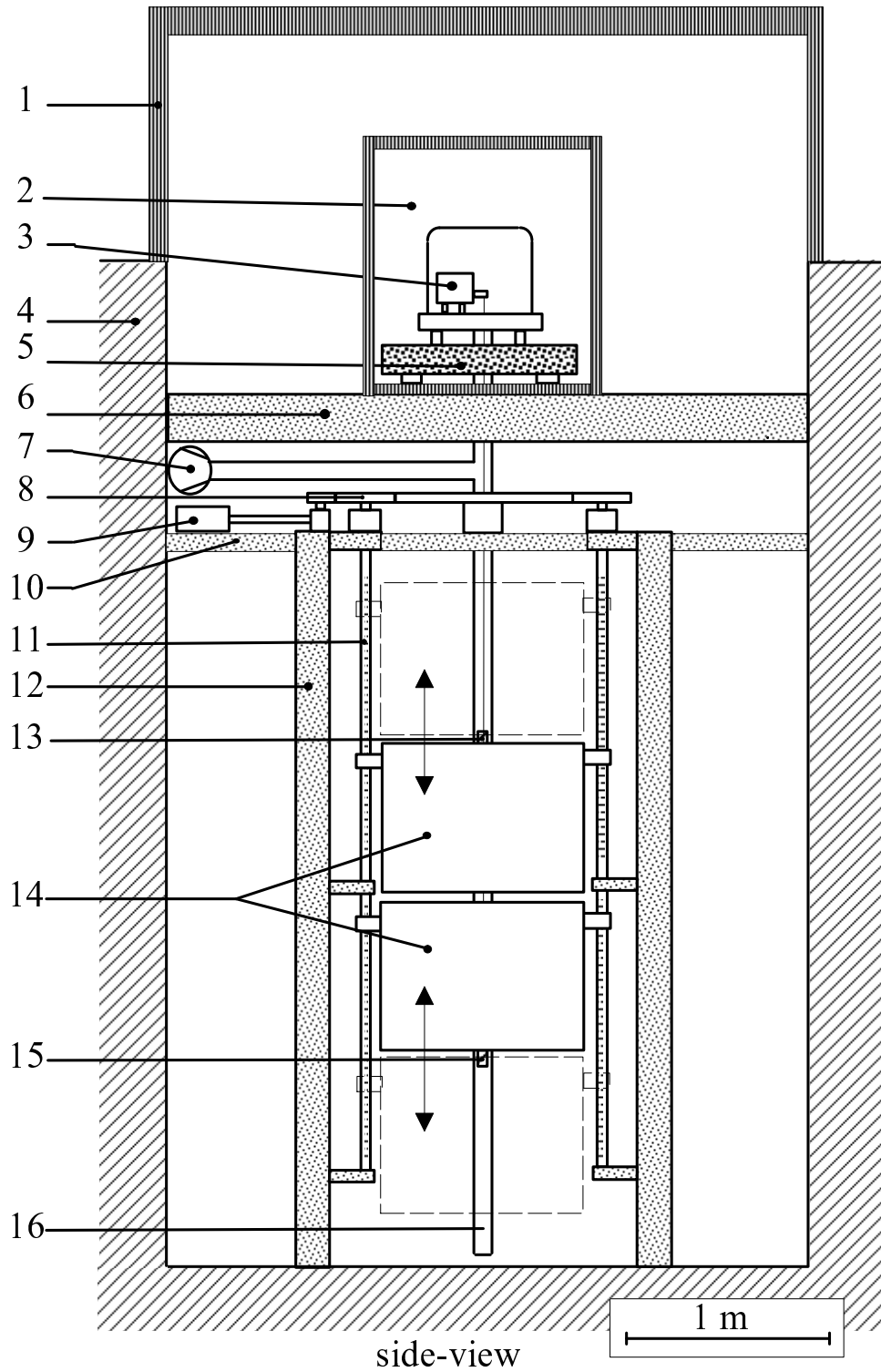
Pos. 1



The Principle of our Experiment

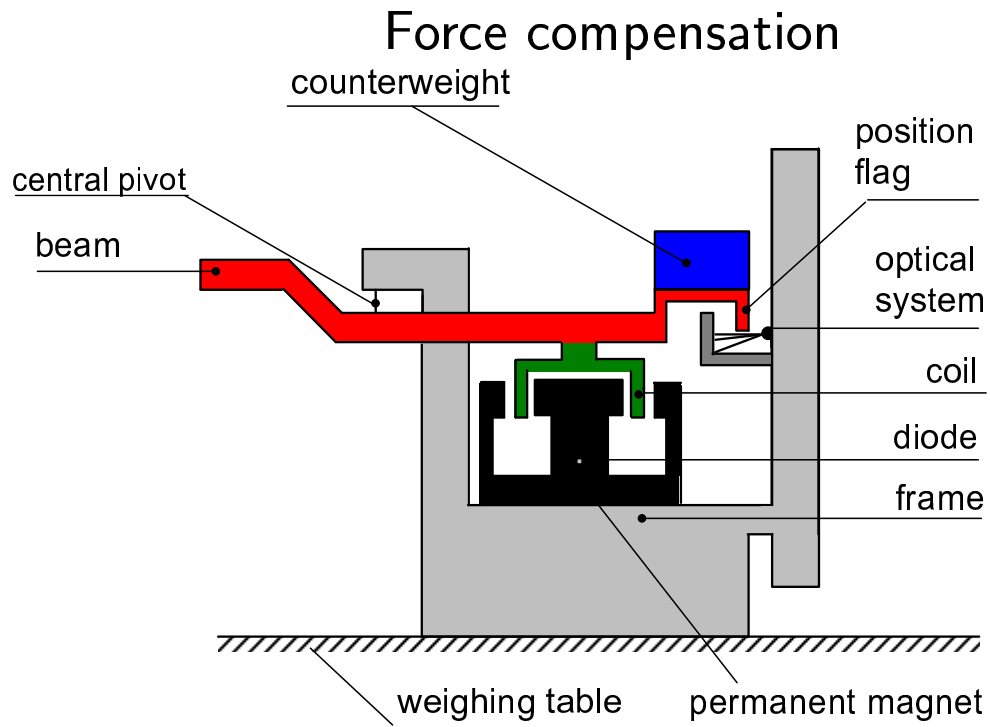


Side View of the complete Apparatus

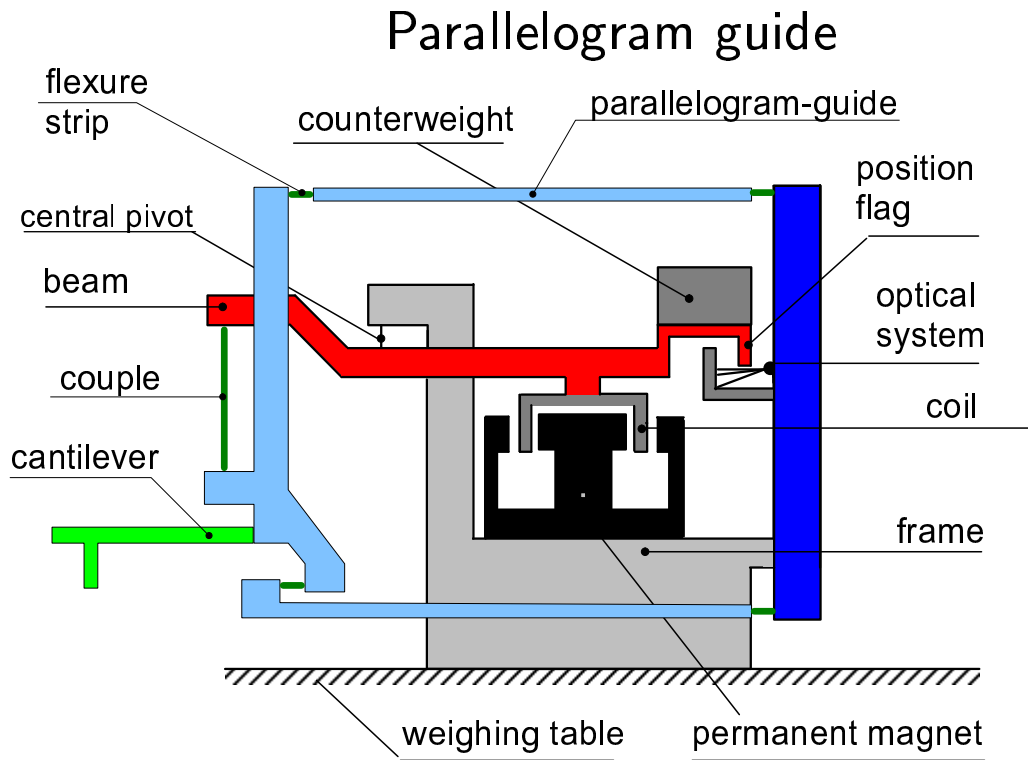


The Balance -I-

Modified AT 1006 Comparator of Mettler Toledo



The Balance -II-



The Balance -III-

