



# Meter-Scale Coordinate Measuring Machine Interlaboratory Comparison

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Primary Physical Standards  
Sandia National Laboratories

and the Dimensional Metrology Committee (148) &  
colleagues

NCSLI Workshop & Symposium  
Providence, RI  
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Sandia is a multiprogram laboratory operated by Sandia Corporation, a Lockheed Martin Company, for the United States Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000.



# Outline

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- Motivation & history
- Organization of the ILC
- Measurement Instructions
- Preliminary Results
- Determination of the Reference Values
- Comparison Results
- Conclusions



# Why a CMM ILC?

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**“Laboratories measuring the same material or standard should obtain the same result to within the experimental uncertainty.”**

- CMM's are complicated measurement systems
- Commercial CMM's now available with submicrometer specifications
- Use CMM's as inspection tools? Use CMM's as gage calibration tools?



# ILC Organization

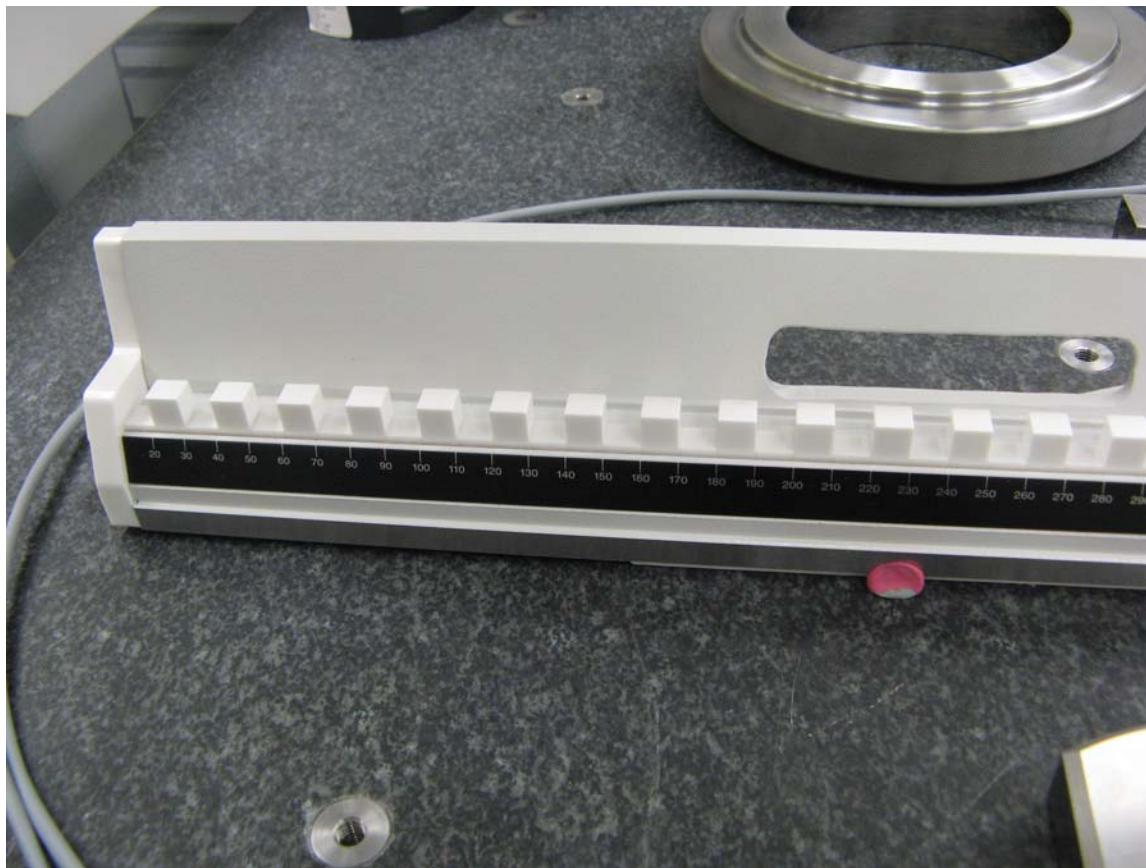
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- **Informal discussion among members of Committee 148**
- **Jim Salsbury volunteers a 1 meter step gage**
- **Hy Tran volunteers as ILC coordinator**
- **Each participant responsible for shipping costs & own labor costs; no charge for participation**
- **Circular pattern, per NCSLI RP-15**



# Artifact to be Measured

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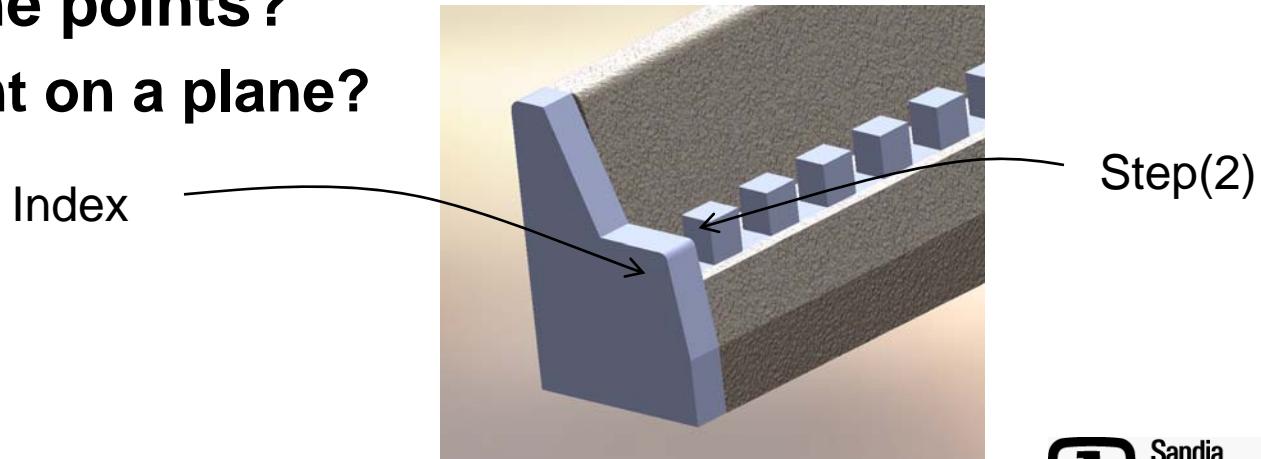
# Measurand

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- **Distance from step(n) to index**
  - Length measurement (meter)
  - Distance between two points?

$$d = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

- **Where are the points?**
  - Which point on a plane?

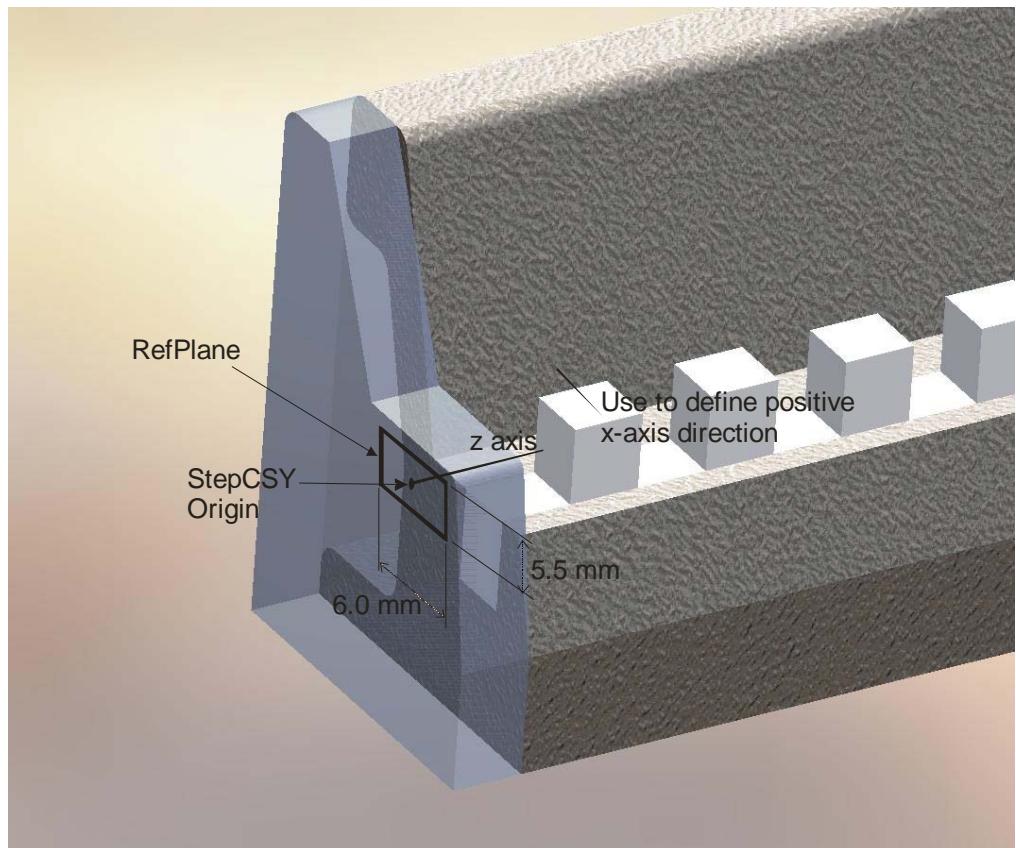




# Measurement Instructions

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- Need to define points to be measured unambiguously for all participants
- Use point definition described by Mitutoyo US
- CMM's are programmed:
  - Index plane sets the coordinate system (alignment)
  - Index plane defined by the projection of the gage blocks on the bar





# Management

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- Step bar provided by Mitutoyo, ID MM031
- Each step nominally 10 mm
- Not everyone is capable of measuring 1010 mm
- Each lab uses their own procedures, writes their own test program, and evaluates their own measurement uncertainties
- Data is sent to the ILC coordinator (Hy Tran). Data is kept anonymous.



