



# New VSL high-end reference setup for transformer LMS system calibration

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TrafoLoss stakeholder workshop  
17 June 2021



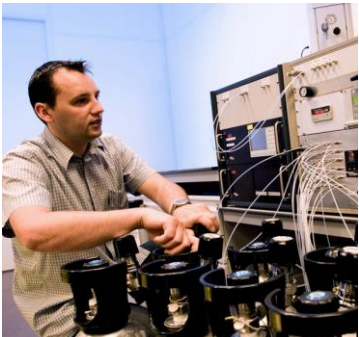
The EMPIR initiative is co-funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and the EMPIR Participating States



# VSL: the Dutch National Measurement Institute (NMI)



- Maintain and develop the national measurement standards
- Make measurements directly traceable to international standards
- Support reliability, quality and innovation both in business and society at large

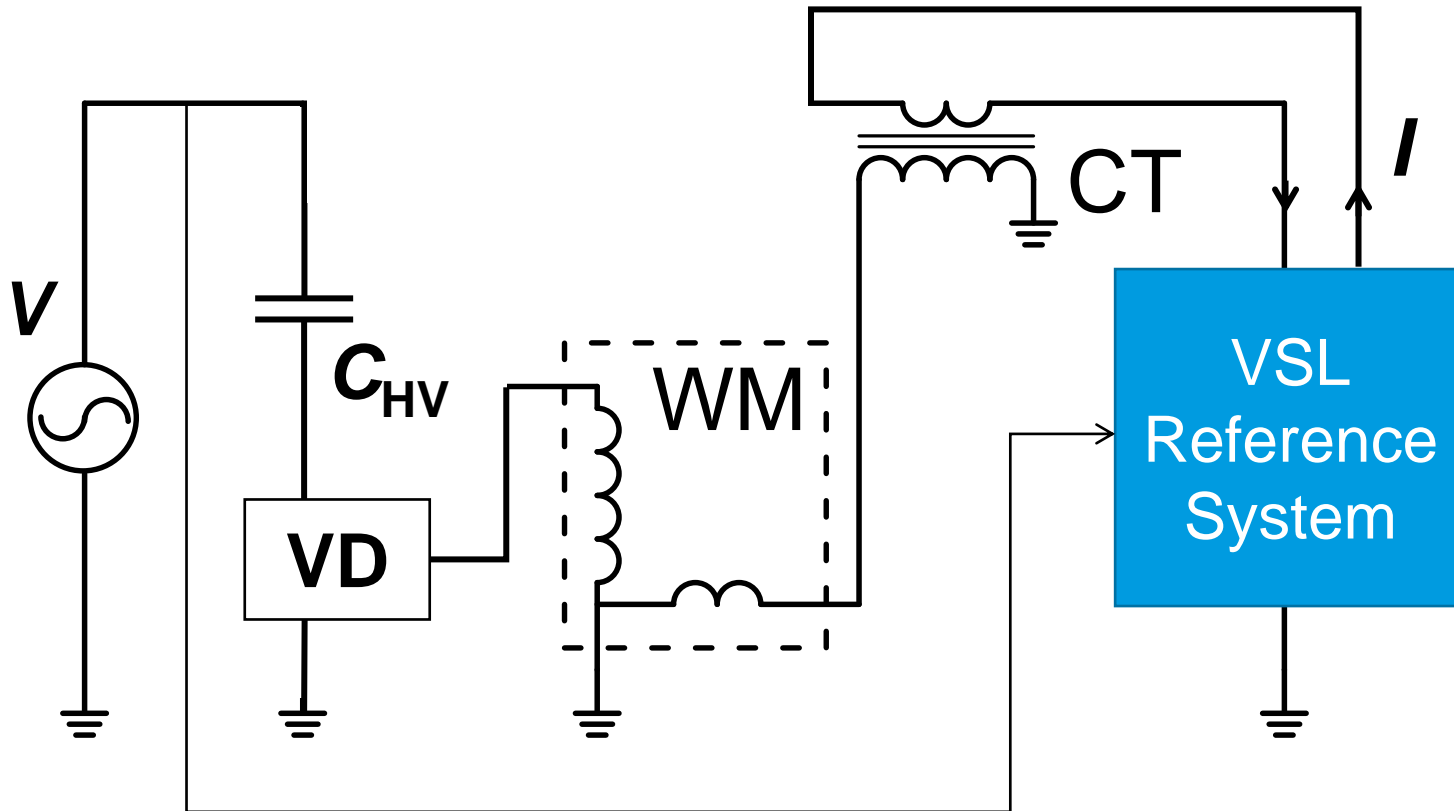


## VSL:

- Company with public task  
(100 fte, 50 % MSc-PhD)
- Calibrations, reference materials, R&D, consultancy, training
- Independent, reliable, top in measurement, international
- Focus: **energy**, industry, health, climate

*Beyond all doubt*

# TLMS system calibration – VSL approach



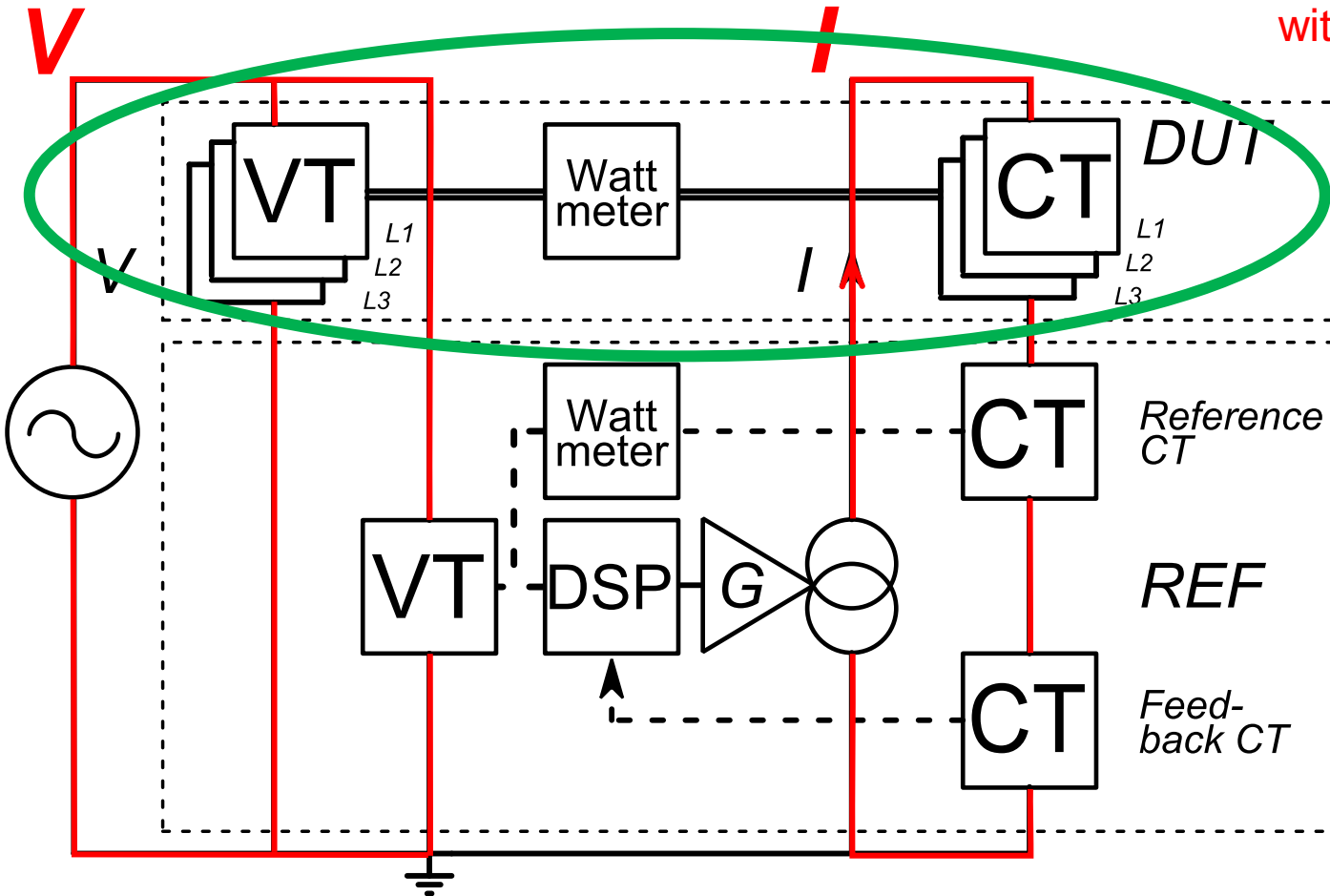
VSL reference system simulates adjustable losses to TLM system