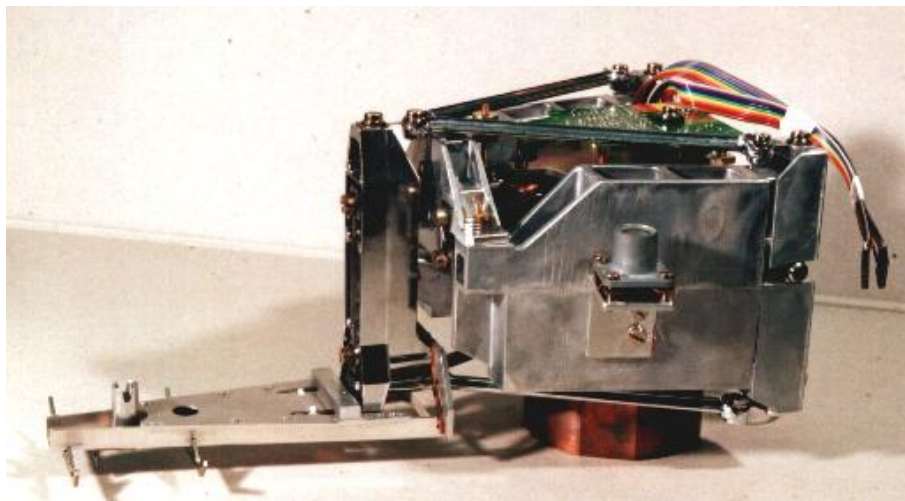
(modified Mettler Toledo AT 1006)

- Technical Datas:

Measuring Range	1000 g to 1004 g
Resolution	12.5 ng
Reproducibility	200 ng

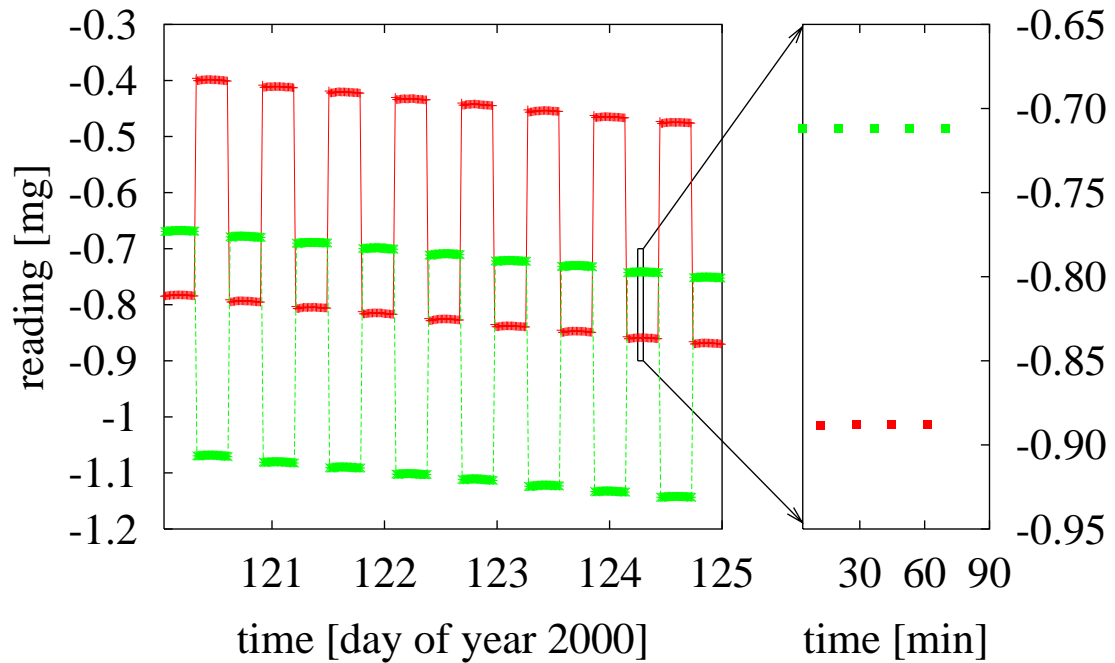
- Advantages to use a balance:

- Precise force sensor, (not torque)
- Easy calibration
- Beam remains at the same position