# Reported data

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- Each participant reports distances from the index step, and U (k=2), in mm
- Coordinator assigns an anonymous code name for public reporting
- Coordinator recalculates data, as “deviation from nominal in micrometers”:
  - Step #1 has nominal=10 mm. If evaluated data shows 9.999 502 mm, **show -0.498  $\mu$ m**
- This allows showing data on same scale for all participants
- Data will be shown in alphabetical order (by code)



# Participants

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## Data has been reported

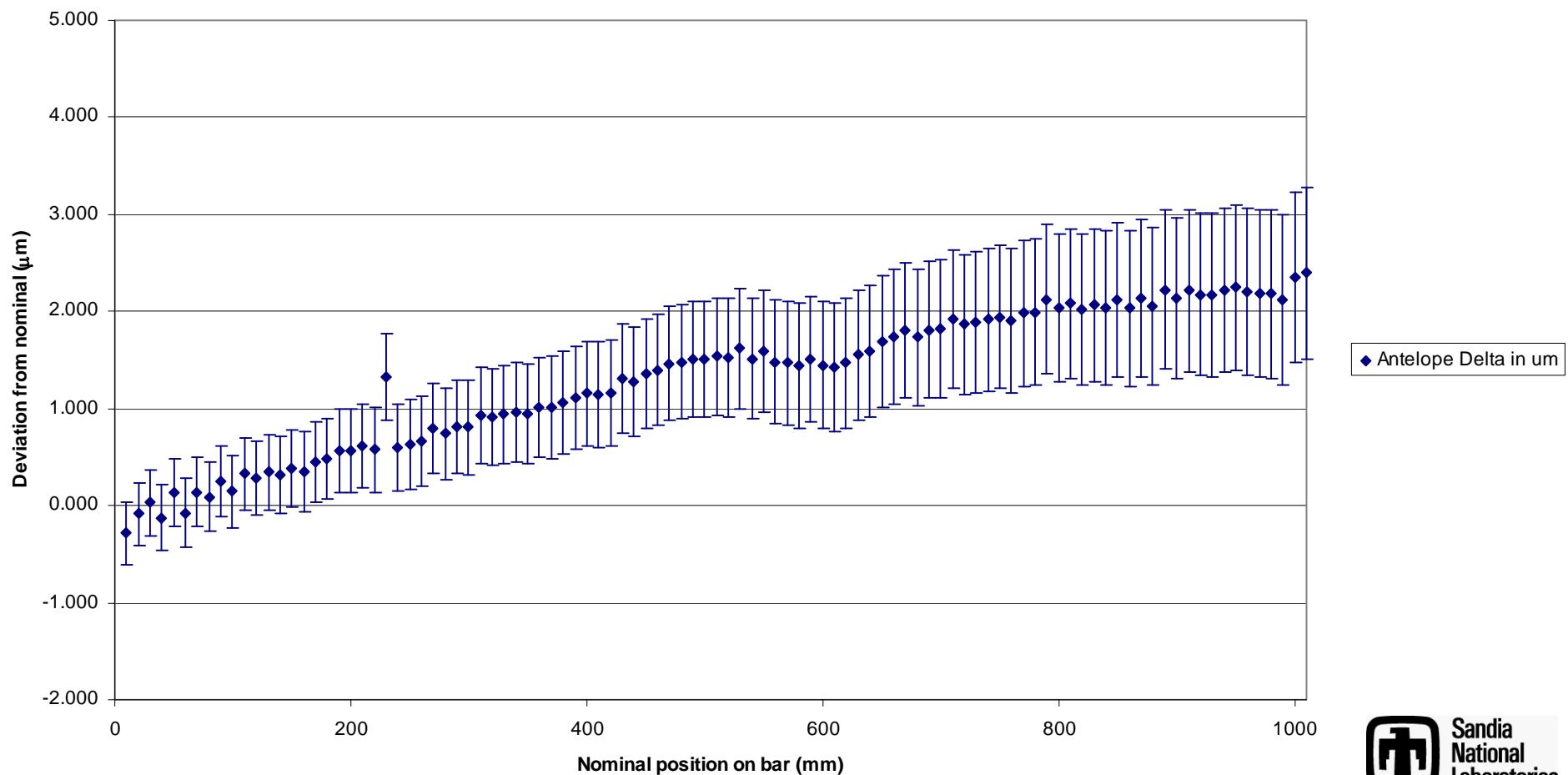
- Antelopes
- Bats
- Bears
- Beavers
- Buffalos
- Cobras
- Eagles
- Frogs
- Mooses (Meese?)
- Owls

## Still waiting for data

- Alligators
- Badgers
- Dragons
- Etc.

