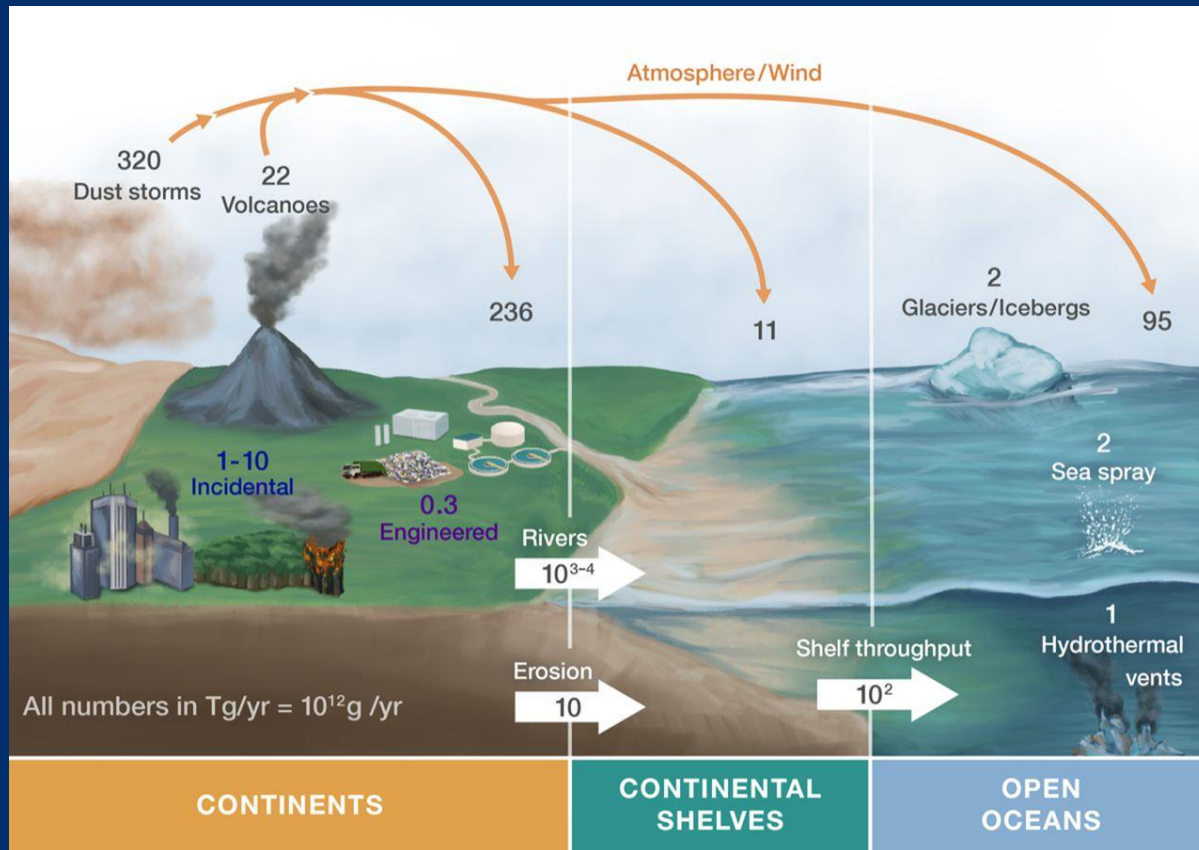


# MACRAME Webinar 1: Pathways to Validation and Standardisation

Part B: Landscape and opportunities

Caterina Minelli

# Natural, incidental, and engineered nanomaterials



M.F. Ochella et al., Science 363 (2019)

- natural => are not created directly through human actions;
- incidental => form unintentionally during human activities;
- engineered => created for specific applications
- Nanotechnology platforms offer unique opportunities for global challenges and their **performance** needs to be documented.
- Despite being a very small fraction of the global nanomaterial population, engineered nanoparticles are concentrated around humans and their **safety** needs to be understood.