- Phantom power
- Calibration includes *all systematic effects*
- Calibration under actual PF values

⇒ More complex to perform, but smaller overall system uncertainty (0.07 min)

# VSL TLM system calibration setup

Challenge: lock  $I$  to  $V$   
within  $0.3 \text{ m}^\circ$  ( $5 \mu\text{rad}$ )



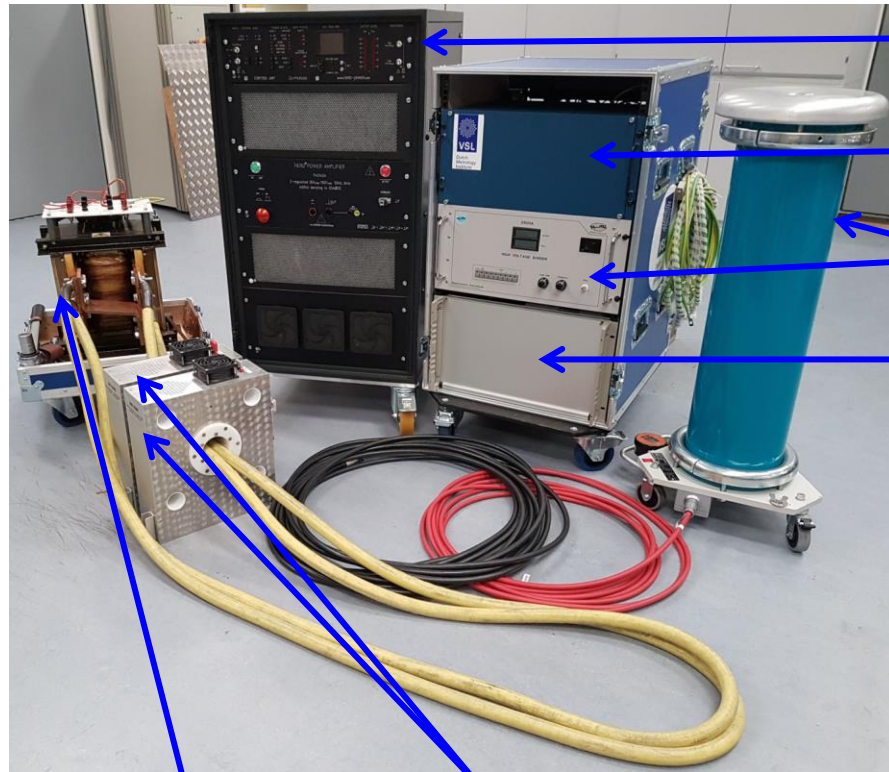
- 100 / 230 kV, 2000 A
- Test current generated in feedback loop; digital control
- Accuracy:  $20 \mu\text{W}/\text{VA}$  (0.2 % at PF = 0.01)