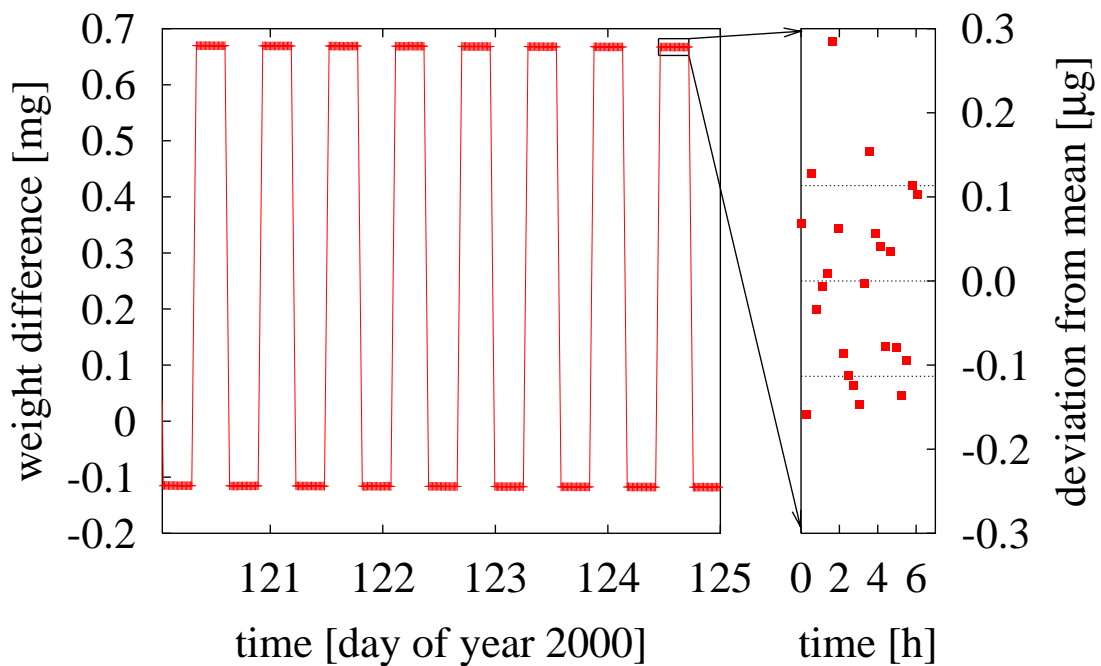


Measurements

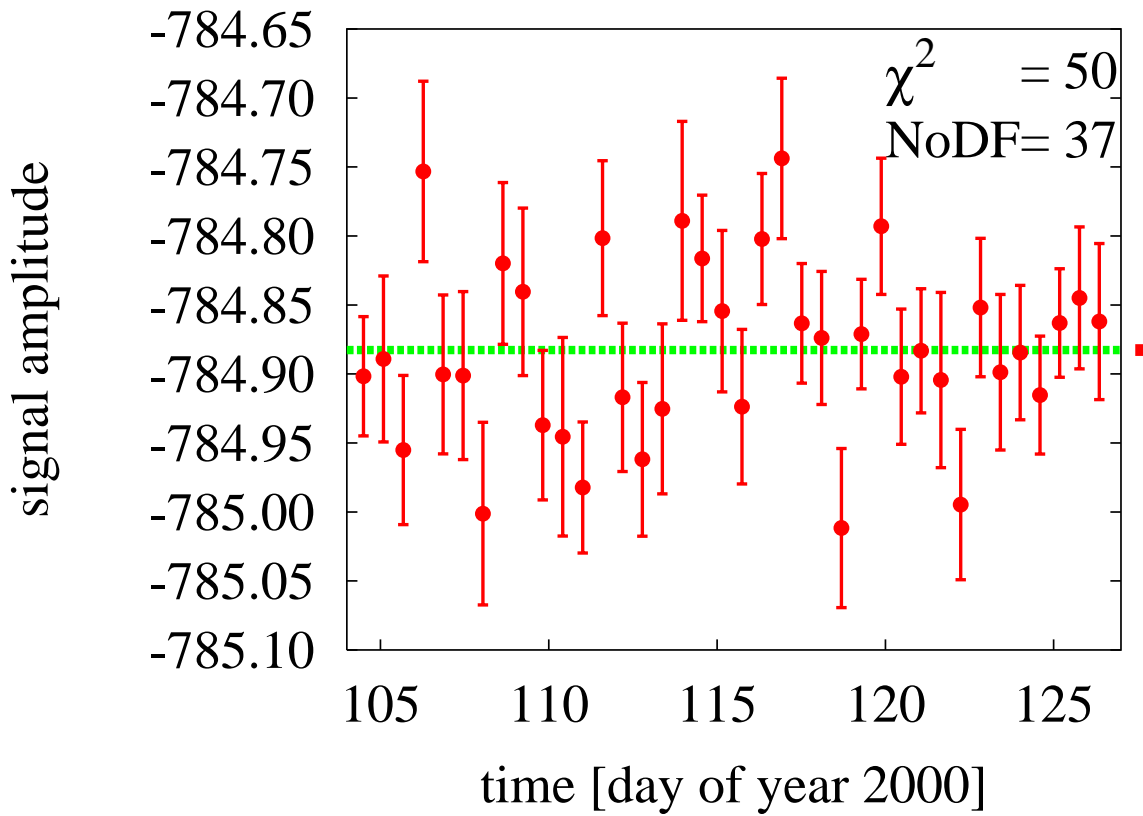
Reading of the Balance



First Difference =: Signal



Amplitude of the Signal



Error of the Mean: 8.9 ng (= 11 ppm)

Resultate

water	(6.6754 ± 0.0005 ± 0.0014) × 10 ⁻¹¹ $\frac{m^3}{kg s^2}$
mercury	(6.6749 ± ± 0.0014) × 10 ⁻¹¹ $\frac{m^3}{kg s^2}$



Systematic Uncertainties

Source of Uncertainty		Water $\Delta G/G$ [ppm]	Mercury $\Delta G/G$ [ppm]
test masses	position	11	10
	dimension	2.7	2.0
	density inhomogeneity	≤ 1	≤ 2.2
	mass	0.27	0.27
tanks	joints and spindle drive	16	2.2
	shape and volume	14	2
	dimensions	11	1.6
	density inhomogeneity	≤ 5	≤ 0.06
	masses	4	0.5
	air displacement	7	2
liquid	density of the liquid	15	18
	mass of the liquid	8	0.7
others	nonlinearity of the balance	≤ 200	≤ 200
	systematic variation	-	80
	sorption effect	45	6.4
	integration	≤ 13	≤ 5
	tilt effect	≤ 18	≤ 4
	calibration	5	8
	local gravity	0.06	0.06
total		209	217