# Landscape

## Product quality and safety:

## Measurement methods for critical quality attributes:



TSCA



REACH COMPLIANCE



Chemistry, food, drugs and medical devices regulation

Quality



Guidelines



Nanotechnology-based product



NIST



Method development: BIPM, NMIs, academia, instrument manufacturers



Method validation/verification



Method standardisation

# BIPM and CCQM

Notable accidents due to lack of agreement on units...



## THE METRE CONVENTION

International convention established in 1875 with 51 member states in 2008.

## CGPM CONFÉRENCE GÉNÉRALE DES POIDS ET MESURES

Committee with representatives from the Metre Convention member states. First conference held in 1889 and meets every 4th year. Approves and updates the SI-system with results from fundamental metrological research.

## CIPM COMITÉ INTERNATIONALE DES POIDS ET MESURES

Committee with up to 18 representatives from CGPM. Supervises BIPM and supplies chairmen for the Consultative Committees. Co-operates with other international metrological organisations.

## BIPM BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DES POIDS ET MESURES

International research in physical units and standards. Administration of interlaboratory comparisons of the national metrology institutes and designated laboratories.

## CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES

- CCAUV** CC for Acoustics, Ultrasound and Vibrations
- CCEM** CC for Electricity and Magnetism
- CCL** CC for Length
- CCM** CC for Mass and related quantities
- CCPR** CC for Photometry and Radiometry
- CCQM** CC for Amount of Substance
- CCRI** CC for Ionising Radiation
- CCT** CC for Thermometry
- CCTF** CC for Time and Frequency
- CCU** CC for Units

CEN\*

IEC\*

ISO\*

Others

The missions of the **CCQM** are:

- to contribute to the resolution of **global challenges**;
- to promote the **uptake of metrologically traceable** chemical and biological measurements;
- to **progress the state of the art** of chemical and biological measurement science;
- to improve efficiency and efficacy of the **global system of comparisons** for chemical and biological measurement standards it conducts;
- to **meet stakeholders needs**

**NMI**  
**NATIONAL MEASUREMENT**  
**INSTITUTES**



 **Joint CCQM-IAWG/SAWG Task Group on Particle Metrology (CCQM-IAWG-SAWG-TG-PARTICLE)**

Working Groups

Select

**Chair**

 **Dr Caterina Minelli**  
National Physical Laboratory  
United Kingdom

## Terms of Reference

To identify activities that the IAWG and SAWG should undertake with respect to particle metrology over the next ten years, including pilot studies, key comparisons, and cooperative research projects. To accomplish this, the TG will:

- Examine the outcomes of the CCQM Workshop on Particle Metrology held 25-27 October 2022
- **Liaise with external stakeholders** to understand better the important needs and gaps in particle metrology that can be addressed by the IAWG and SAWG
- **Liaise with the CCL WG-N** to leverage knowledge and identify opportunities for cooperation between (nano)dimensional, chemical and biological activities with respect to particle metrology.