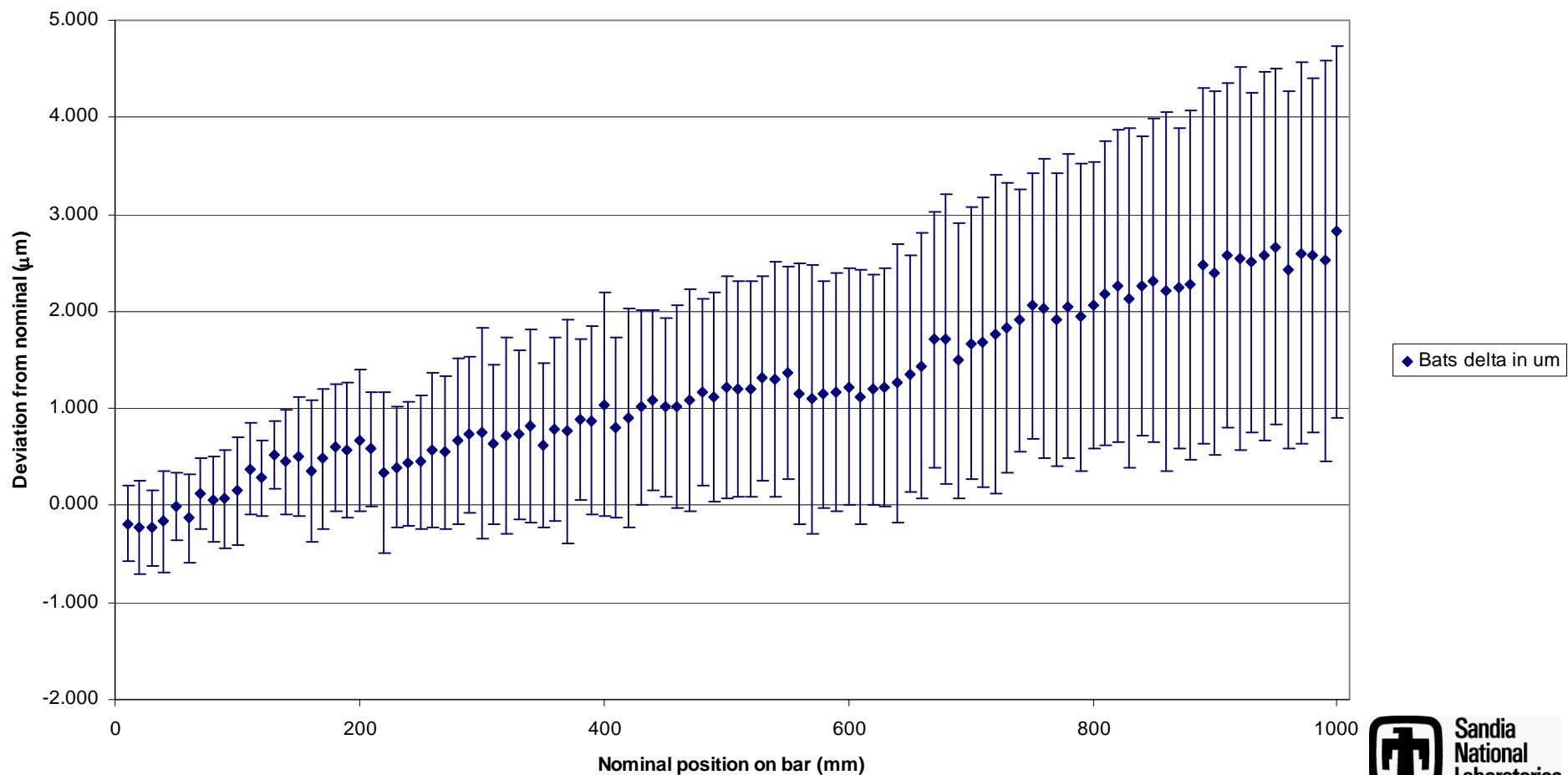
# Antelopes

Deviation from nominal position



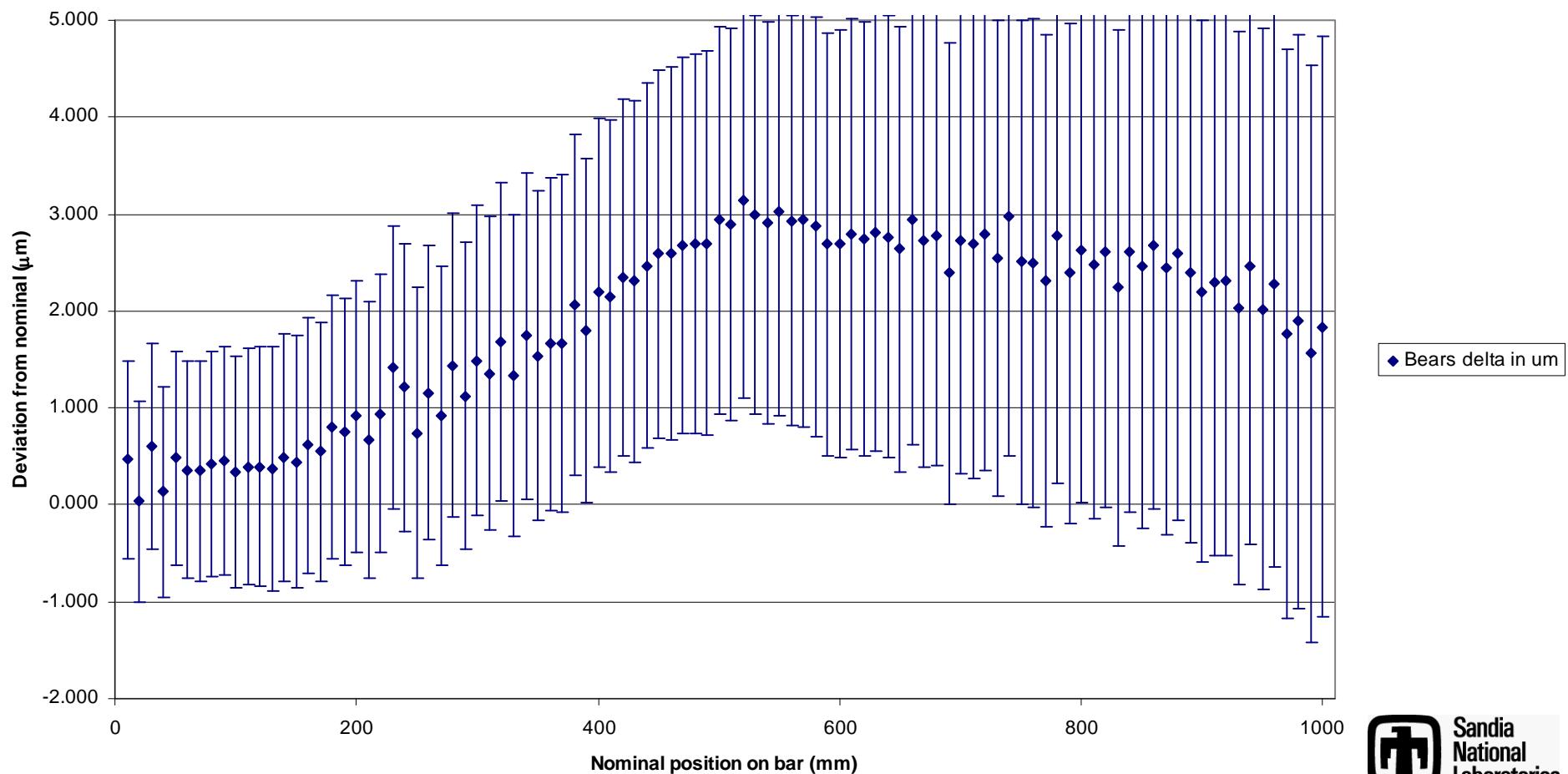
# Bats

Deviation from nominal position



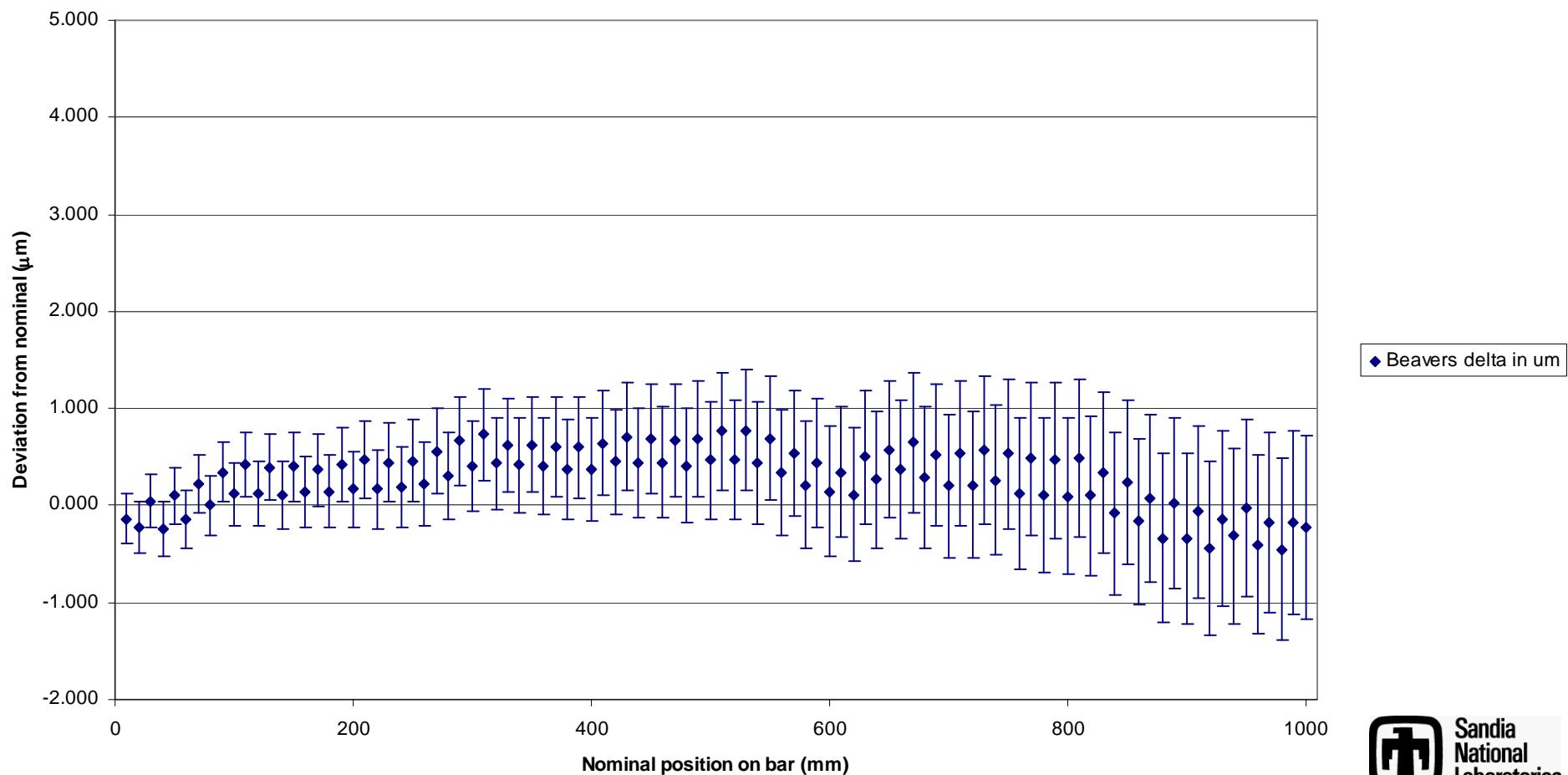
# Bears

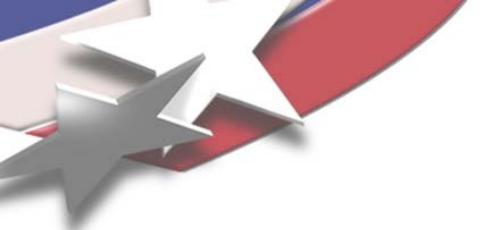