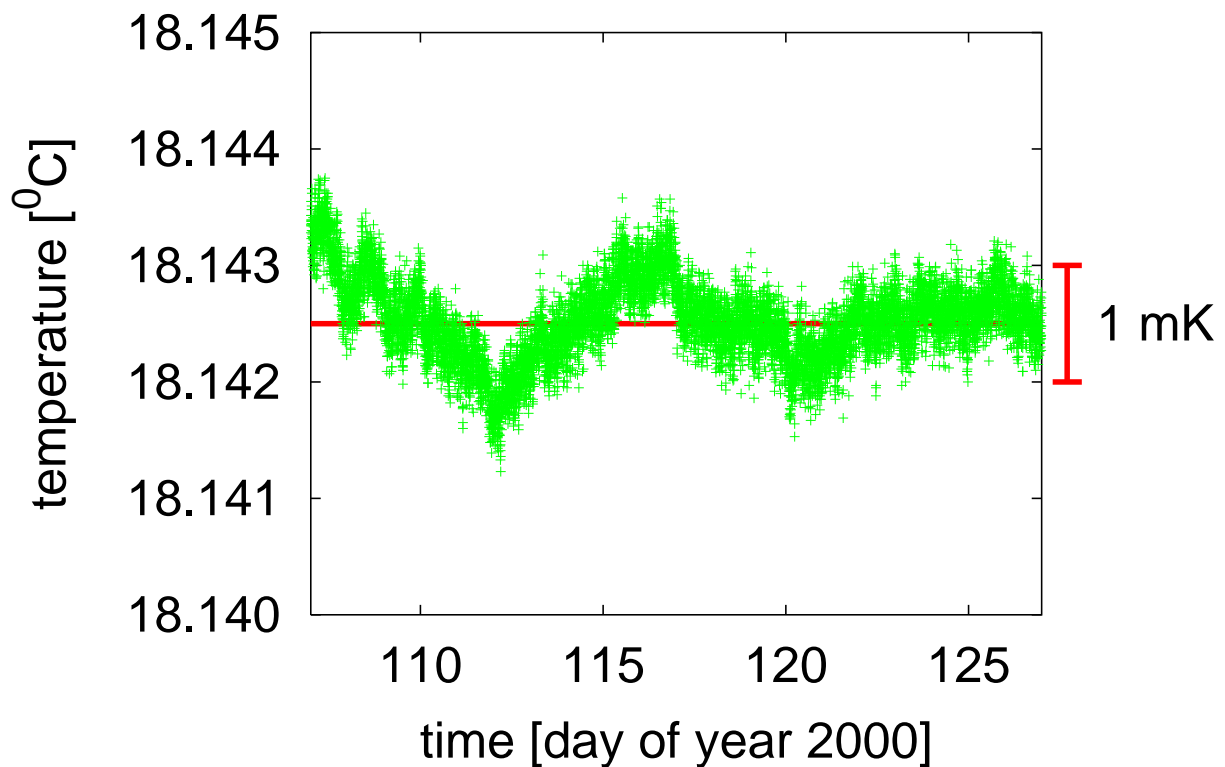


Improvements -I-

- Modification of the balance

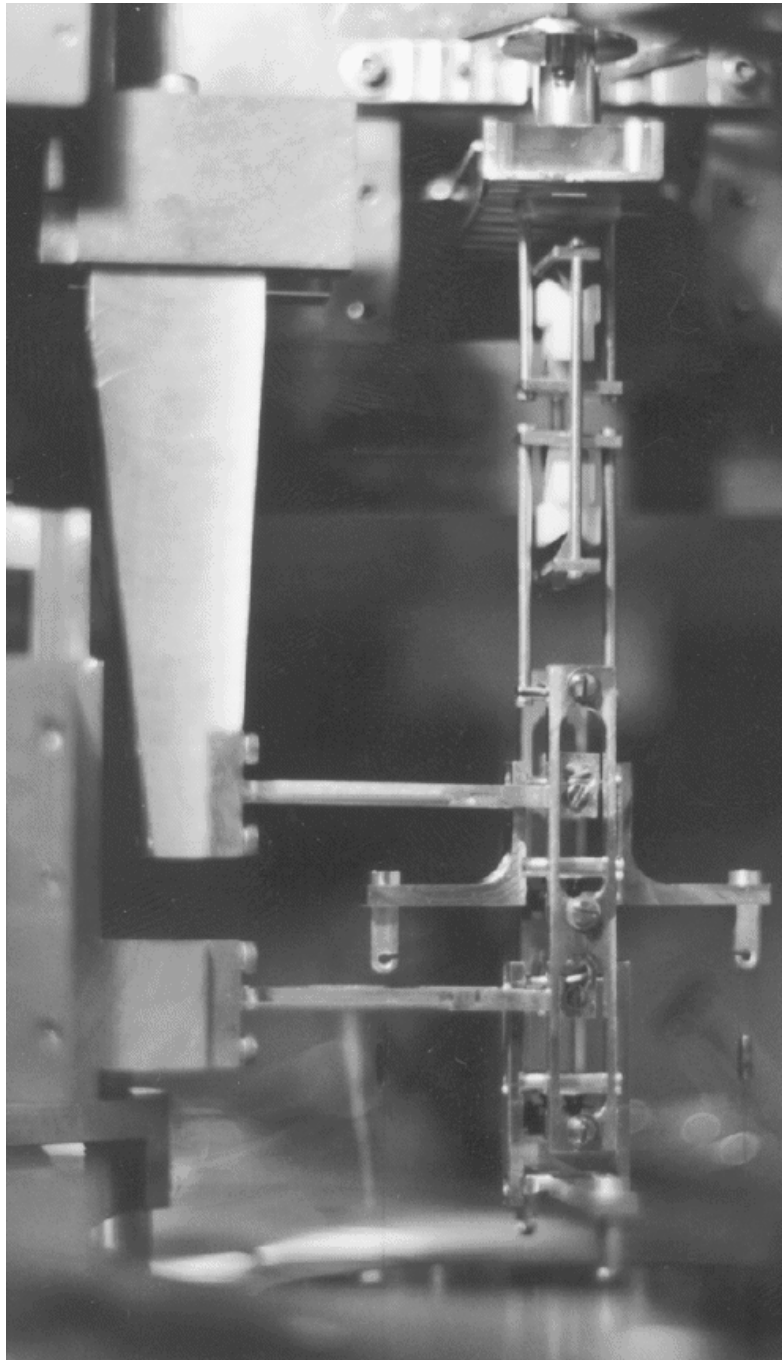
Measuring range	:	1.7 g
Resolution	:	12.5 ng
Reproducibility	:	200 ng (old)

- Improved test mass suspension
- Active temperature stabilization

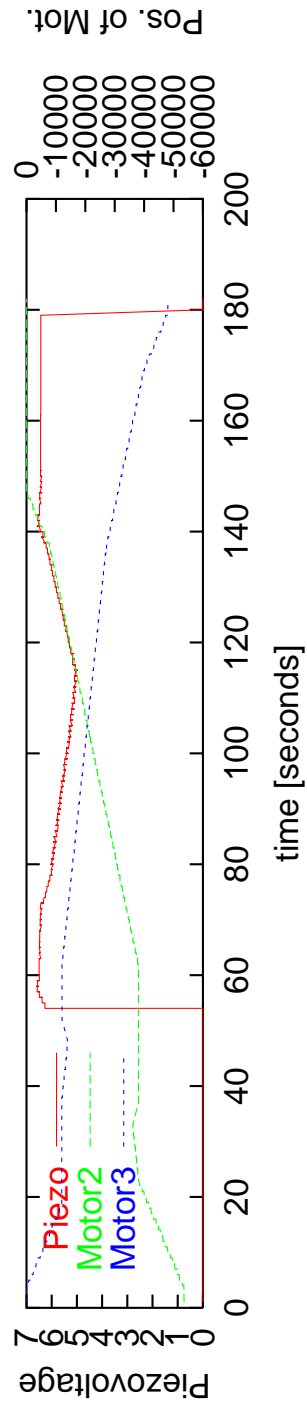
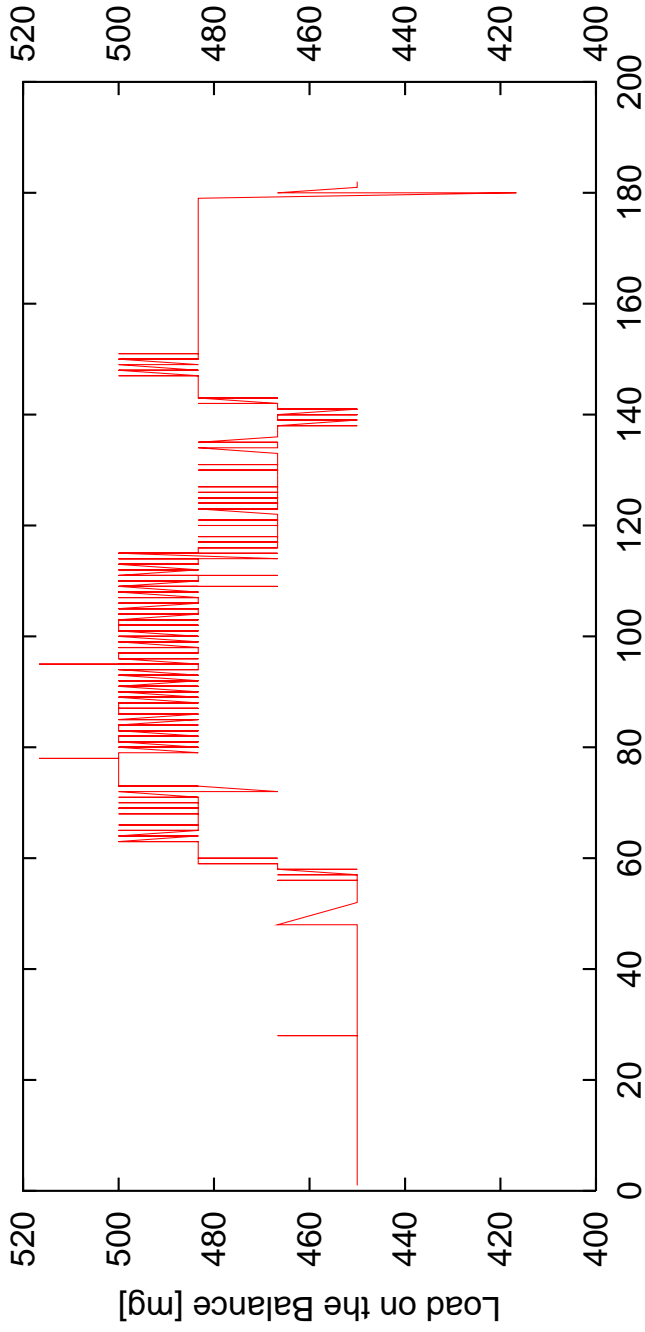