**NRC · CNRC**

- Fully automated, transportable – suitable for on-site calibrations

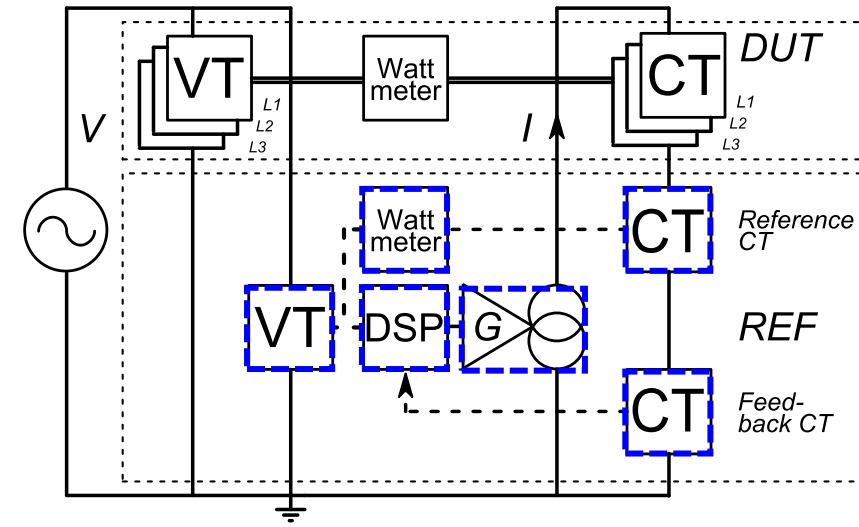


# VSL TLMS system calibration setup - components



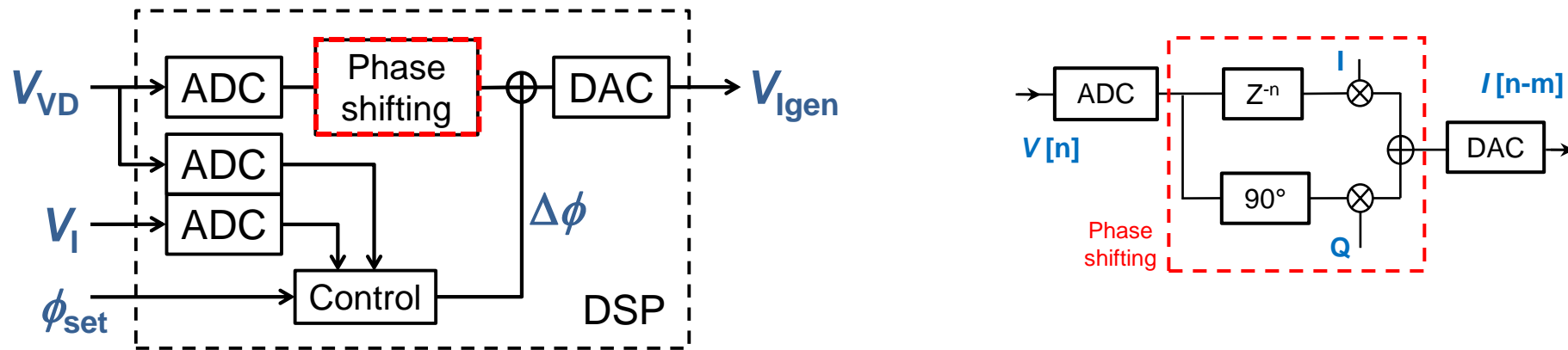
- ← Power amplifier (G)
- ← Control (DSP)
- ← VT (CC-based capacitive divider)
- ← Power reference (RD22 watt meter)

Transformer /  
current generator      CTs (3-stage active  
compensation)



