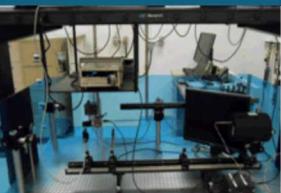


# Calculating Interval Uncertainties for Calibration Standards That Drift with Time



SAND2018-9321C



## PRESENTED BY

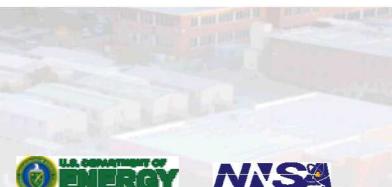
Collin J. Delker

E. Auden  
M. Benner  
E. Forrest

R. Johnson  
T. Kypta  
T. Moss

J. Novak  
E. O'Brien  
K. Sanchez

R. Sandoval  
O. Solomon  
G. Smith

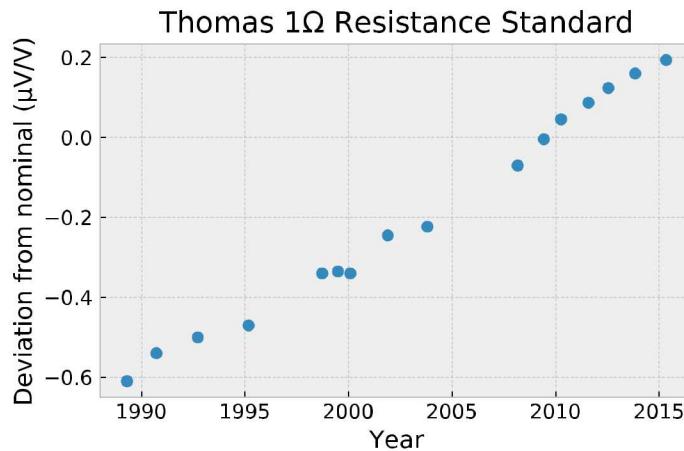


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## MOTIVATION

Many calibration standards drift over time due to physical aging mechanisms. How should this drift be accounted for in an uncertainty budget?



- **ISO 17025:** Report time-of-test uncertainty only
- **DOE/NNSA:** Must certify an interval uncertainty accounting for **drift**, shipping, usage, etc.



Thomas-Type Resistor



Current shunt



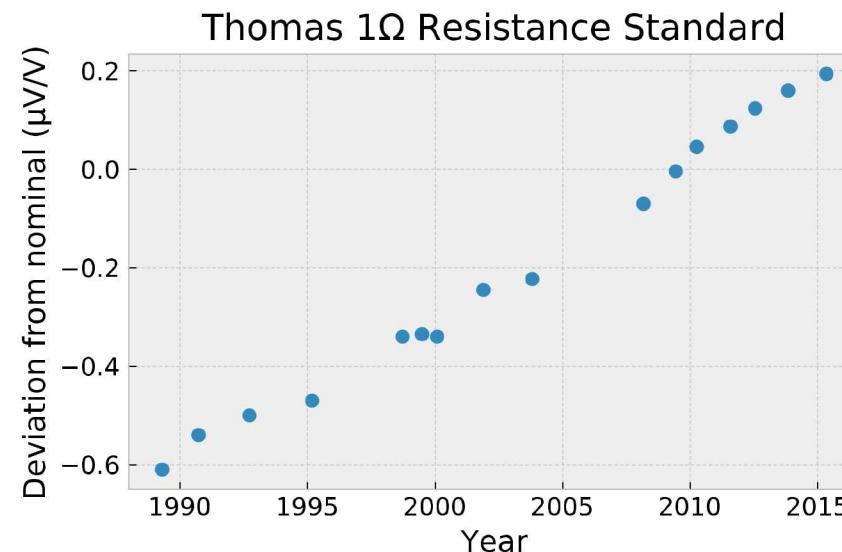
Zener DCV standard



Voltage Divider

## UNCERTAINTY COMPONENTS

- Type A Measurement Uncertainty
- Type B System Uncertainty
- Expected drift and drift uncertainty
- Goal: Provide an uncertainty statement that is valid until the next calibration due date



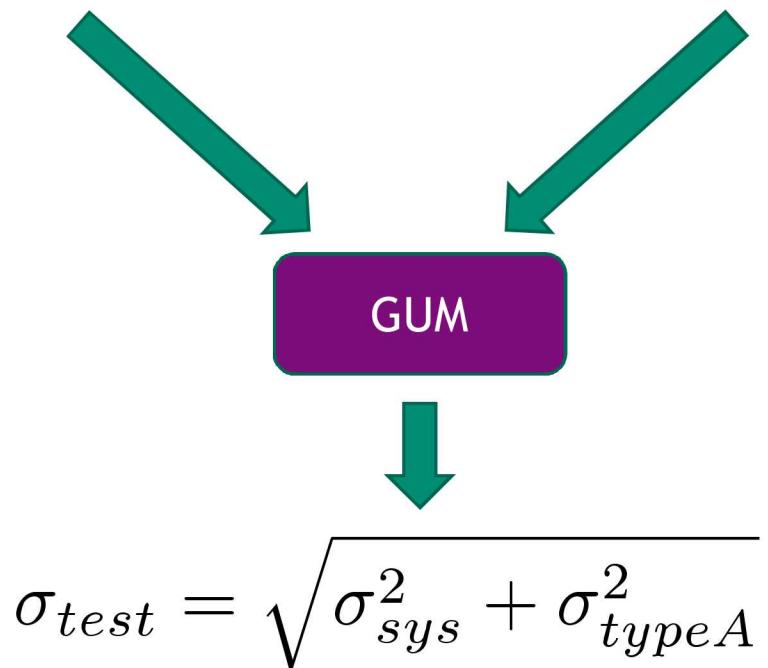


## System Uncertainty

- Measurement Model
- Calibration Standards
- Environmental Conditions
- Stimulus Settings, etc.

## Type A Uncertainty

- Repeated Measurements
- N Measurements Repeated on M days, etc.