Improvements -II-

- Improved test mass suspension

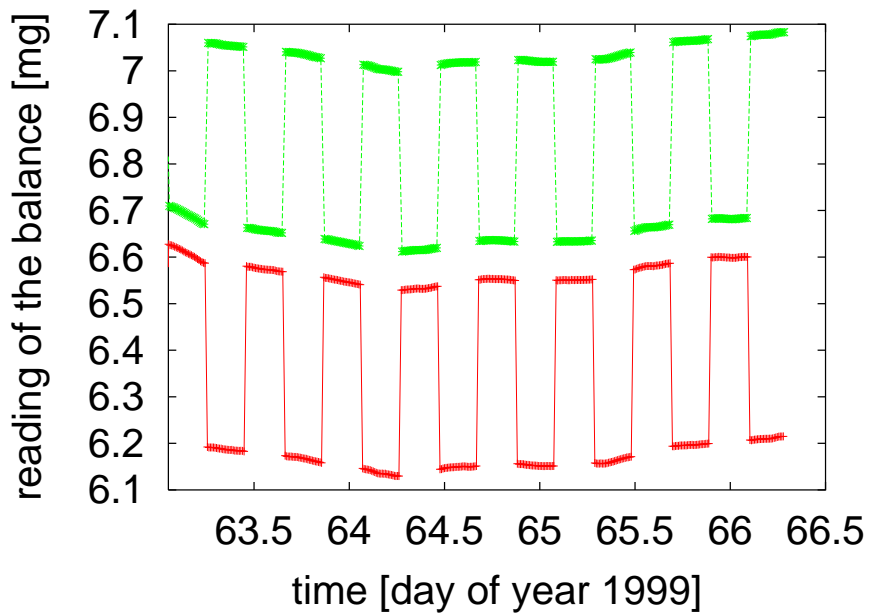


Typical Interchange of the Test Masses

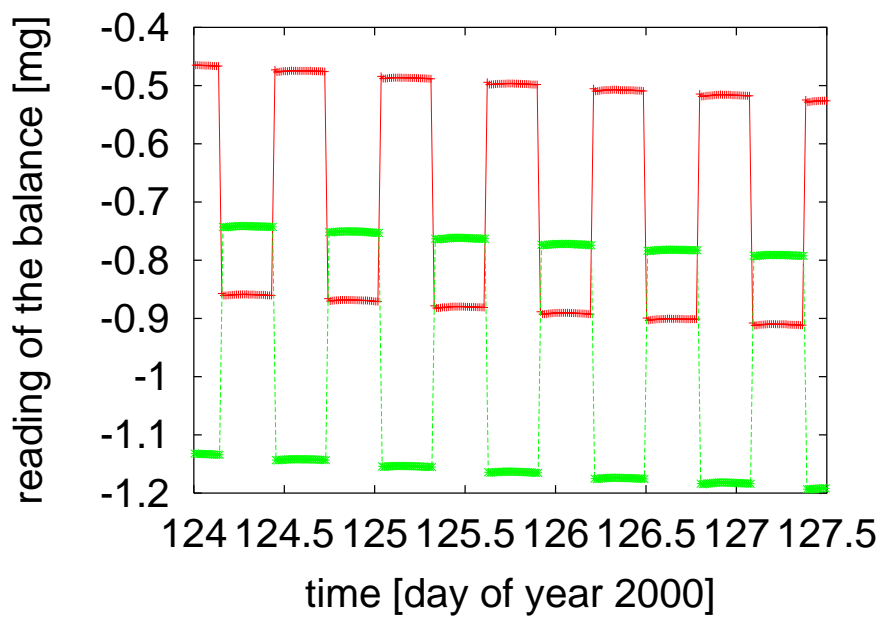


Old Measurement vs New Measurement

Old Measurement