# Current standardisation efforts



- ISO/TC 229 – Nanotechnologies

*Liposome terminology  
Doxyl loading, concentration*

- ISO/TC 24/SC4 - Particle characterization

*PTA, DLS, SAXS  
analytical centrifugation*

- ISO/TC 201 - Surface chemical analysis

*Chemical analysis of  
nanoparticles*

- ISO/TC 276 – Biotechnology

*Nucleic acid synthesis, cellular analysis*



- ASTM E56.08 – Nano-enabled medical products

*LNP lipid composition,  
PEG quantification,  
LNP characterisation*

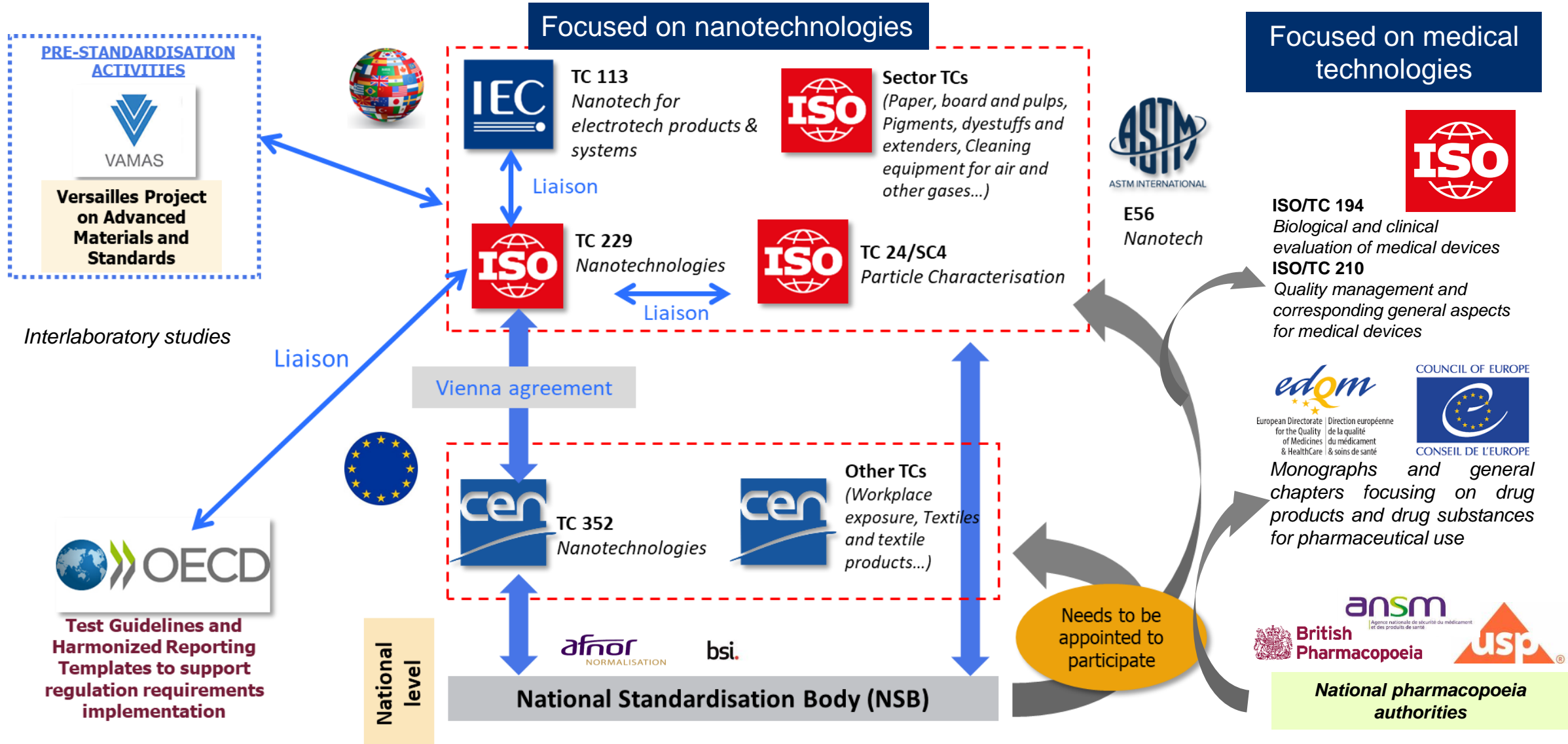


- CEN/TC 352 - Nanotechnologies

*Nanoparticle  
agglomeration/aggregation*



# Advanced Materials and Nanomedicine landscape





# VAMAS



## VAMAS

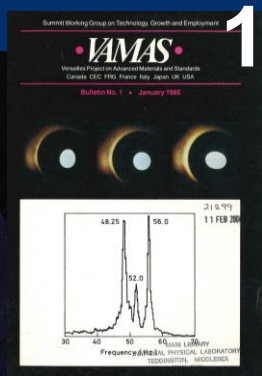
**Versailles Project on Advanced Materials and Standards:** To promote world trade by innovation and adoption of advanced materials through international collaborations that provide the technical basis for harmonization of measurement methods, leading to **best practice, reference materials and standards**