# Control loop

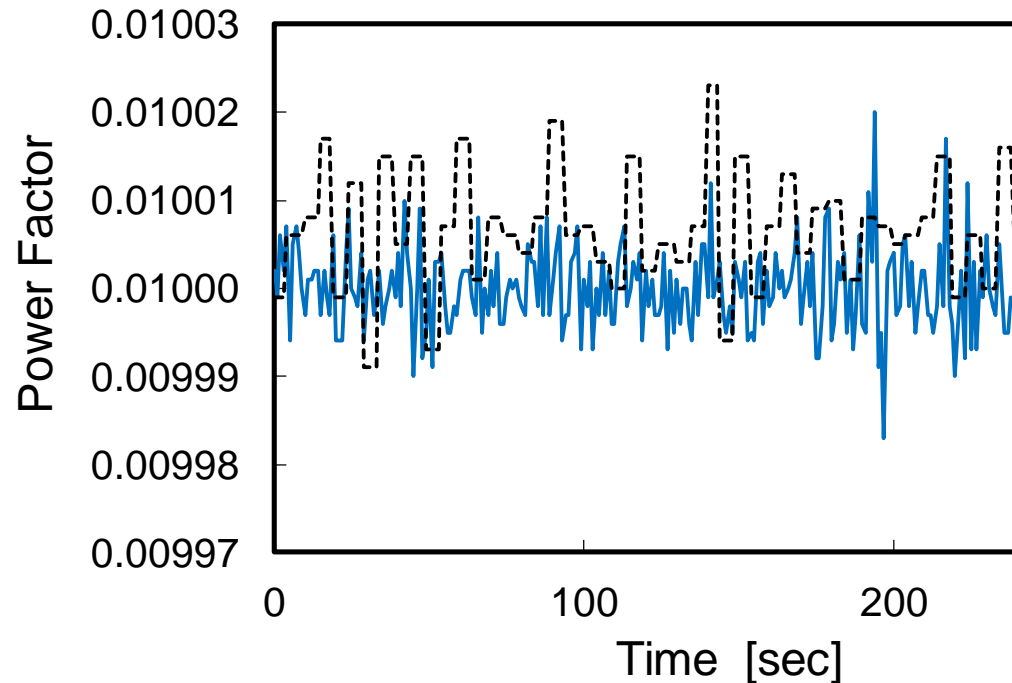
The DSP is the critical part of the setup, with 2 main parts:



## Critical elements:

- DC offset removal (output of HV divider has varying DC offsets)
- Accuracy via two 24-bit ADCs; phase shifting does not have to be accurate!
- Power measurement with averaging over 200 ms (5 points / sec)

# Typical control loop test result



Noise:  $< 6 \mu\text{rad}$  (1 s)

Agreement LL and RD22:  $< 3 \mu\text{W}/\text{VA}$   
(after corrections for their errors)

Noise in feedback loop affected by:

- THD (preferably THD  $< 0.5 \%$ ; no effect on accuracy!)
- Capacitive compensation, needed to generate currents  $> 1500 \text{ A}$

Uncertainty source	[%]
Voltage scaling - HV cap	0.05
Voltage scaling - LV unit	0.07
Current scaling	0.05
Power measurement	0.08
Noise	0.05
System effects	0.07
<b>Total uncertainty (<math>k = 2</math>)</b>	<b>0.15</b>

## Improvements in the past years:

- Voltage channel from 15 to < 8 ppm ([IEEE paper](#); study of cable effects)
- Power from 12 to 8 ppm
- Lower noise at higher currents (where capacitive compensation is needed)
- Improved capacitive compensation – in primary current circuit

Present CMC claim: 0.20 % at PF = 0.01

(20  $\mu$ W/VA)