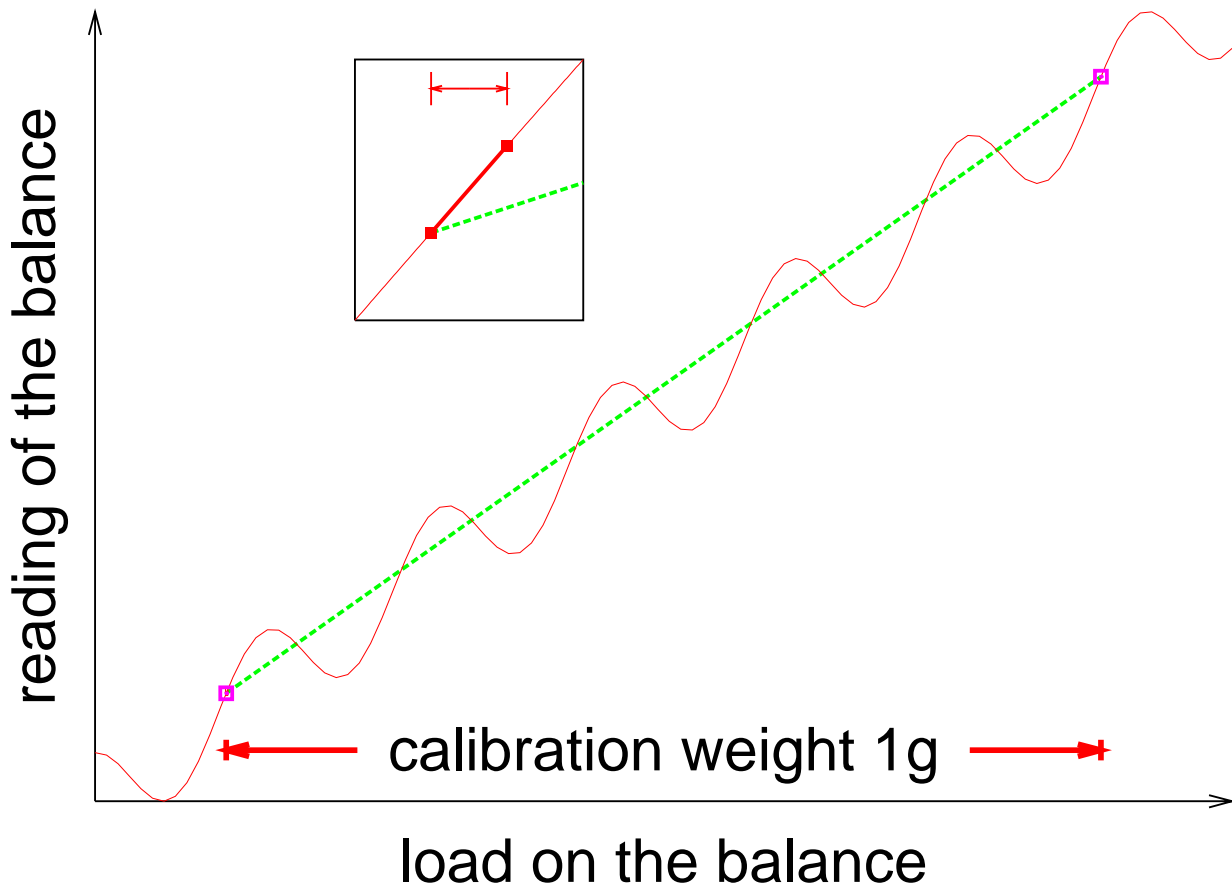


New Measurement



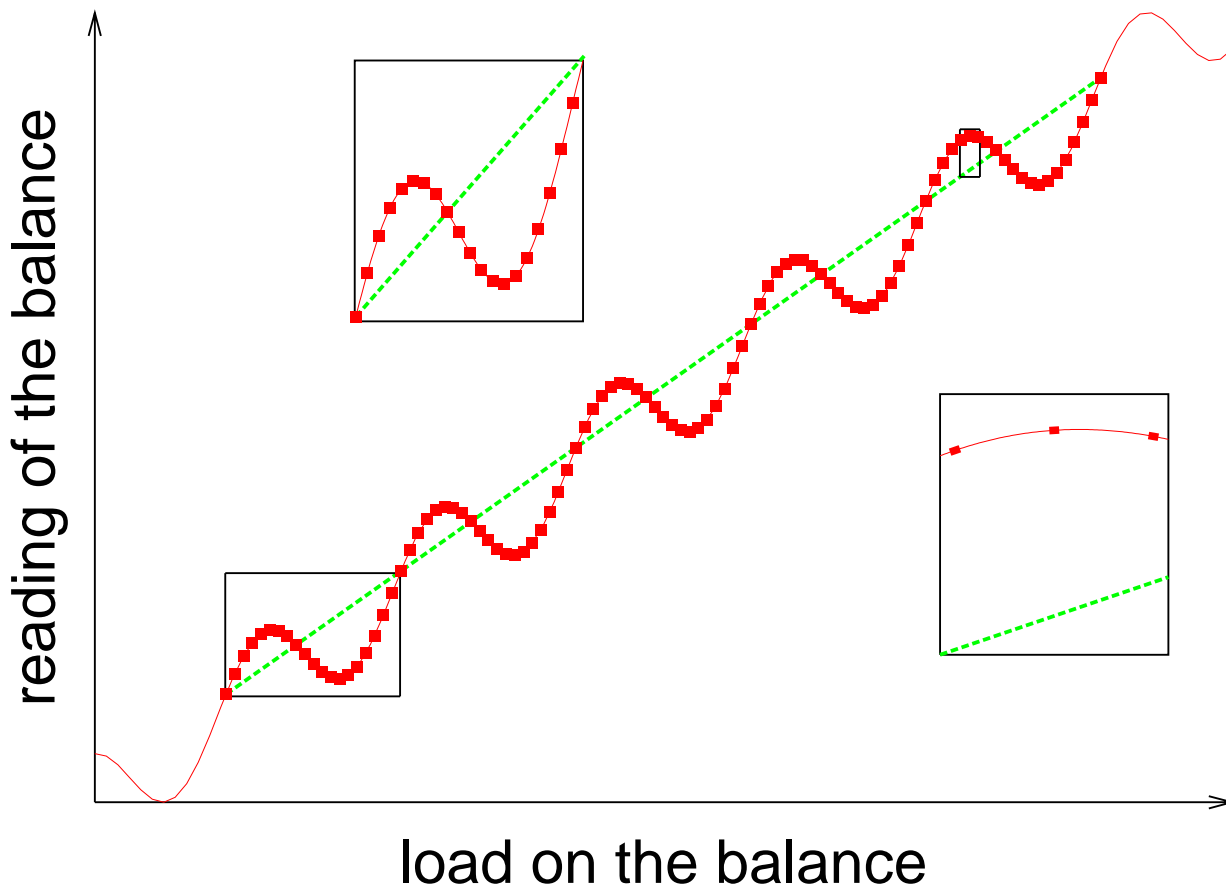
Nonlinearity - Scheme of the Problem

Nonlinearity of the balance

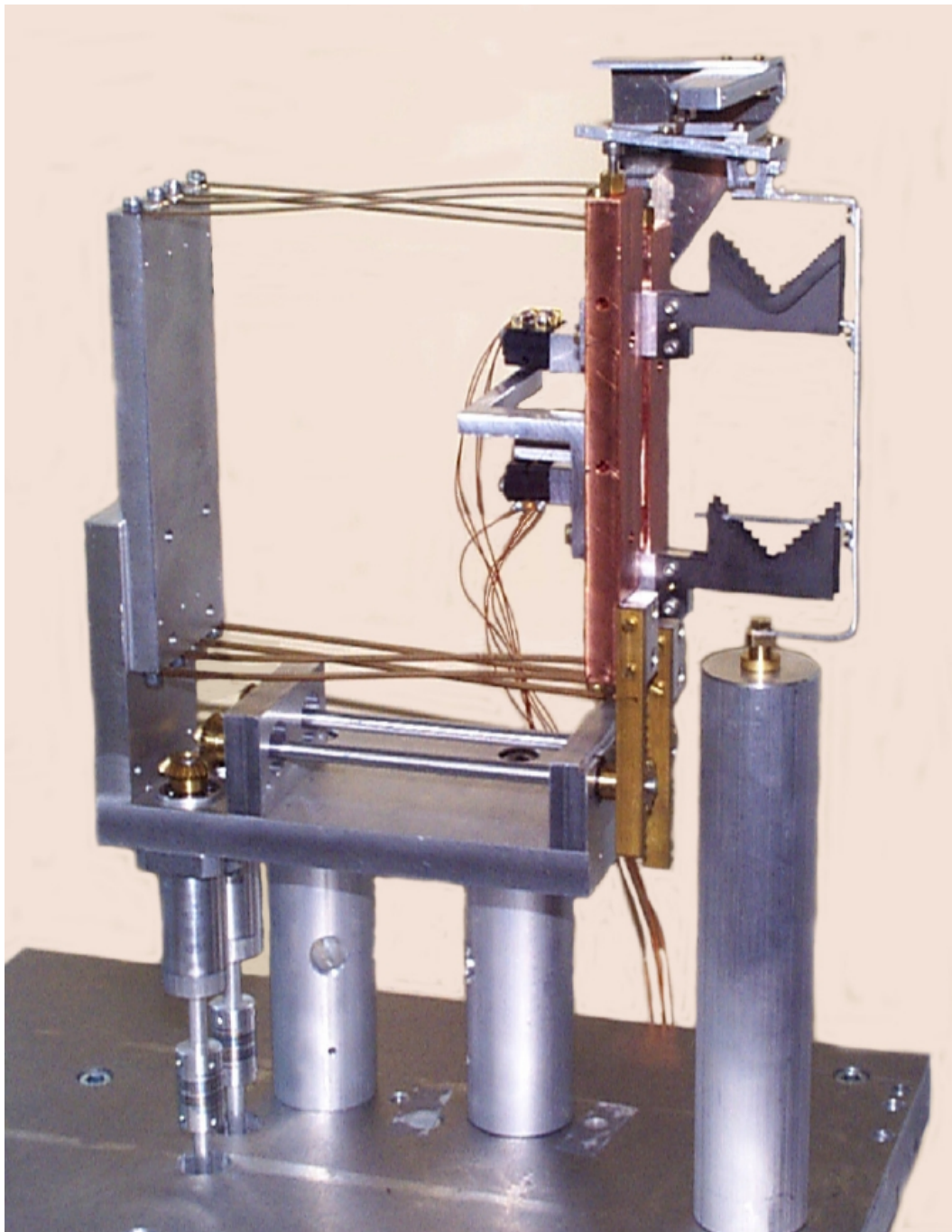


Nonlinearity - Scheme of the Solution