Canada . France . Germany . Italy . Japan . UK . USA . EC . Brazil . Mexico . Chinese Taipei . South Africa . Australia . Korea . India . China

1982      1983      2007      2008      2013

# 1983



# 1985

# 1987:

Results reported from first round-robin test (Wear test methods)

## ...celebrating 40+ years

First VAMAS technical groups:

- Wear Test Methods
- Surface Chemical Analysis
- Polymer Blends
- Ceramics



	<b>Surface Chemical Analysis</b>	Quantitative Microstructural Analysis	
	Polymer Composites	Solid Sorbents	
	Superconducting Materials	<b>Synthetic Biomaterials</b>	
	Properties of Electroceramics	<b>Graphene and Related 2D Materials</b>	 
	Creep, Crack and Fatigue Growth in Weldments	<b>Raman Spectroscopy and Microscopy</b>	
 	<b>Polymer Nanocomposites</b>	Thermal Properties	
	<b>Nanoparticle Populations</b>	Self Healing Ceramics	
	Printed, flexible and stretchable electronics	<b>Micro and Nano Plastics in the Environment</b>	

# Benefits to stakeholders



- Insights into new standards for materials
- Insights into novel materials technologies
- Access to a global network of experts.

- Opportunity to define and learn best practice
- Develops skilled workforce and benchmark capability
- International agreement on testing and characterisation before standards are available



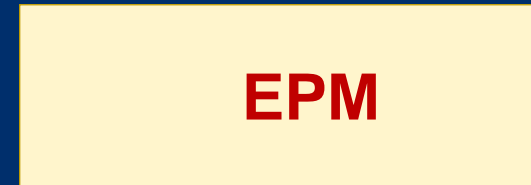
- Reduces risks of adopting advanced materials
- Accelerates the standardisation process
- Facilitates world trade in materials



# EURAMET



236 projects  
2014 up to 2020



119 projects  
2009-2013

7 **EMPIR** calls  
EU contribution 300 M€

finalize projects

5 **EMRP** calls  
EU contribution 200 M€

finalize projects

2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024



*Improving measurement science to drive innovation and competitiveness  
and to support societal challenges and regulation.*

EURAMET coordinates the cooperation of National Metrology Institutes in Europe in research in metrology, traceability of measurements to the SI units, international recognition of national measurement standards and related Calibration and Measurement Capabilities (CMC).



# Take-home message

Landscape is complex but there are multiple opportunities for participation into standardisation.

Connection to EMP projects like Metrino (e.g. through ETPN) is an effective way to keep up-to-date with latest development and best practice in nanomedicine.