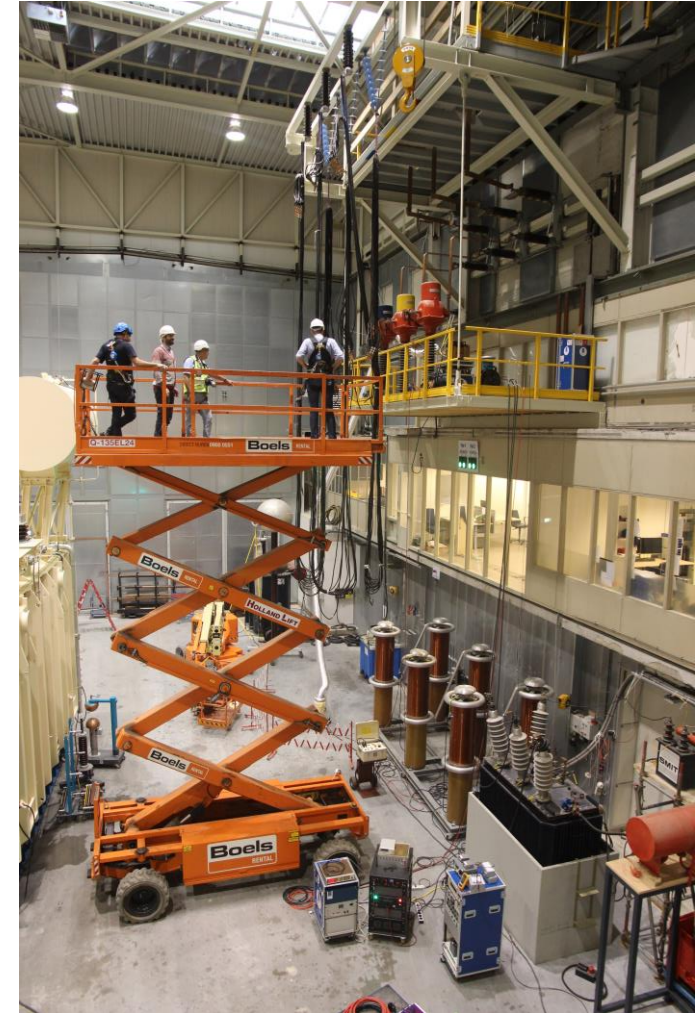




# On-site experiences



- Extensive attention paid to safety, shielding (triax cables), grounding.
- Completely automated:  $2 f \times (3 V \times 7 I) \times 5 PF \times 2 = 420$  pts in 1 weekend.
- Fiber readout.





# System calibration certificates



## CERTIFICATE OF CALIBRATION

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Table 6 System errors of the reactor loss measurement system at 250 A

TMS581 Range kV	Applied Voltage kV	Voltage SF -	Applied Current A	System error		
				PF 0.001 %	PF 0.002 %	PF 0.005 %
100	40	1000	250	-0.3	0.2	0.0
100	100	1000	250	0.8	0.4	0.1
200	80	2000	250	1.8	0.8	0.4
200	200	2000	250	1.4	0.5	0.2
Uncertainty				3.0	1.5	0.6

- Test points completely flexible to meet the needs
- Typically: mostly-used  $V - I$  combinations
- Final uncertainty of the system calibration strongly depends on the on-site conditions!

Errors in percent  
60 Hz, 20 kV, MIL 2500A range: 20 kV

Test current: 0.6 A

Power Factor	Phase			3 Phase
	U	V	W	
0.100	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.3
0.250	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8
0.500	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
0.900	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6

Test current: 2 A

Power Factor	Phase			3 Phase
	U	V	W	
0.050	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.3
0.100	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.2
0.500	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
0.900	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Test current: 10 A

Power Factor	Phase			3 Phase
	U	V	W	
0.010	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.8
0.025	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
0.050	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
0.100	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
0.500	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0

Test current: 50 A

Power Factor	Phase			3 Phase
	U	V	W	
0.005	2.1	2.5	2.3	2.3
0.010	1.0	1.3	1.1	1.1
0.025	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5
0.050	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
0.100	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Test current: 100 A

Power Factor	Phase			3 Phase
	U	V	W	
0.005	2.0	2.4	2.2	2.2
0.010	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.1
0.025	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5
0.050	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
0.100	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Test current: 500 A

Power Factor	Phase			3 Phase
	U	V	W	
0.002	1.1	0.7	0.9	0.9
0.005	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
0.010	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
0.025	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
0.050	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0

Test current: 1000 A

Power Factor	Phase			3 Phase
	U	V	W	
0.002	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
0.005	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
0.010	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
0.025	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
0.050	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0







## Conclusion

VSL has developed a unique reference setup for on-site system calibration of industrial LMS up to 230 kV and 2000 A with 20  $\mu$ W/VA uncertainty

- 50 Hz, 60 Hz
- Fully automated: 21 V-I combinations, at 2 frequencies (420 test points) in 1 weekend
- Suitable for reactor systems (230 kV, 2 % uncertainty at PF = 0.001)
- Traceable to national standards, accredited (ISO 17025, CIPM MRA)

*Reference setup already used in more than 10 on-site LMS calibrations!*



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# THANK YOU!

*"This project has received funding from the EMPIR programme co-financed by the Participating States and from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme"*