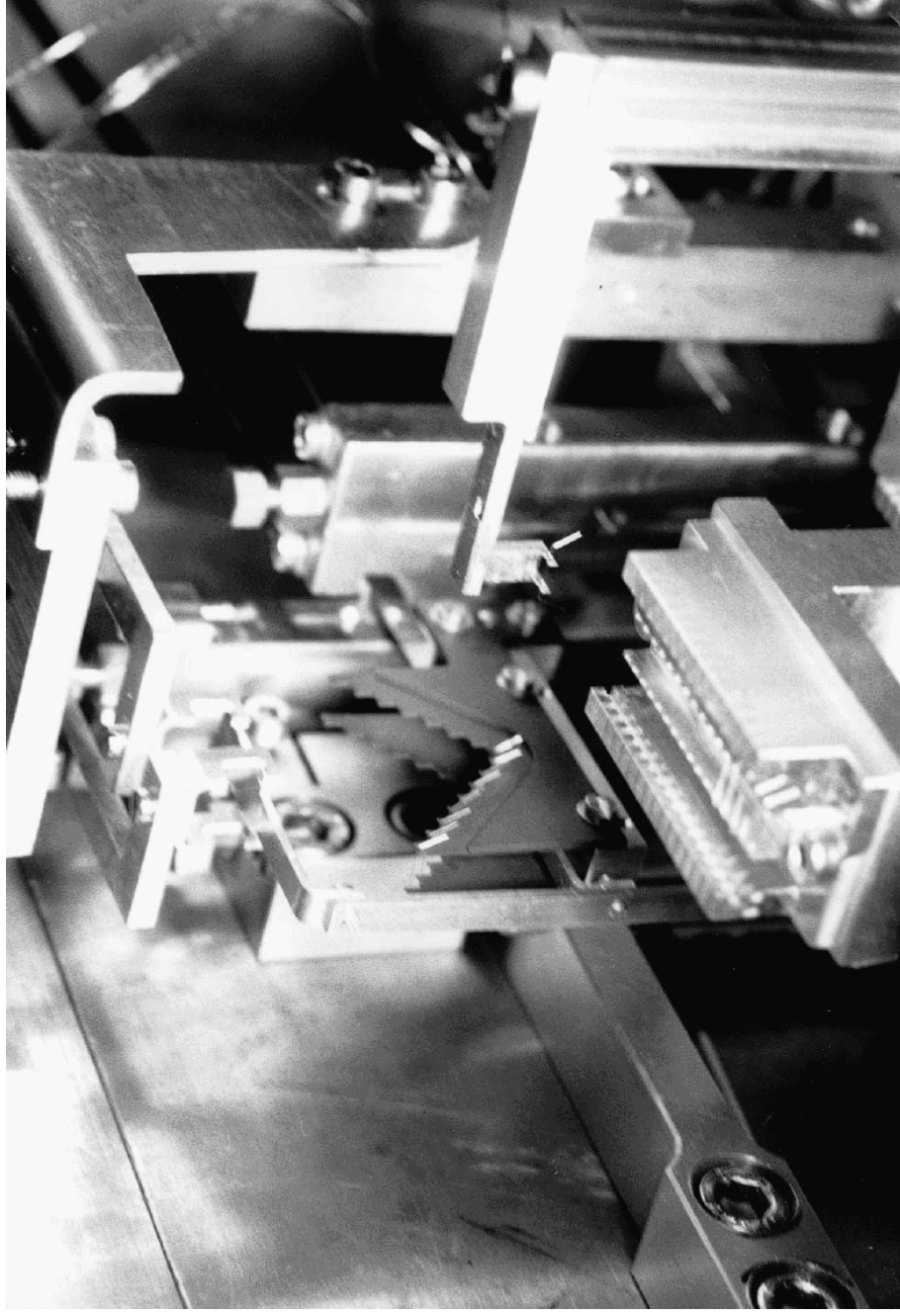
Solution



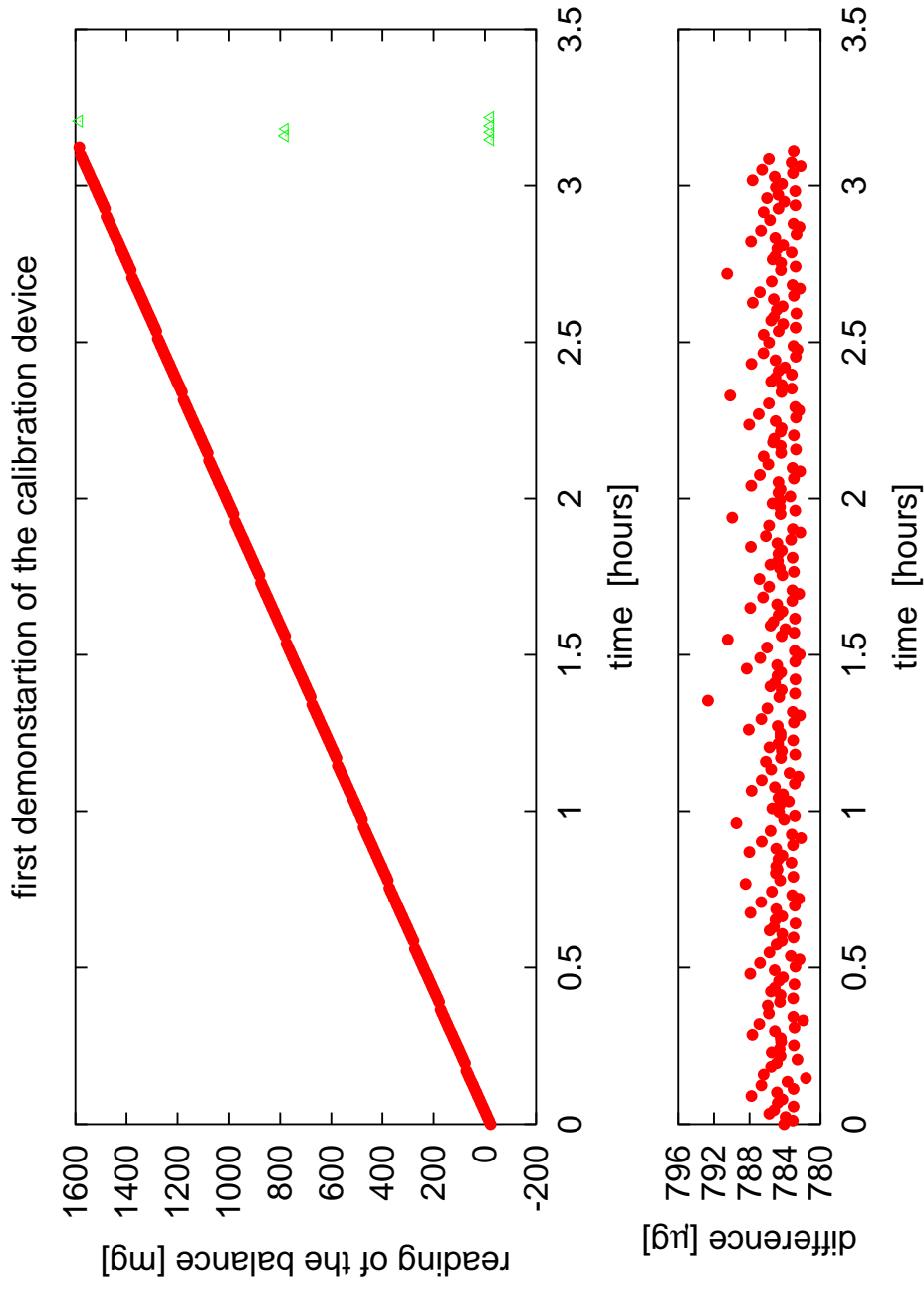
Setup of Calibration Device



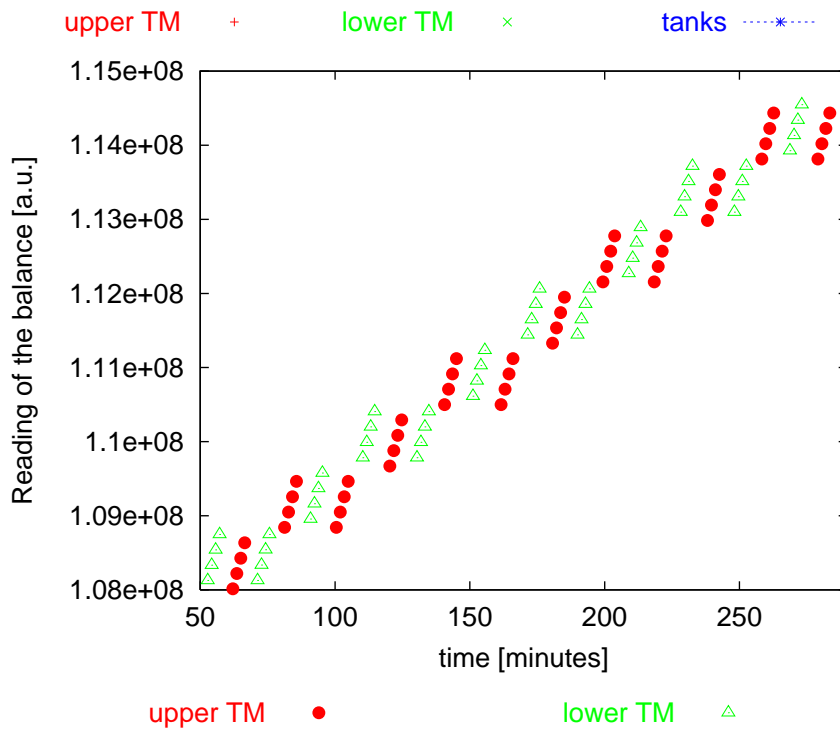
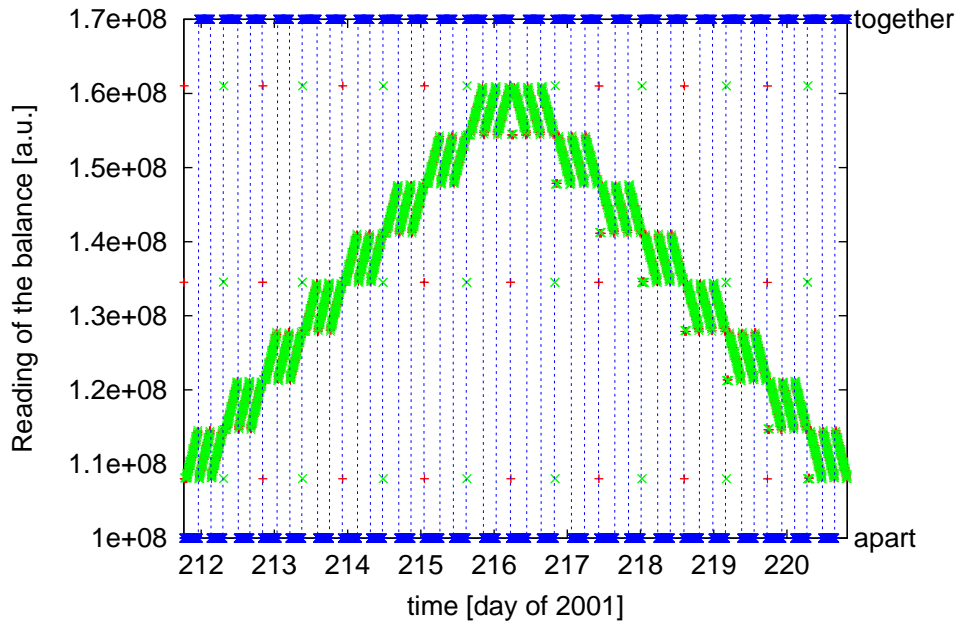
Another Impression of the Cal. Dev.