Deviation from nominal position



# Beavers

Deviation from nominal position

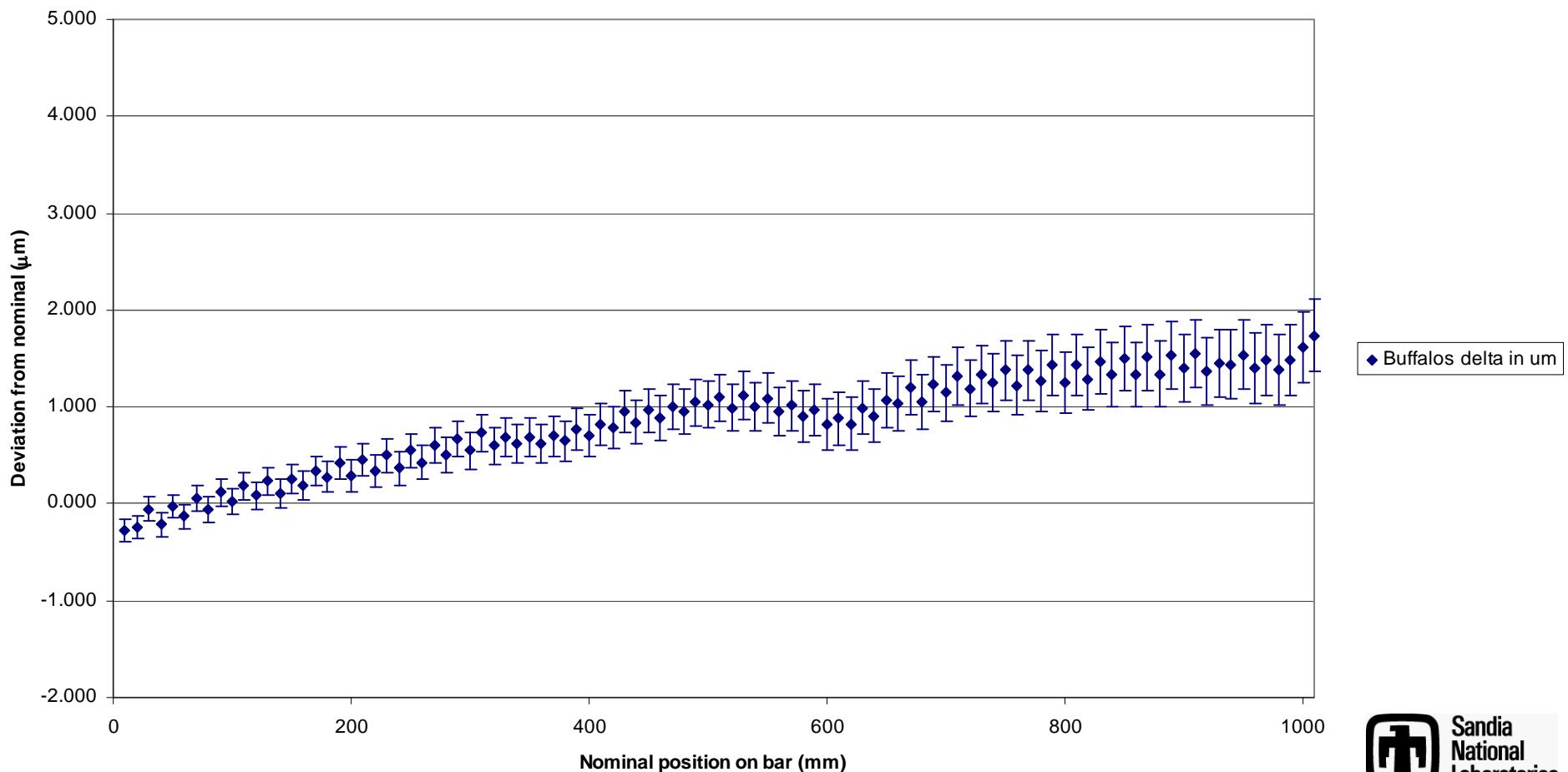




# Buffalos

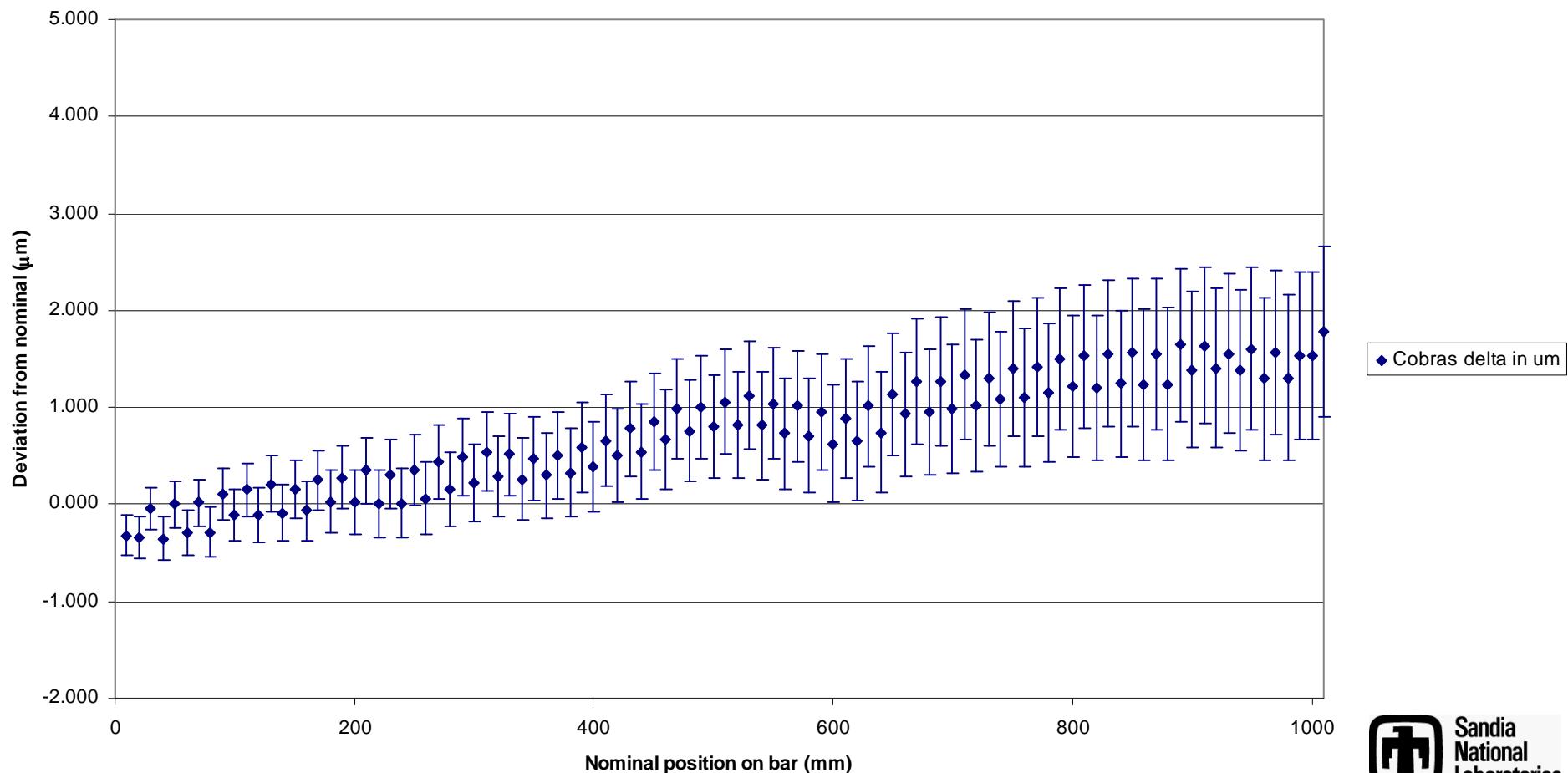
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Deviation from nominal position