# DETERMINING DRIFT RATE – LINEAR REGRESSION

Standard line fit function minimizes residual distances between measured  $y_i$  and fit line  $y(x)$ :

$$y = A + Bx$$

Fit parameters:

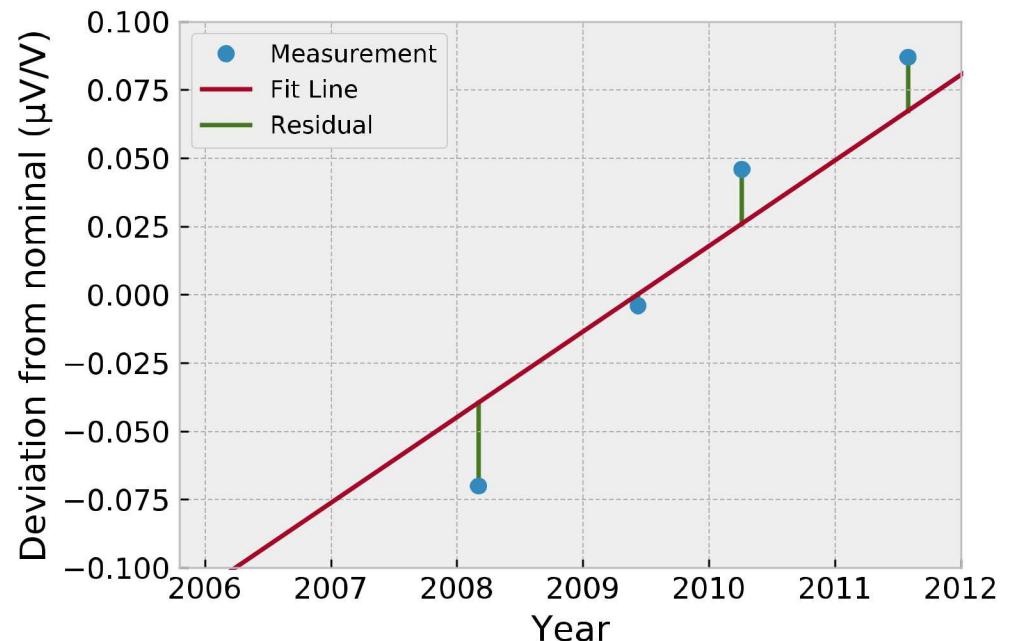
$$A = \frac{\sum x_i^2 \sum y_i - \sum x_i \sum x_i y_i}{\Delta}$$

$$B = \frac{N \sum x_i y_i - \sum x_i \sum y_i}{\Delta}$$

$$\Delta = N \sum x_i^2 + (\sum x_i)^2$$

Parameter Uncertainties:

$$\sigma_A = \sigma_y \sqrt{\frac{\sum x_i^2}{\Delta}} \quad \sigma_B = \sigma_y \sqrt{\frac{N}{\Delta}}$$



Excel's LINEST function makes the **assumption** that uncertainty in every data point is equal to average residual:

$$\sigma_y^2 = \frac{\sum (y_i - A - Bx_i)^2}{N - 2}$$

## DETERMINING DRIFT RATE – LINEAR REGRESSION

The residual scatter already includes known uncertainties, so if you assume  $\sigma_y$  and also include known uncertainty, you have double counted. You did all that work to determine time-of-test uncertainty: use it!

$$\sigma_y^2 = \frac{\sum (y_i - A - Bx_i)^2}{N - 2}$$

$$\sigma_y = \sigma_{test} = \sqrt{\sigma_{sys}^2 + \sigma_{typeA}^2}$$

Line fit calculation is the same, but use the known  $\sigma_y$ . Calculate fit by hand or use a function like Python's `numpy.polyfit()` with *w* parameter, or R's `lm()` with *weights* parameter.

$$\sigma_A = \sigma_y \sqrt{\frac{\sum x_i^2}{\Delta}} \quad \sigma_B = \sigma_y \sqrt{\frac{N}{\Delta}}$$

Note that  $\sigma_y$  can also vary with time, such as by varying Type A uncertainty each year or changing equipment during the device's history. Expressions for  $\sigma_A$  and  $\sigma_B$  can be weighted appropriately.

# CONFIDENCE AND PREDICTION INTERVAL

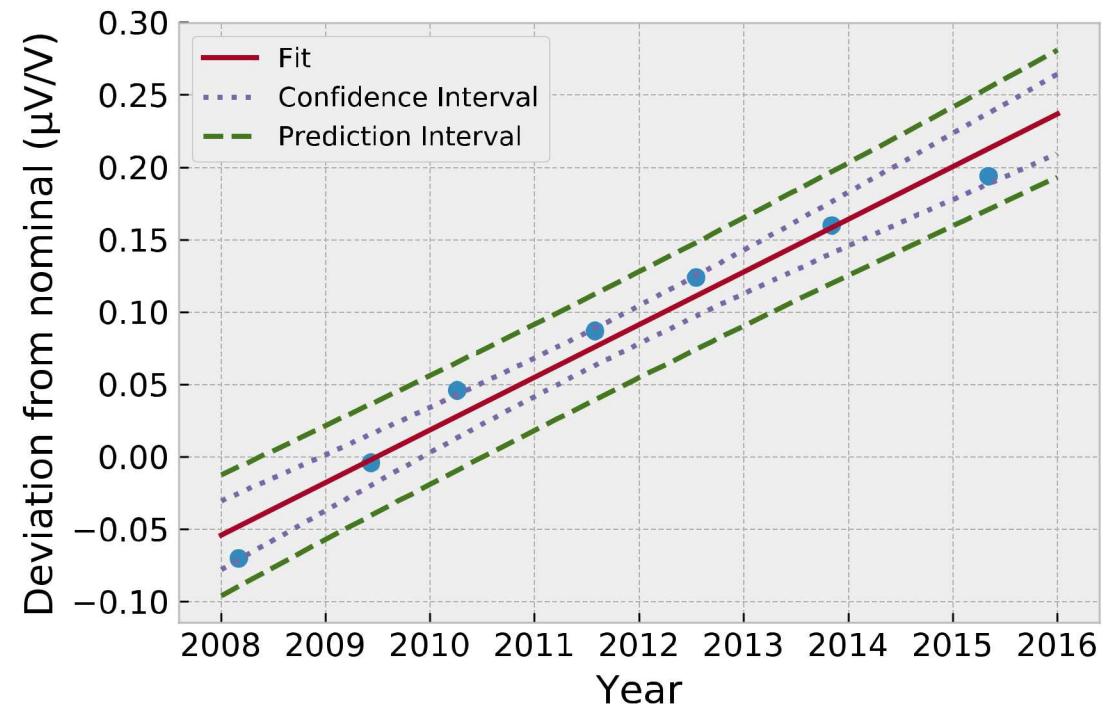


The calculated  $\sigma_B$  gives uncertainty in the slope of the line. To identify the uncertainty of the line itself and a point predicted by the line at the next calibration due date, use confidence and prediction intervals.