## Acknowledgements



metrino

EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP



METROLOGY PARTNERSHIP



Department for  
Science, Innovation  
& Technology



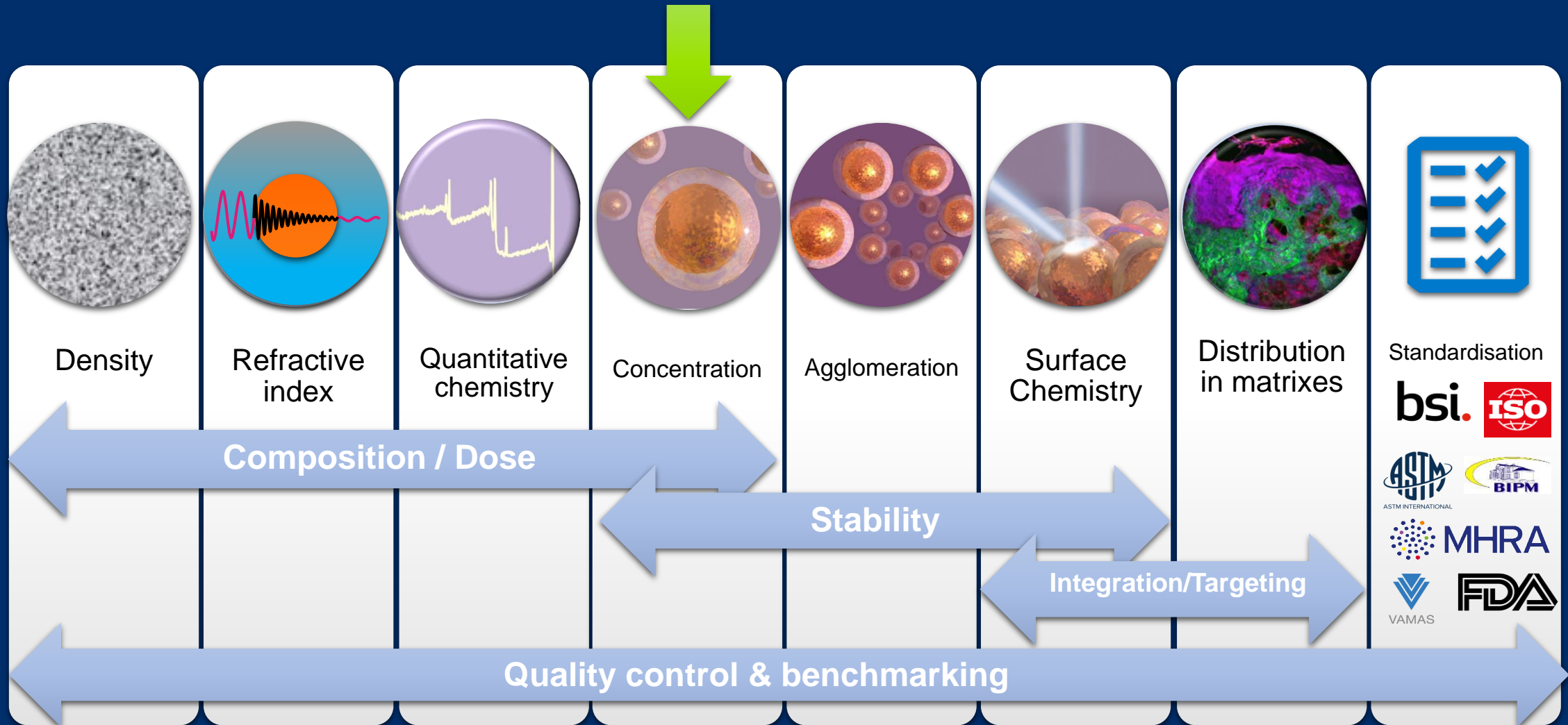
npl.co.uk

# MACRAME Webinar 1: Pathways to Validation and Standardisation

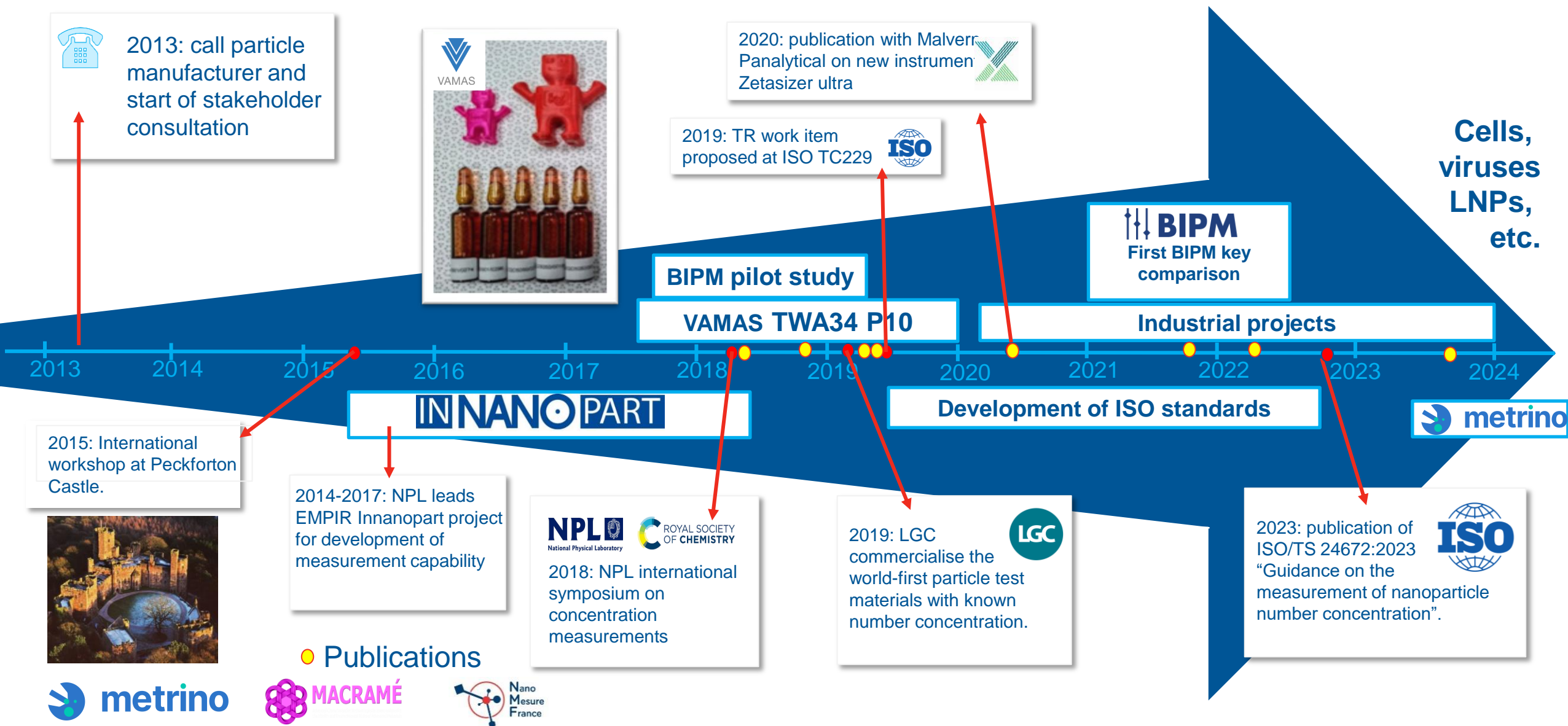
Part C: An exemplar journey from need to standard