# Cobras

Deviation from nominal position

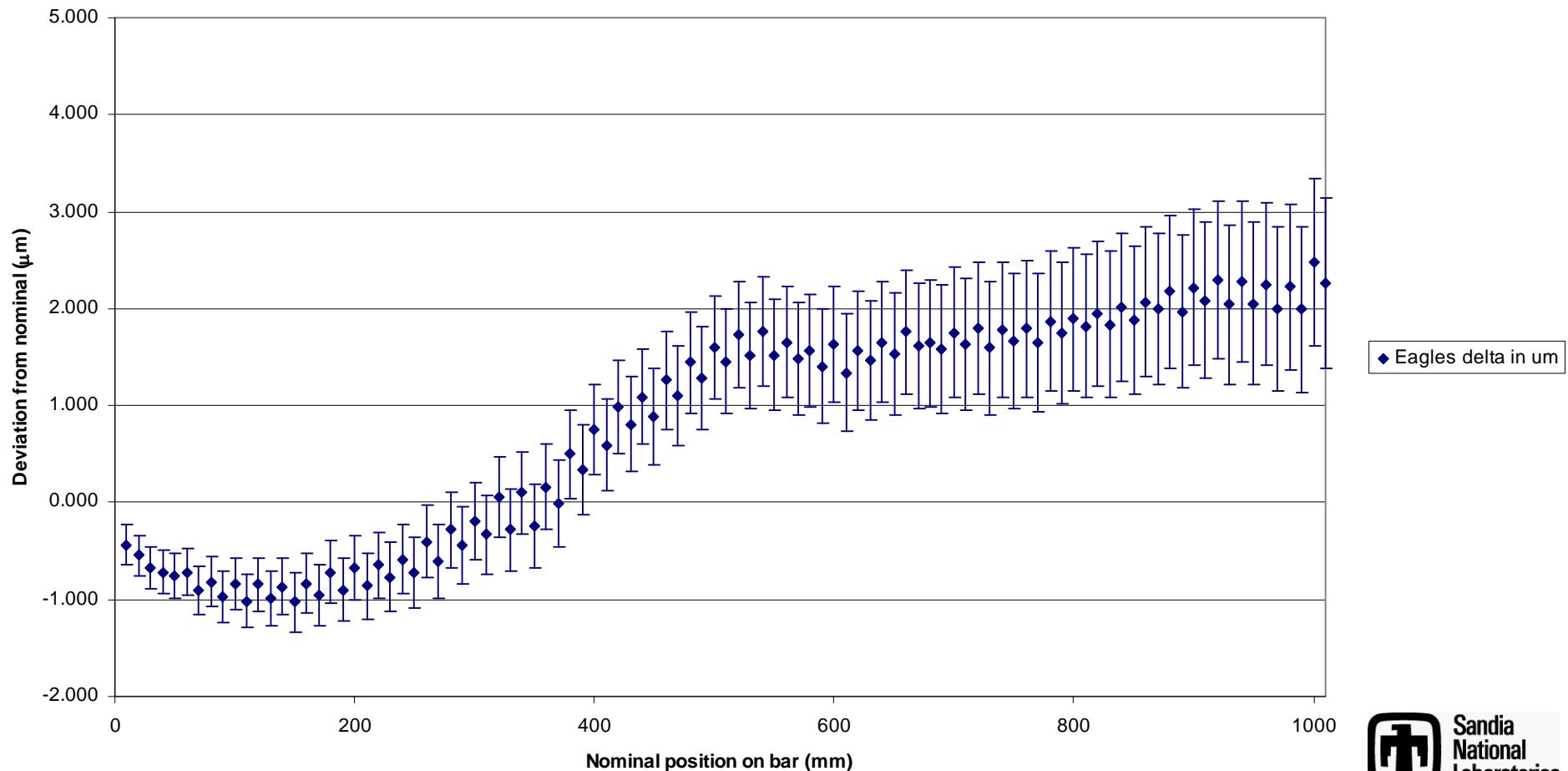




# Eagles

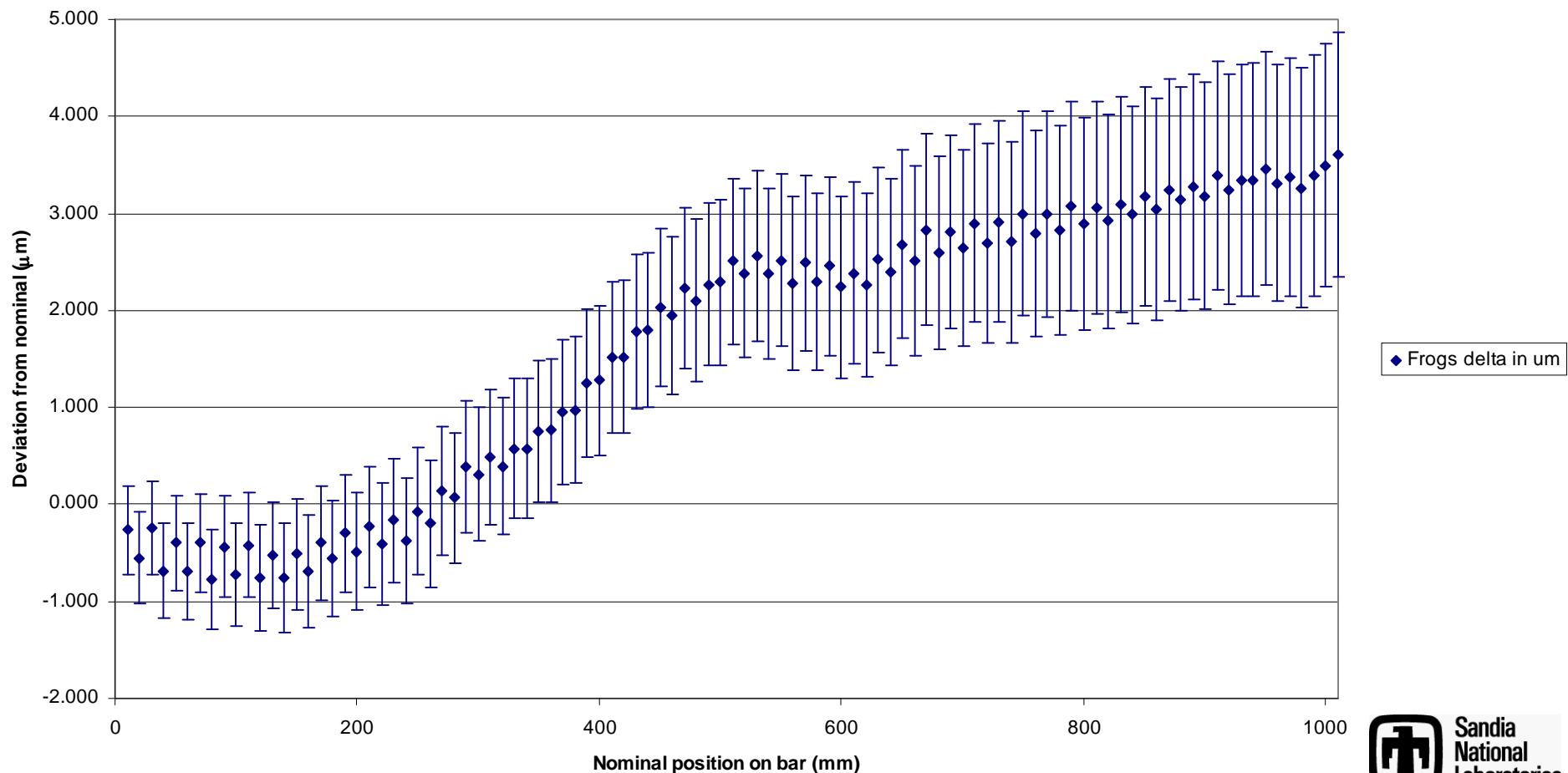
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Deviation from nominal position



# Frogs

Deviation from nominal position

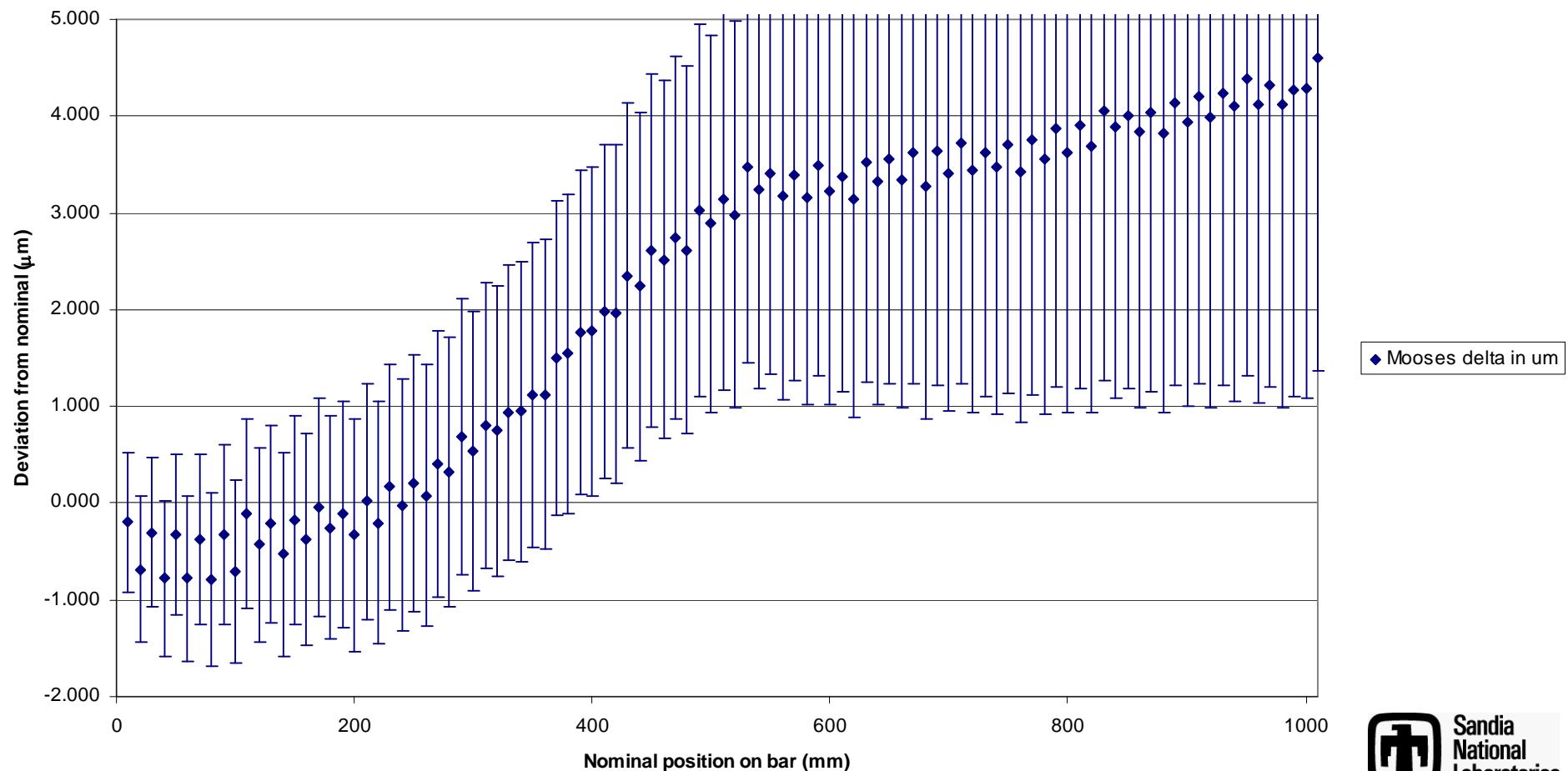




# Mooses

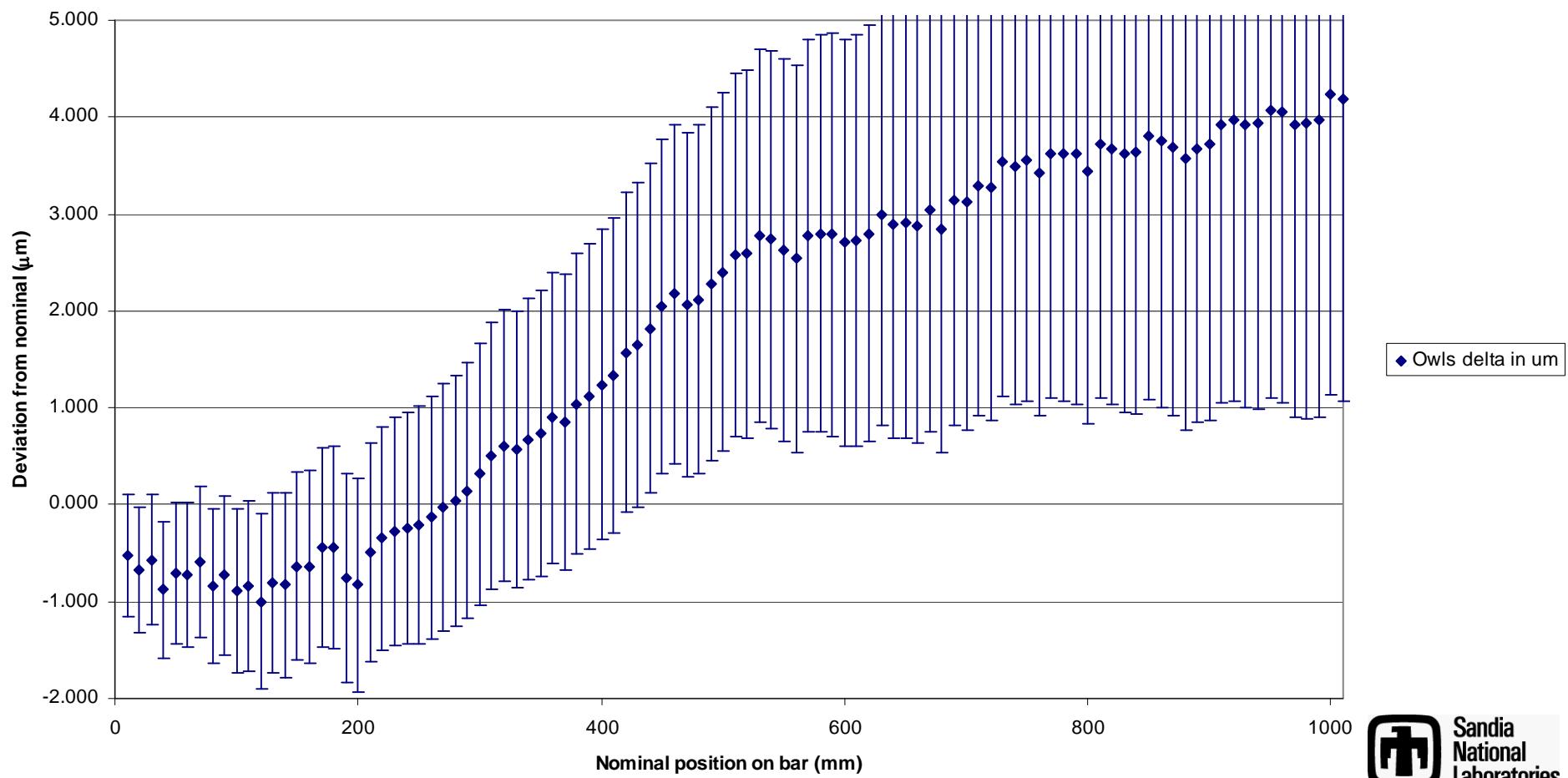
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Deviation from nominal position