$$u_{conf}(t) = \sigma_y \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} + (t - \bar{t})^2 \left(\frac{\sigma_B}{\sigma_y}\right)^2}$$

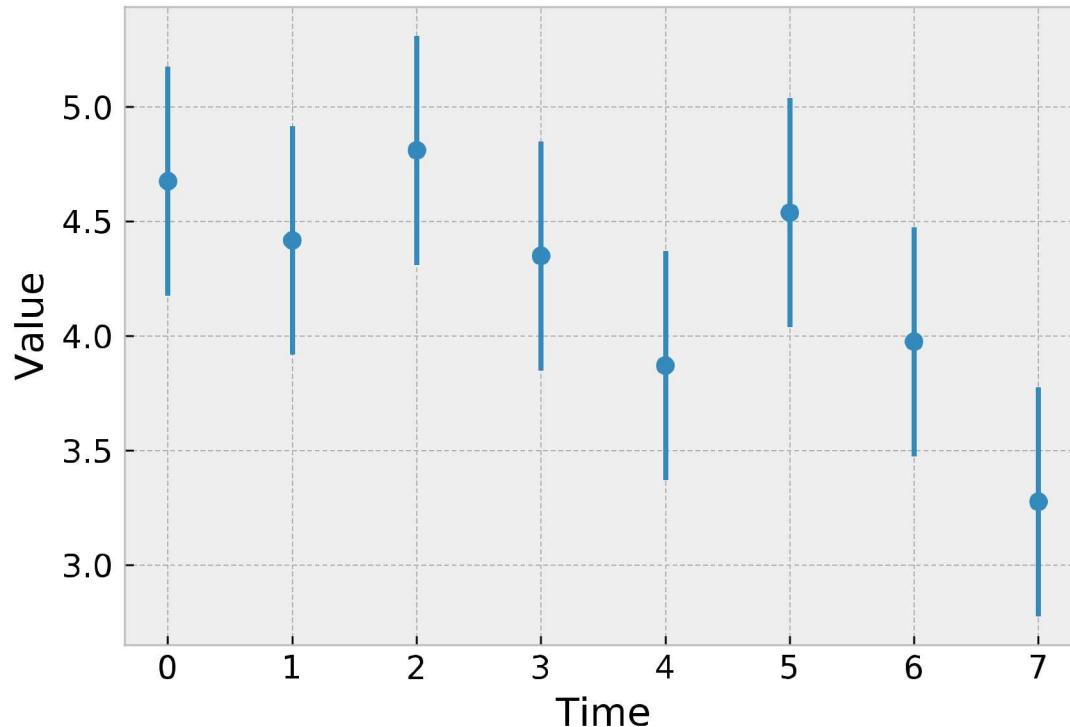
$$u_{pred}(t) = \sqrt{\sigma_y^2 + u_{conf}^2(t)}$$

$$= \sigma_y \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{N} + (t - \bar{t})^2 \left(\frac{\sigma_B}{\sigma_y}\right)^2}$$

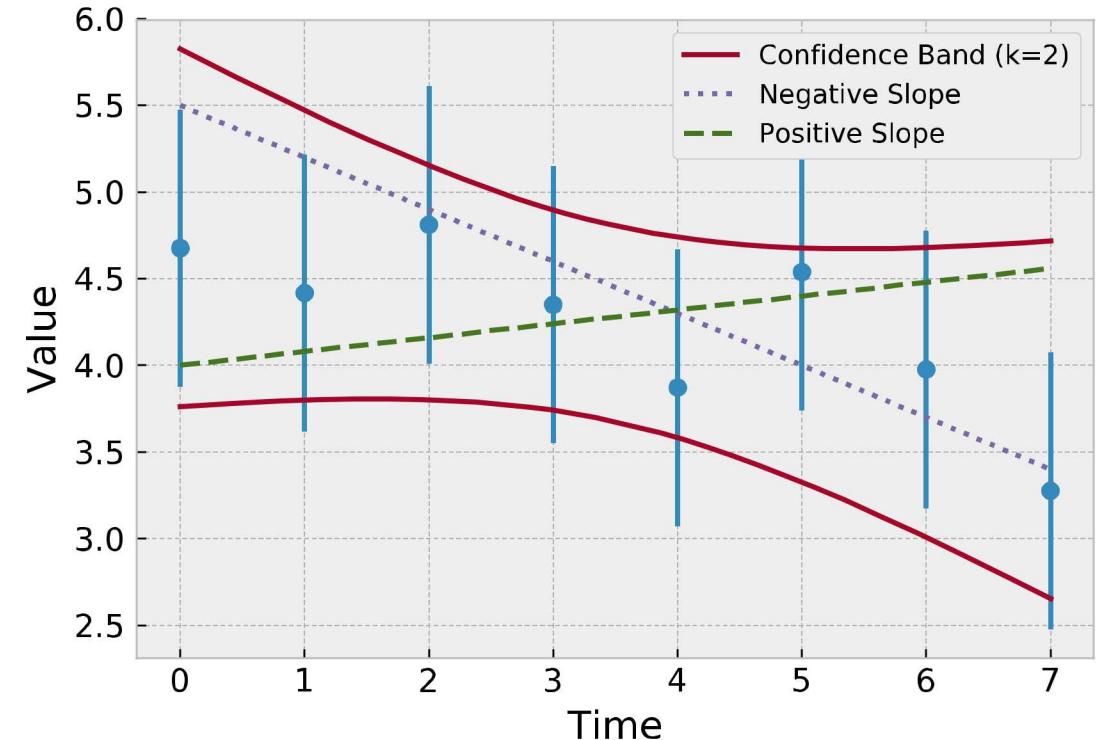


# SLOPE TEST

Data appears to have negative drift slope...



yet fit-line to 95% confidence can be positive or negative!