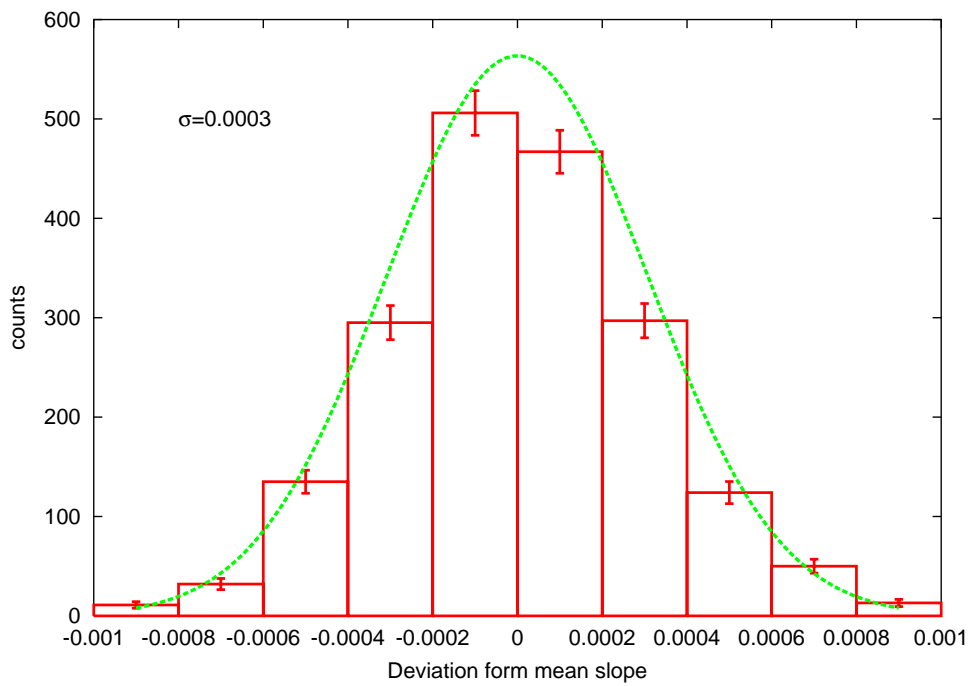
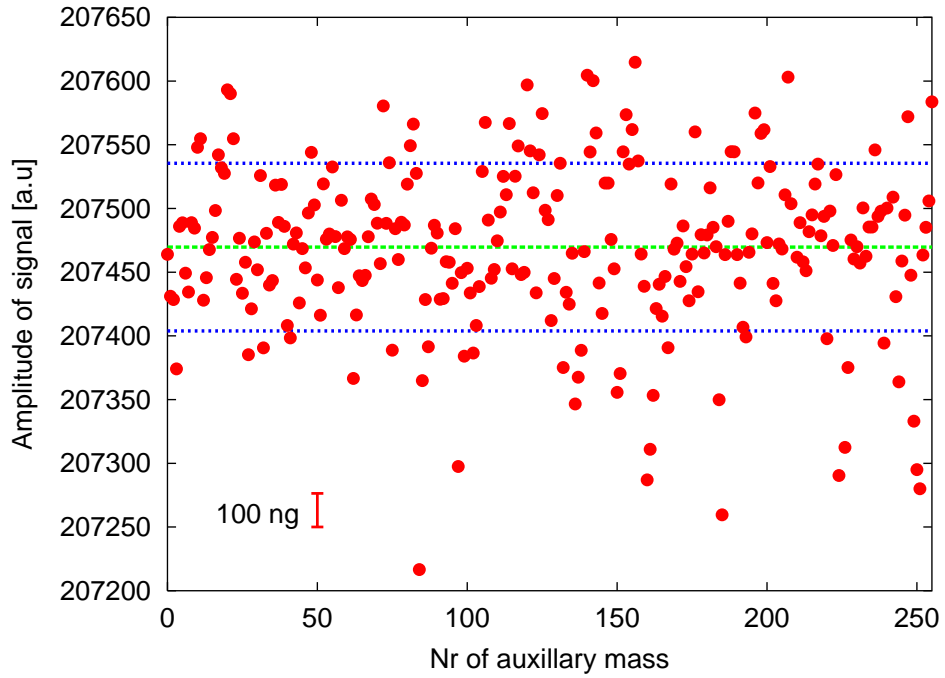
Weight of the Auxillary Masses



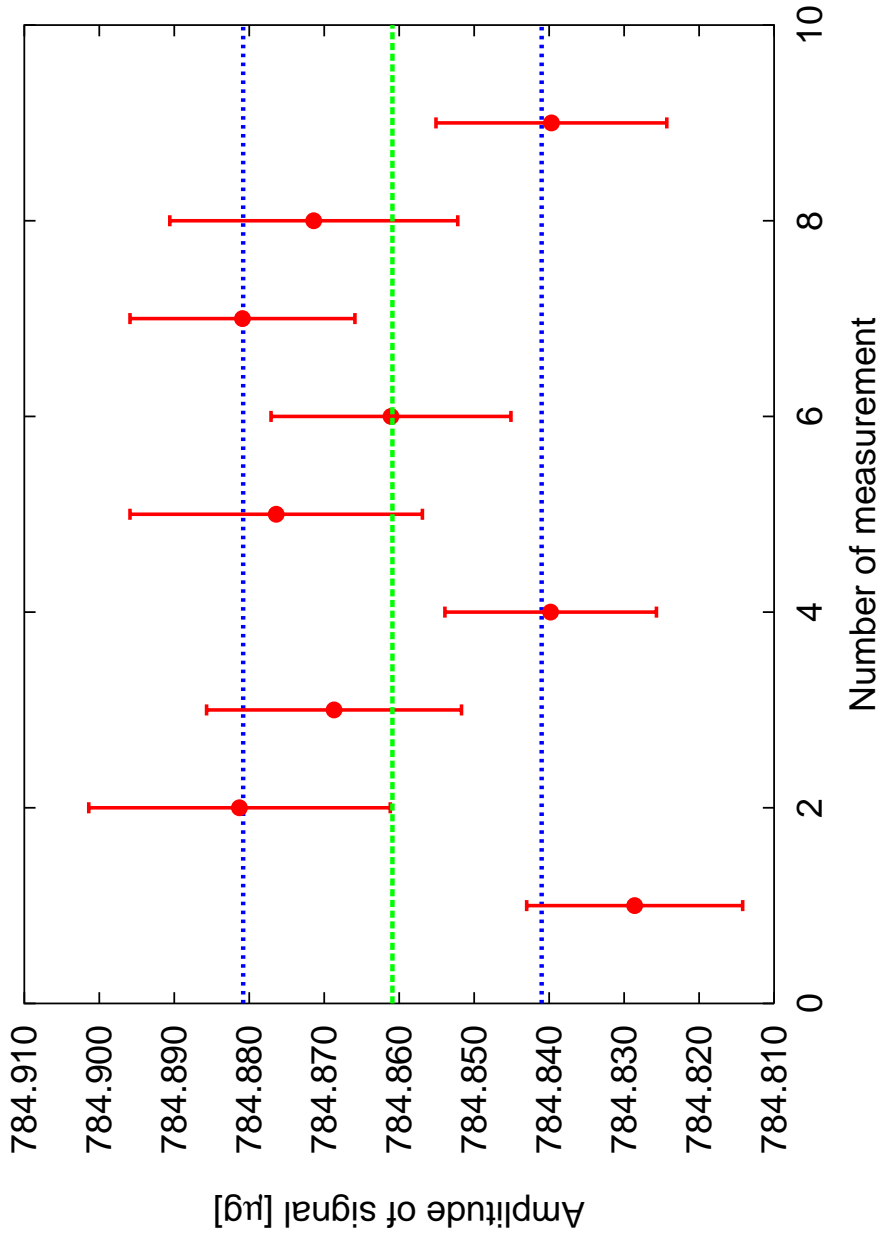
New Measurement Scheme



First Measurements



Measurements until now



To Do - Current Situation

- evaluate collected data
- check for systematics (temperature,-gradients, inclination)
- consistency check with a different set of test masses (Tantalum)
- improve mass integration