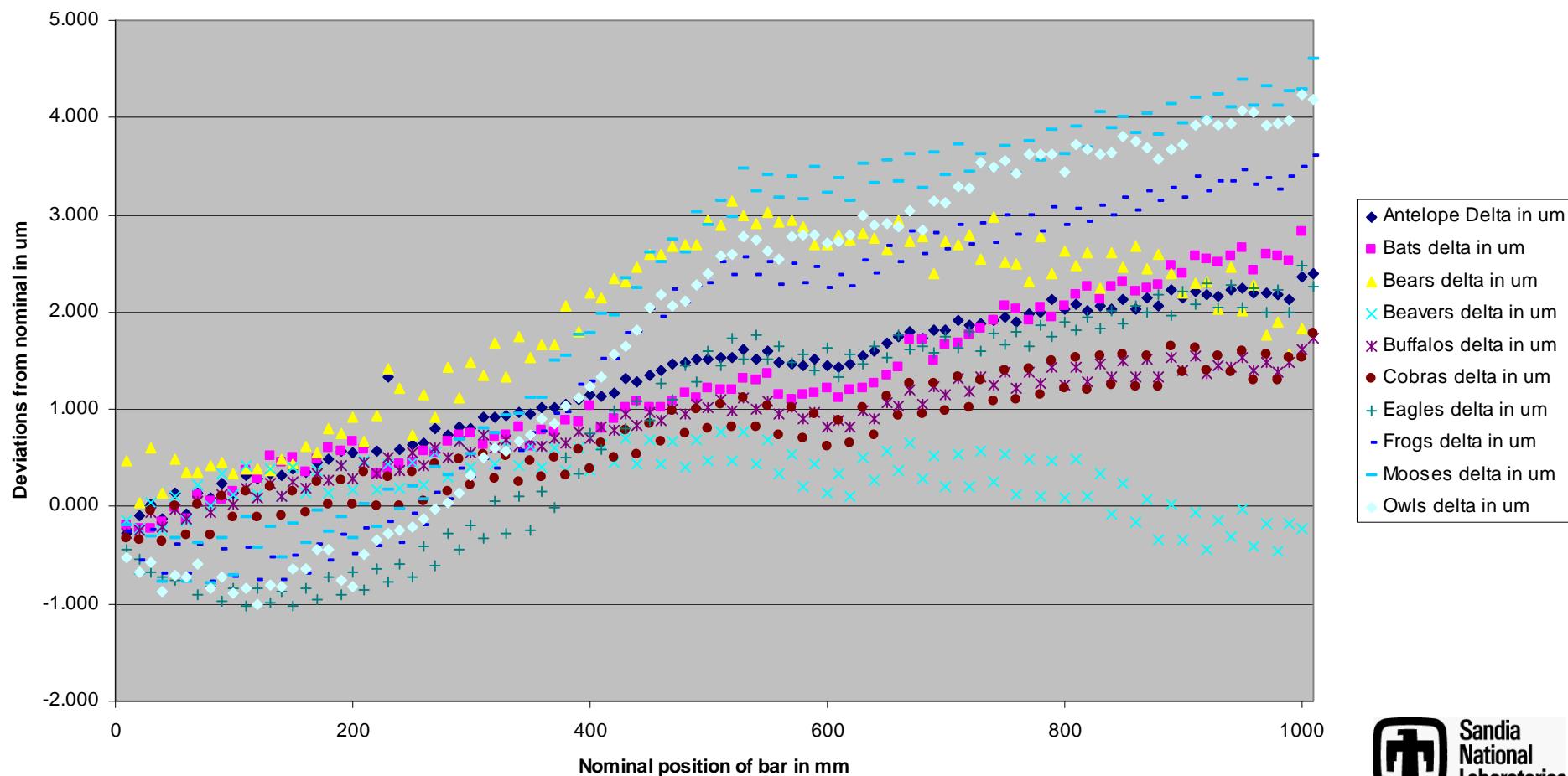
# Owls

Deviation from nominal position



# Everyone

Comparison of all labs





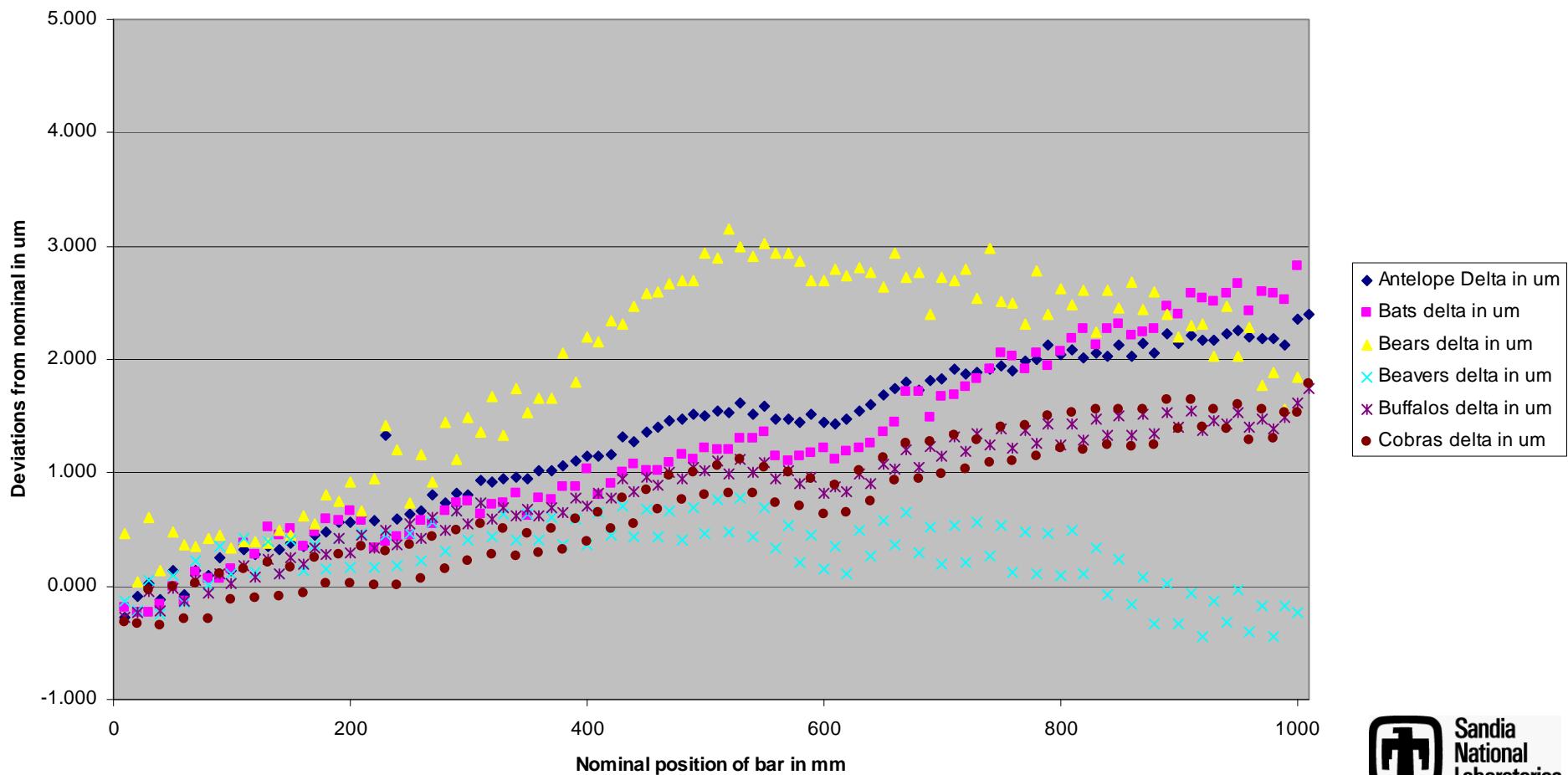
# What does it mean?