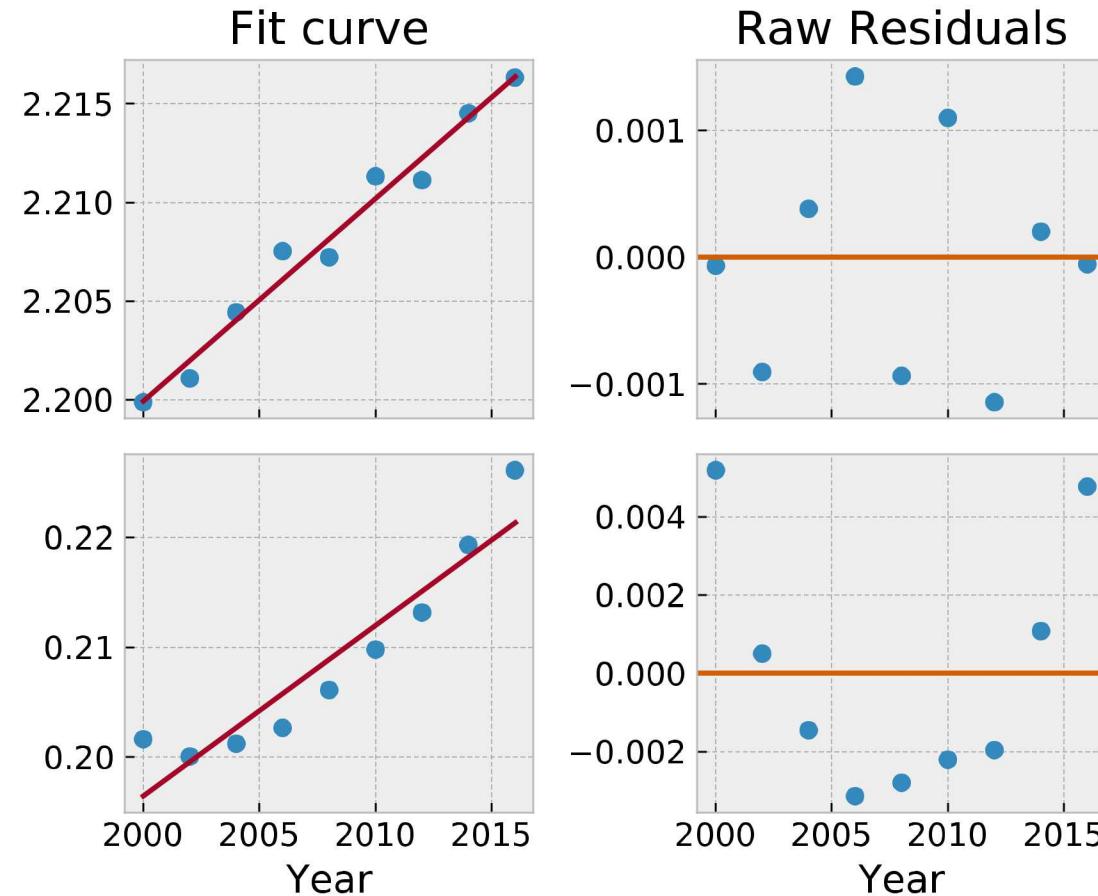
If  $\text{slope } B \pm k \sigma_B$  contains 0, the slope has no statistical significance.  
Make sure your device passes the slope test before adjusting for drift.

## 9 IS THE DRIFT LINEAR?

Raw residuals normally distributed about 0 indicate the model (line) is a good model to use for the data.

Straight line describes data well

Polynomial would probably work better



## IDEAL WAY TO REPORT UNCERTAINTY OF DRIFTING DEVICE



The ideal way: report predicted value and uncertainty as function of time over the interval.

$$y(t) = (A + B \cdot t) \pm \left[ k \cdot \sigma_y \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{N} + (t - \bar{t})^2 \left( \frac{\sigma_B}{\sigma_y} \right)^2} \right]$$

$$y(t) = (9.9445 \times 10^{-5} \cdot t - .002795) \pm \left[ 0.02815 \sqrt{0.31443(t - 4235.1)^2 + 26} \right]$$

Who wants to evaluate this formula every time the asset is used?

Be careful of units. Is  $t$  in days? Years? Is  $t$  the time since last calibration, since the beginning of the device's history, or seconds since January 1, 1970?

Quick, how many days has it been since the thing was calibrated on May 15?

## HOW TO COMBINE UNCERTAINTIES INTO SINGLE VALUE?



Method 1: Add in the expected drift

$$u_c = k \sqrt{\sigma_{test}^2 + u_{conf}^2(t = t_{next})} + \text{abs}(rate \cdot interval)$$

Method 2: RSS in the expected drift

$$u_c = k \sqrt{\sigma_{test}^2 + u_{conf}^2(t = t_{next}) + (rate \cdot interval)^2}$$

# HOW TO COMBINE UNCERTAINTIES INTO SINGLE VALUE?



Method 3: Apply GUM guidance on known correction factors (GUM F.2.4.5)

Correction Factor

$$b(t) = r \cdot t \quad \bar{b} = \frac{r(t_2 - t_1)}{2}$$

Uncertainty in  
Average Correction

$$u^2(\bar{b}) = \frac{1}{t_2 - t_1} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} (b - \bar{b})^2 dt = \frac{r^2}{12} (t_1^2 - 2t_1 t_2 + t_2^2)$$

Uncertainty in  
Determining Correction

$$\overline{u^2[b(t)]} = \frac{1}{t_2 - t_1} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} u_{conf}^2(t) dt$$