Caterina Minelli

# Measurands & Performance



# Methods for colloidal concentration timeline





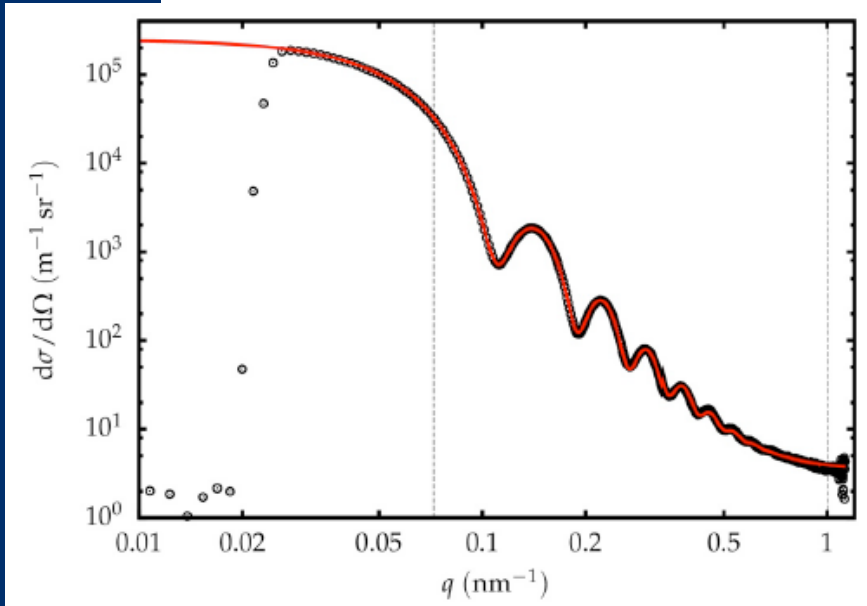
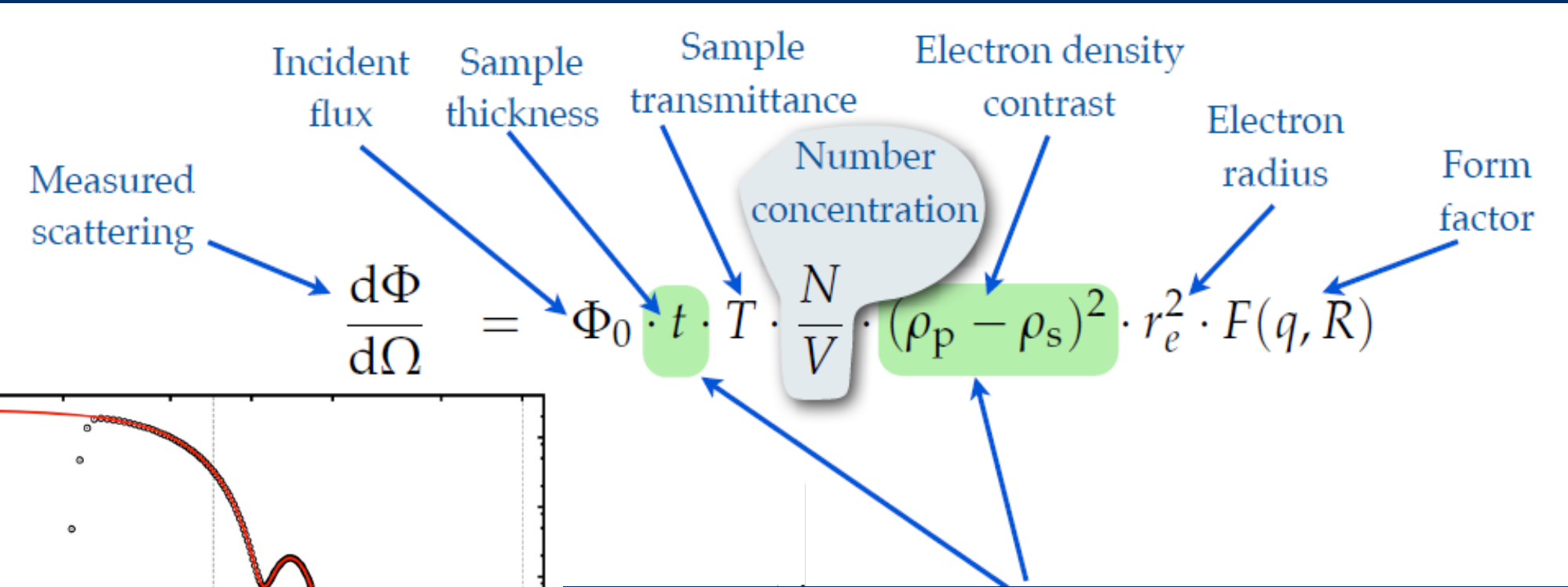
# Innanopart project: establishing a framework to measure number concentration

Primary traceable  
methods  
(SAXS and spICPMS)

Reference particles with  
known number  
concentration and  
uncertainty  
(gold, silica, polystyrene)