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- **Temporal grouping:**
  - A: Antelopes, Bats, Bears, Beavers, Buffalos, Cobras
  - B: Bears, Eagles, Frogs, Mooses, Owls, Beavers-2, Cobras-2
- **Bears did not run twice, but Beavers & Cobras did a second run. Bears are at the midpoint in the temporal grouping, so we plot twice**

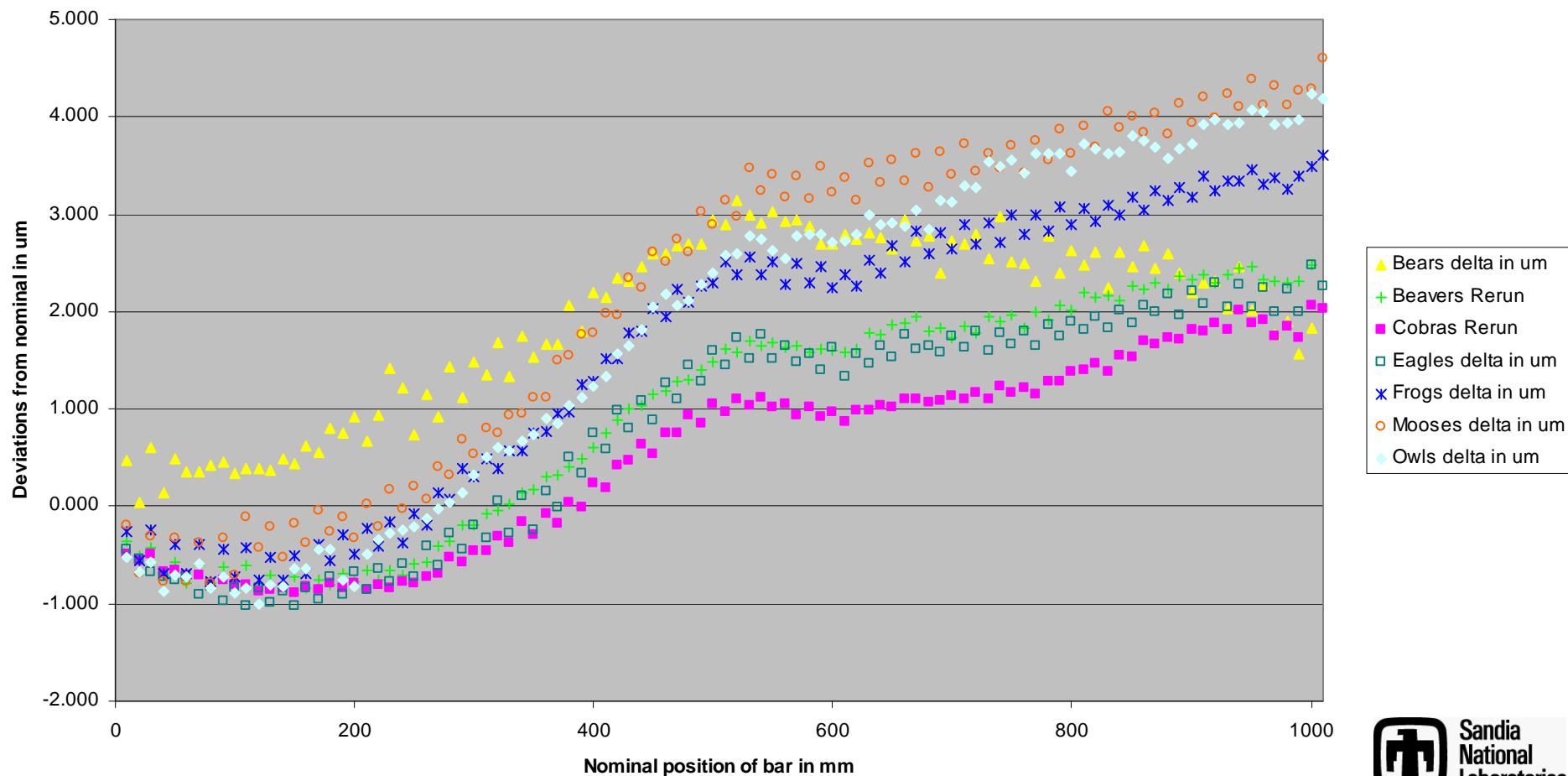
# Comparison for first measurement group

Labs-Group A



# Comparison of second temporal group

Labs-Group B

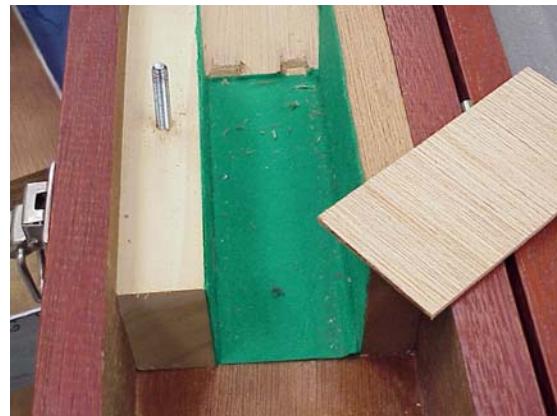




# Shift in bar

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- Data indicates that step bar has physically changed.
- One lab reported damage in shipping, but this was in the middle of first time group, and 3 consecutive labs (including the lab reporting damage, middle lab) show similar data
- Inner box damage is not correlated with data shift





# What's the reference value?

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- 101 reference values (10mm, 20mm, ...1010mm)
- Some labs get better results than other labs
- Use a maximum likelihood type algorithm to select labs for calculating reference values
- H Nielsen, “value voted most likely” algorithm
- “Visual” pick of “most likely” values
- Use a weighted average based on the selected labs & their reported measurement uncertainties

$$\bar{x} = \sum_i w_i x_i$$

$$w_i = c \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2}$$

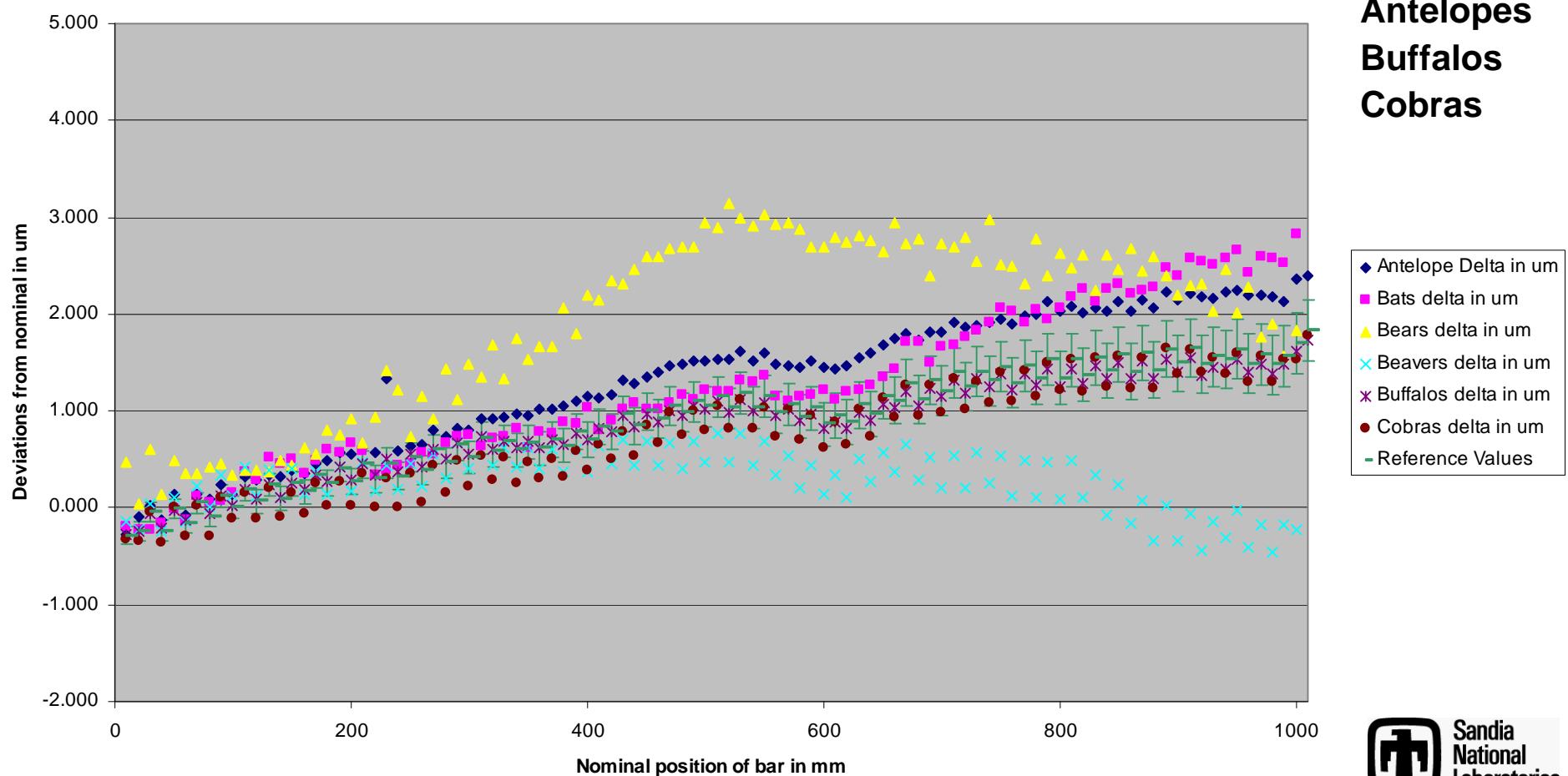
$$c = \left( \sum_i \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2} \right)^{-1}$$

$$U_{step} = k \cdot \sqrt{\left( \sum_i \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2} \right)^{-1}}$$