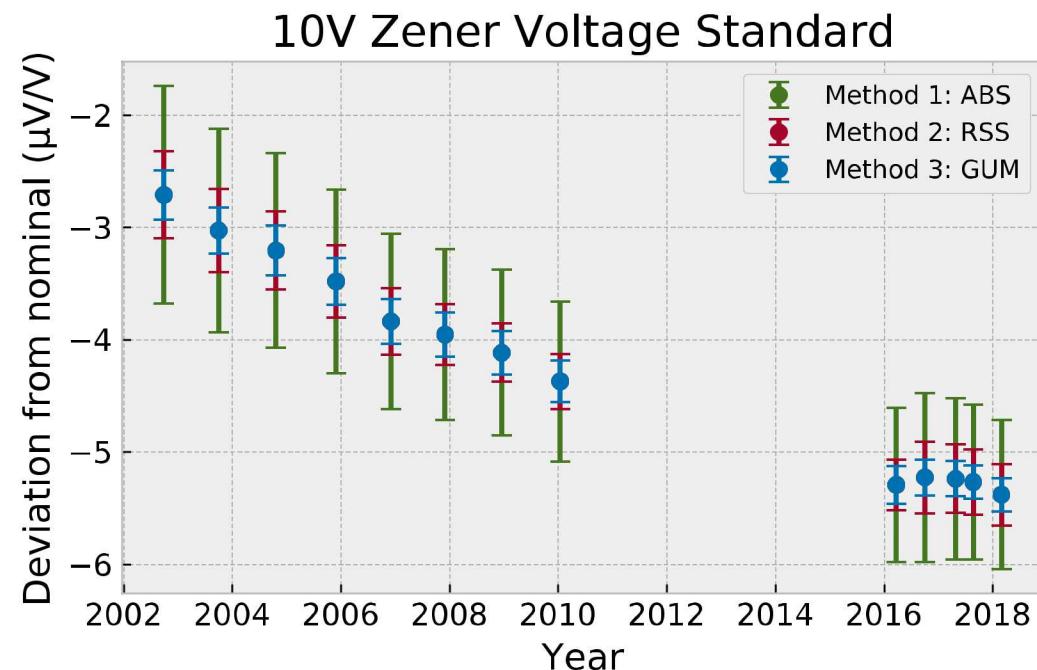
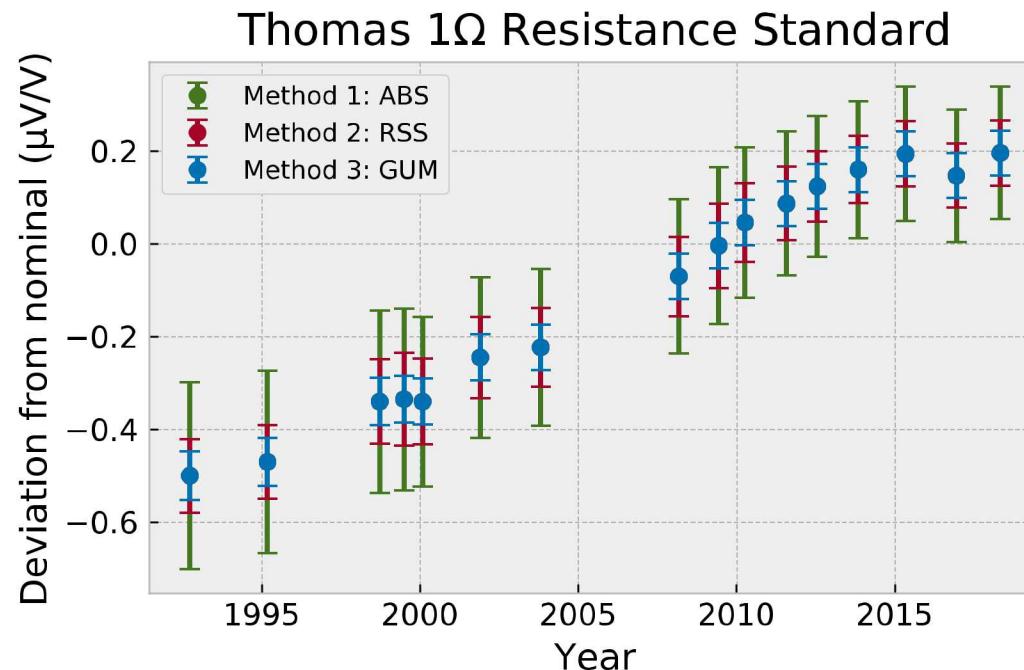
Other Uncertainty in  
Measurement

$$\overline{u^2[y(t)]} = \sigma_{test}^2$$

$$u_c = k \sqrt{u^2(\bar{b}) + \overline{u^2[b(t)]} + \overline{u^2[y(t)]}}$$

$$y = y' + \bar{b} \pm u_c$$

# CASE STUDIES



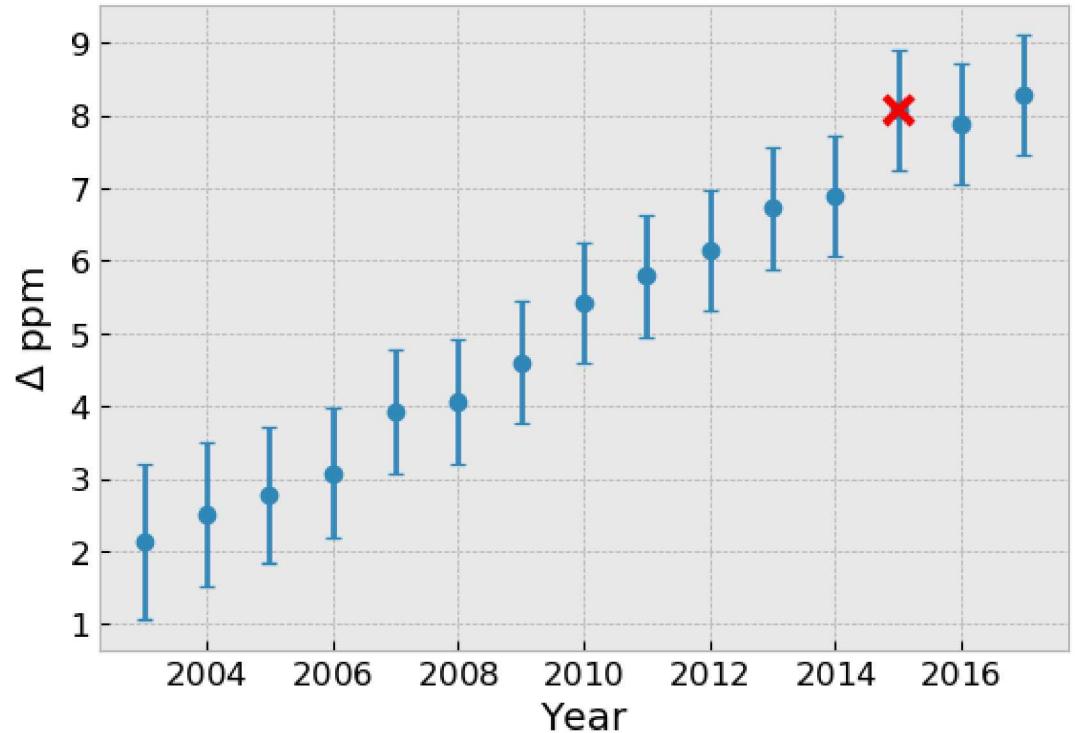
2018 Uncertainty Components ( $\mu\text{V/V}$ )	Thomas 1Ω	Zener 10V
Time-of-Test Uncertainty ( $k=1$ )	0.022	0.11
Confidence Interval ( $k=1$ )	0.0079	0.065
Drift Rate ( $\mu\text{V/V/year}$ )	0.036	-0.20
Expanded Uncertainty Method 1 (ABS)	0.14	0.66
Expanded Uncertainty Method 2 (RSS)	0.070	0.27
Expanded Uncertainty Method 3 (GUM)	0.048	0.15

## COMPARE THE METHODS USING MONTE CARLO

Approach:

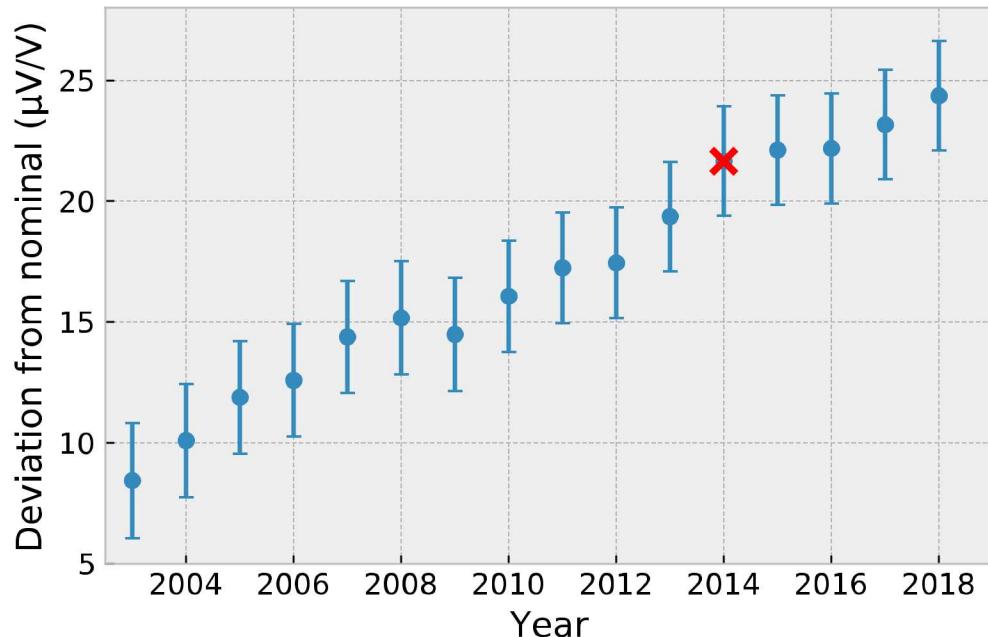
- Simulate many possible drift lines. Try different drift rate and time-of-test uncertainty.
- Start with 5 data points (1997-2002, not shown) to get enough data to start regression
- Error bars at each point are based on calculated drift uncertainty using data from all previous years expanded to 95% coverage
- Compare this uncertainty with next year's data point. Count out-of-tolerance rate.

One of N Monte Carlo data sets  
Red X point is OOT

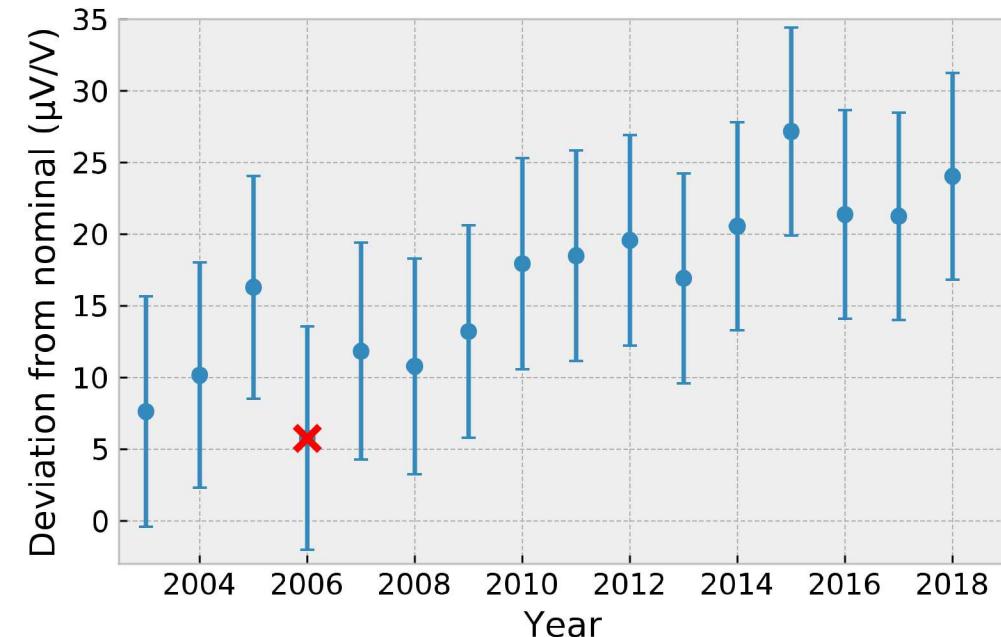


# MONTE CARLO RESULTS

Low time-of-test uncertainty (Method 3 shown)



High time-of-test uncertainty (Method 3 shown)