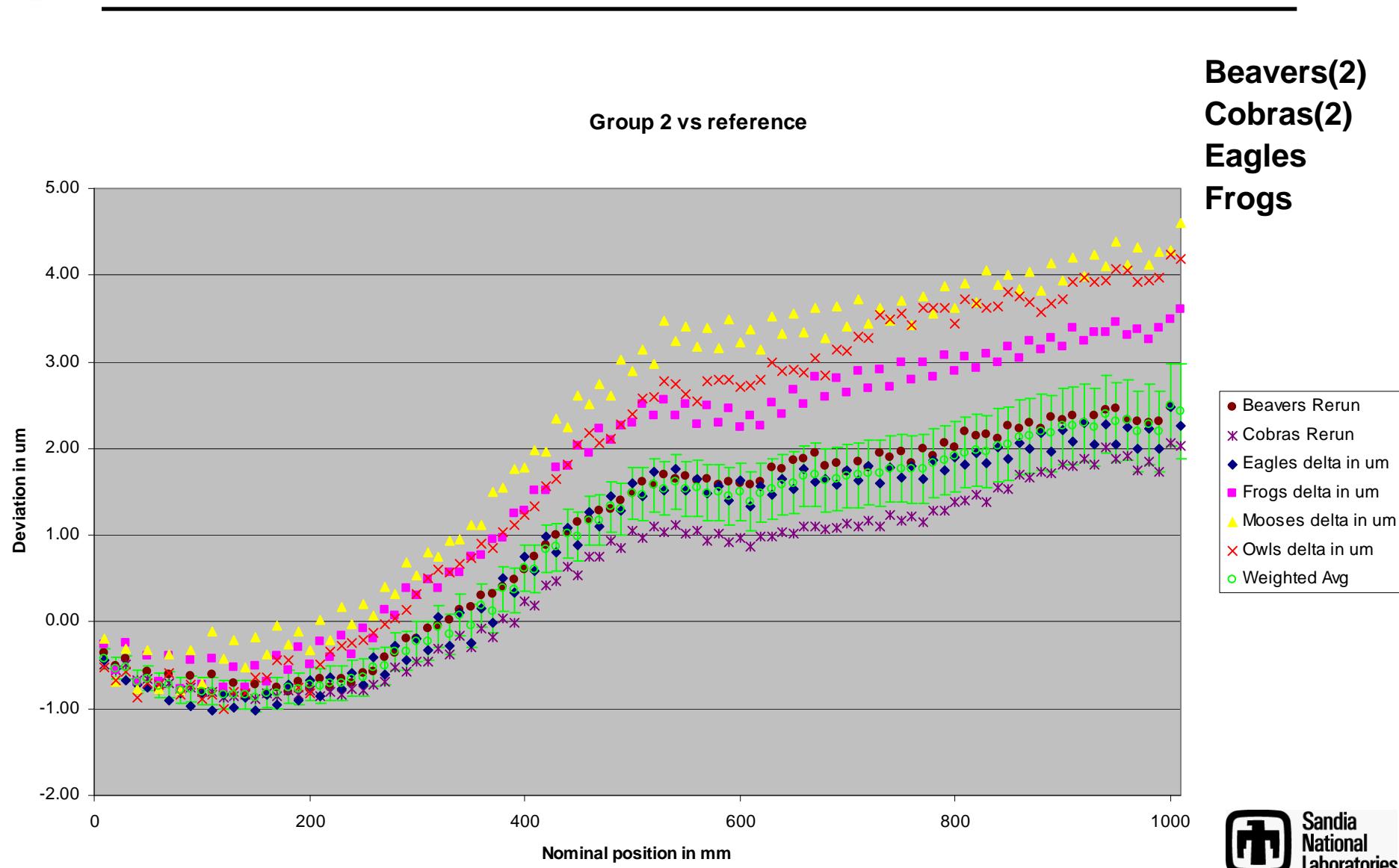
Note that there is a typographical error in proceedings for equation of  $U_{step}$

# Value Voted Most Likely: Group 1

Reference Values for Group 1 data



# Weighted Average, Group 2





# Discussion

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- Owner of step bar has reported stable long term history for this bar
- Owner of step bar has reported stable long term dimensions thru shipping for this class of bars

**“Laboratories measuring the same material or standard should obtain the same result to within the experimental uncertainty.”**

- Data indicates two distinct measurement groupings, which are separated in time
- Treat as two separate ILCs?



# Results by Temporal Group: Group 1

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- **Temporal group 1:**
  - Antelopes, Bats, Bears, Beavers, Buffalos, Cobras
  - Antelopes, Buffalos, Cobras used to determine reference value
- **Antelopes, Buffalos, Cobras all report relatively small uncertainties**
- **Antelopes, Bats, Bears, Buffalos, Cobras, when considering U, all within weighted average for reference value**
- **Beavers probably had a method/setup issue**



## Results by Temporal Group: Group 2

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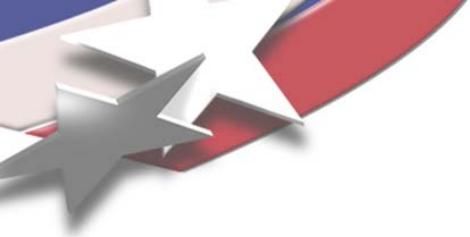
- **Beavers (rerun), Cobras (rerun), Eagles, Frogs, Mooses, Owls**
- **Mooses/Owls have significantly higher U compared to rest of group, so we don't figure into the weighted average**
- **Data appear to correlate well for all participants when factoring participant U**



# Work in progress

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- Analysis still ongoing
- Additional participants & re-measurements for those labs requesting a 'remeasure'
- Thanks to Ed Pritchard for pushing the ILC idea; Jim Salsbury for providing the artifact, & John Stoup, Mike Wheeler, Paul Vanatta, Mike Cadenhead, John Horwell, Sam Ramsdale & personnel for volunteering (or being volunteered!)



# End of presentation

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- Extra slides below



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# Various Step Gage Calibration Methods

July 26, 2010

Hy D. Tran  
**Primary Physical Standards**  
**Length/Mass/Force Metrology**  
**Sandia National Laboratories**



# Step Gage measurement at Sandia

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- **Method/setup**
  - Check standards
  - Environment
- **Calibration of CMM & traceability**
- **Estimate of U**



# Equipment & setup

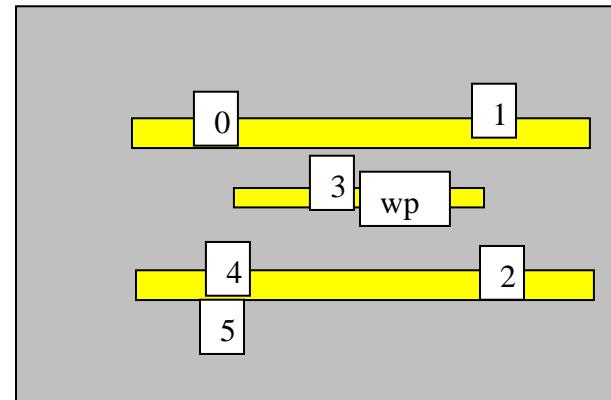
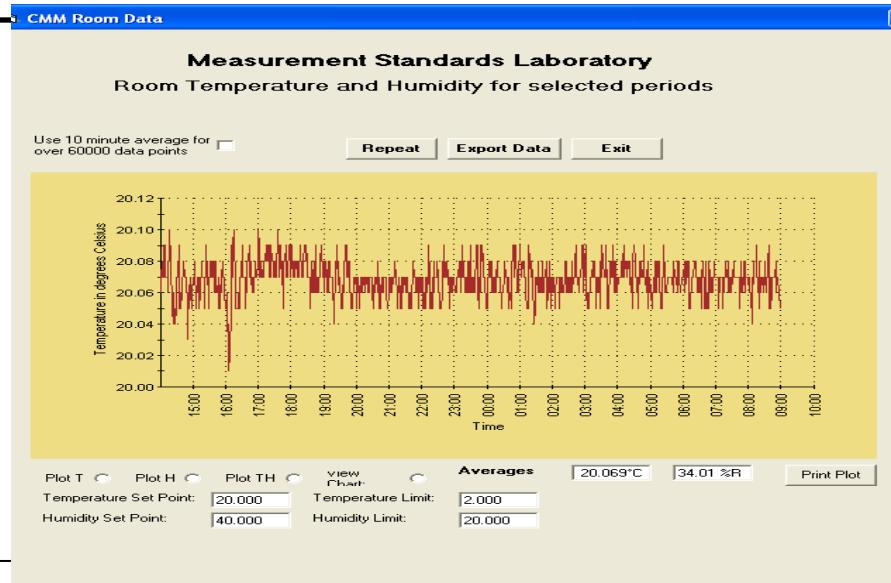
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- **Leitz PMM-C-Infinity 12.10.6 (fixed bridge, moving table; XFYZ), installed 6/2008**
- **$MPE_e = (0.3 + L/1000) \mu\text{m}$**
- **80mm long  $\times$  5mm stylus**
- **Probing force set to 0.05 N**
- **Point probing chosen**
- **Programmed in Quindos v7**
- **Temperature compensation performed offline**



Brands listed for identification purpose only

# Measurement environment



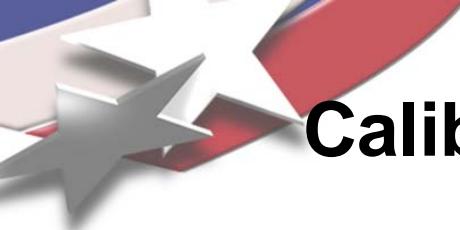
0.05°C temperature difference across 6 thermistors in workspace



# Measurement program

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- Workpiece fixed with modeling clay on table
- Stylus qualified, then, checked on 500 mm gage block
- Manual alignment, then, automatic alignment
- Each face measured as a plane (0 face is large plane; each other face is small)
- Step bar is cleaned if plane has bad form
- 5-7 measurements are run overnight with no operator in room
- Temperature correction manually offline
- Average of measurements used



# Calibration, traceability, & uncertainty

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- Machine is calibrated by Leitz/Hexagon field service
  - Initial calibration using HP/Agilent 5528 laser interferometer system for scales
  - Mapping of axis error motions using interferometer, levels, straightedge, & offset probes on step bar
  - Verification to ISO 10360 against step bar (traceable to NPL) and gage blocks (traceable to PTB)
  - Temperature by thermistors calibrated to SPRT to fixed point cells
- Uncertainty-the lazy method:
  - $MPE_e$  is  $k=3$ , so  $U=(2/3) \times MPE_e$
  - $MPE_e$  is rectangular, so  $U=2 \times 0.577 \times MPE_e$