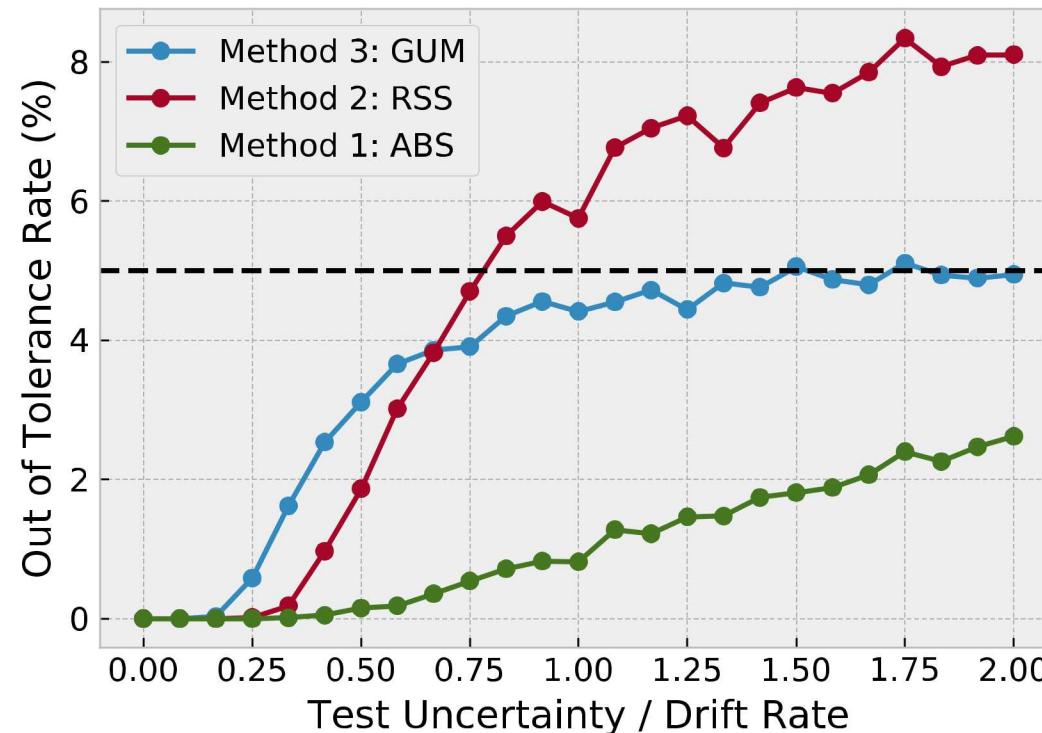
	OOT Rate
Method 1 (ABS)	0.51 %
Method 2 (RSS)	4.85 %
Method 3 (GUM)	4.37 %

	OOT Rate
Method 1 (ABS)	3.63 %
Method 2 (RSS)	8.11 %
Method 3 (GUM)	4.84 %

## MONTE CARLO RESULTS

Sweep the ratio of uncertainty to drift rate. As test uncertainty approaches 0, the drift line can be predicted exactly and OOTs go to zero, regardless of method.

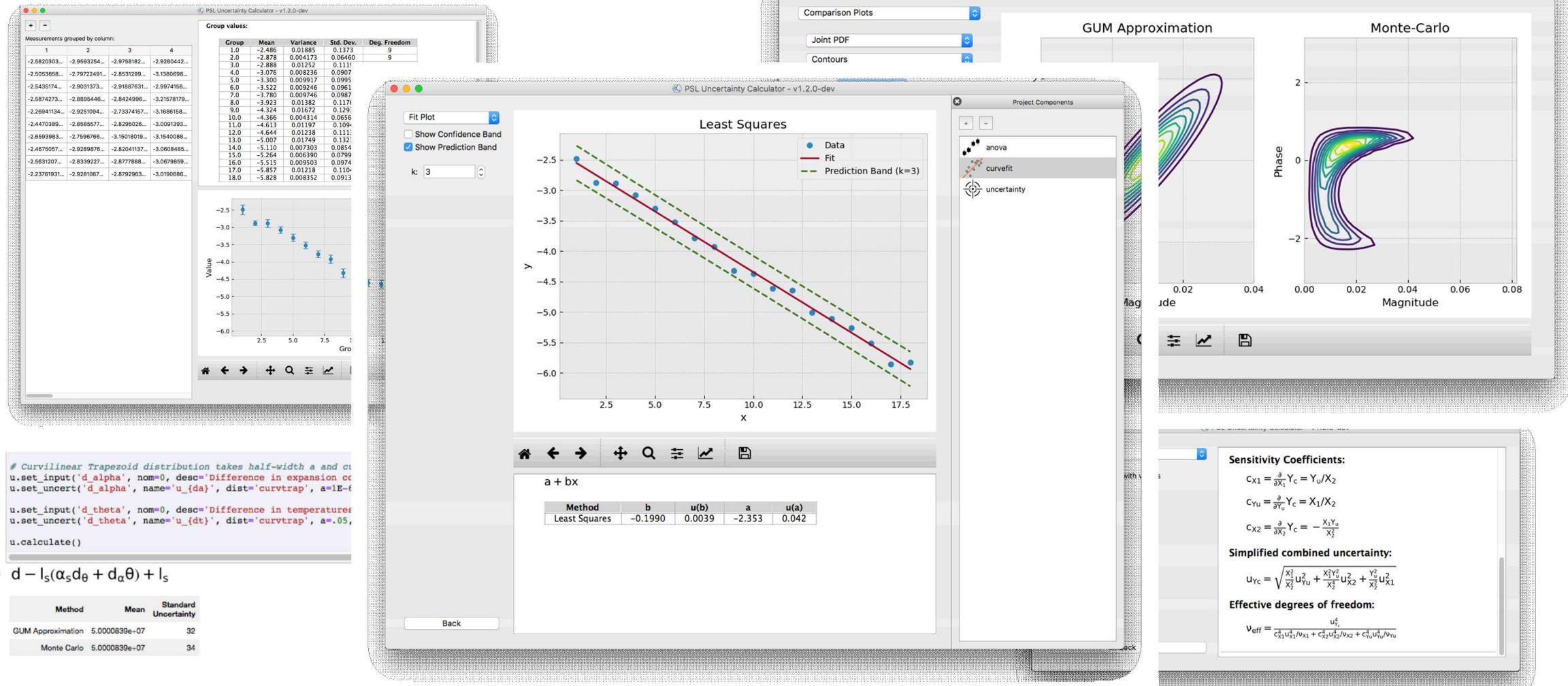
The GUM Method stays near a 5% OOT rate for typical uncertainty ranges.



- The GUM Method is consistent with GUM, generates approximately 95% in tolerance rate for  $k=2$  uncertainty. It can also be adapted for nonlinear drift.
- Absolute value method is more conservative and easier to implement.
- Recommendations:
  - Always be clear which method is being used to account for drift.
  - Report value and uncertainty as functions of time for reference, then use the GUM method for reporting a single value applicable to entire interval.
  - Evaluate model using slope test, residual analysis, etc., every year. Watch for step changes in drift rate.
  - Compare residual average with calculated uncertainty. If wildly different, there may be something off in the uncertainty calculation!

# COMING SOON: SANDIA'S UNCERTAINTY CALCULATOR

Integrated features include GUM and Monte Carlo uncertainty propagation, curve fit uncertainties, ANOVA, risk analysis, etc. Public open-source. Windows, Mac, Linux user interface, or Python package.



The screenshot displays the PSL Uncertainty Calculator interface, version v1.2.0-dev, running on a Mac OS X system. The interface is divided into several panels:

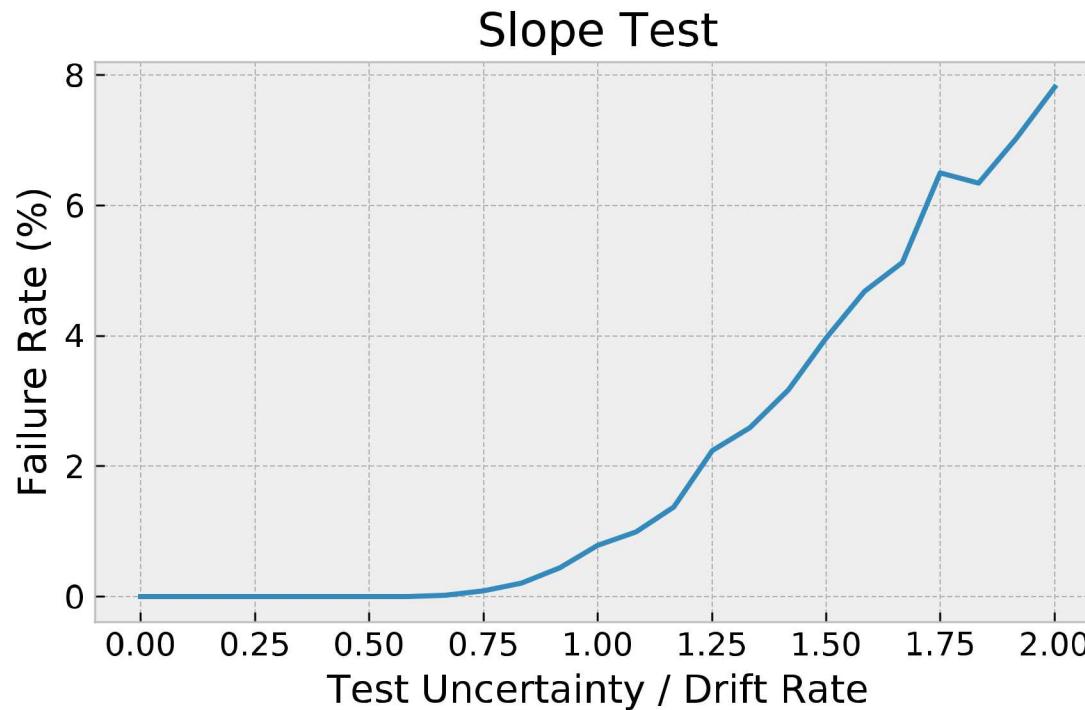
- Top Left Panel:** A table titled "Group values" showing measurements grouped by column. The table includes columns for Group, Mean, Variance, Std. Dev., and Deg. Freedom. Data points range from -2.5820303 to 18.0.
- Top Middle Panel:** A "Comparison Plots" section with "Joint PDF" and "Contours" options. It includes a "Project Components" sidebar with "anova", "curvefit", and "uncertainty" selected.
- Top Right Panel:** A "GUM Approximation" plot showing a contour plot of uncertainty in the "Magnitude" vs "Phase" space.
- Bottom Left Panel:** A "Least Squares" plot showing data points (blue circles), a linear fit (red line), and a prediction band (green dashed line).
- Bottom Middle Panel:** A "Fit Plot" with a dropdown menu showing "Show Confidence Band" and "Show Prediction Band" (selected), and a parameter "k: 3".
- Bottom Right Panel:** A "Monte-Carlo" plot showing a contour plot of uncertainty in the "Magnitude" vs "Phase" space.
- Bottom Left Sidebar:** A code editor window showing Python code for defining a curvilinear trapezoid distribution and calculating uncertainty.
- Bottom Middle Sidebar:** A table for "a + bx" calculations, showing Method (Least Squares), b (-0.1990), u(b) (0.0039), a (-2.353), and u(a) (0.042).
- Bottom Right Sidebar:** A "Sensitivity Coefficients" section with formulas for  $C_{X1}$ ,  $C_{Yu}$ , and  $C_{X2}$ . It also includes a "Simplified combined uncertainty" formula and an "Effective degrees of freedom" formula.

# QUESTIONS?



## SLOPE TEST FAILURE RATE

Higher uncertainty compared to rate → more slope test failures.



## WEIGHTED LINEAR REGRESSION

Each data point has its own weight:

$$w_i = \frac{1}{\sigma_{y_i}}$$

$$A = \frac{\sum w_i x_i^2 \sum w_i y_i - \sum w_i x_i \sum w_i x_i y_i}{\Delta}$$

$$\sigma_A = \sqrt{\frac{\sum w_i x_i^2}{\Delta}}$$

$$B = \frac{\sum w_i \sum w_i x_i y_i - \sum w_i x_i \sum w_i y_i}{\Delta}$$

$$\sigma_B = \sqrt{\frac{\sum w_i}{\Delta}}$$

$$\Delta = \sum w_i \sum w_i x_i^2 - (\sum w_i x_i)^2$$

## METHOD 3 CALCULUS – FOR LINEAR DRIFT

Correction Factor

$$b(t) = r \cdot t$$

If  $t_1 = 0$  and  $t_2 = 1$ :

Average Correction  
over Interval

$$\bar{b} = \frac{1}{t_2 - t_1} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} b(t) dt = \frac{r(t_2 - t_1)}{2} = \frac{r}{2}$$

Uncertainty in  
Average Correction

$$u^2(\bar{b}) = \frac{1}{t_2 - t_1} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} (b - \bar{b})^2 dt = \frac{r^2}{12} (t_1^2 - 2t_1 t_2 + t_2^2) = \frac{r^2}{12}$$

Uncertainty in  
Determining Correction

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{u^2[b(t)]} &= \frac{1}{t_2 - t_1} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} u_{conf}^2(t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{N(t_1 - t_2)} \left( \frac{N\sigma_B^2}{3} (t_1^3 - 3t_1^2\bar{t} - t_2^3 + 3t_2^2\bar{t}) + t_1(N\sigma_B^2\bar{t}^2 + \sigma_y^2) - t_2(N\sigma_B^2\bar{t}^2 + \sigma_y^2) \right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{N} \left( \frac{N\sigma_B^2}{12} - \sigma_y^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

Other Uncertainty in  
Measurement

$$\overline{u^2[y(t)]} = \sigma_{test}^2$$

Combined Uncertainty

$$u_c = k \sqrt{u^2(\bar{b}) + \overline{u^2[b(t)]} + \overline{u^2[y(t)]}}$$