Verification/validation of  
laboratory methods  
(PTA, DLS, TRPS, UV-  
Vis, etc)

# Traceable SAXS



Largest sources of uncertainty

Number Concentration of Gold Nanoparticles in Suspension: SAXS and spICPMS as Traceable Methods Compared to Laboratory Methods  
A. Schavkan, et al., Nanomaterials 9 (2019) 502

# Validation of laboratory methods

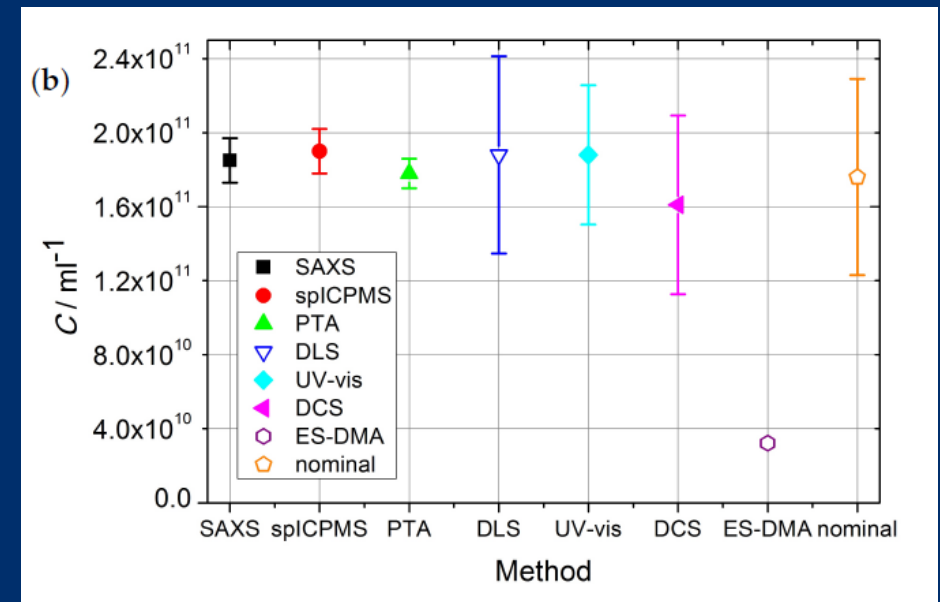
- SAXS and spICP-MS delivered traceable measurements of measured nanoparticle number concentration with well-defined uncertainty budget.
- This dataset was used to verify and validate a range of laboratory methods.
- We investigated gold, silica and polystyrene spherical particles.

Table 2. Number concentration of the gold suspensions. The tag “(ref)” denotes reference methods.

Method	$C_{Au10}/\text{mL}^{-1}$	$C_{Au30}/\text{mL}^{-1}$	$C_{Au100}/\text{mL}^{-1}$
SAXS (ref)	$(7.08 \pm 1.13) \cdot 10^{12}$	$(1.85 \pm 0.13) \cdot 10^{11}$	-
spICPMS (ref)	-	$(1.80 \pm 0.14) \cdot 10^{11}$	$(4.10 \pm 0.26) \cdot 10^9$
PTA	-	$(1.78 \pm 0.08) \cdot 10^{11}$	$(4.31 \pm 0.24) \cdot 10^9$
DLS	$(5.17 \pm 2.96) \cdot 10^{12}$	$(1.88 \pm 0.61) \cdot 10^{11}$	$(8.47 \pm 2.18) \cdot 10^9$
UV-vis	$(7.64 \pm 1.53) \cdot 10^{12}$	$(1.88 \pm 0.38) \cdot 10^{11}$	$(4.27 \pm 0.85) \cdot 10^9$
DCS/DLS	$(8.42 \pm 2.53) \cdot 10^{12}$	$(1.61 \pm 0.48) \cdot 10^{11}$	$(2.08 \pm 0.62) \cdot 10^9$
ES-DMA-CPC	$(9.03 \pm 0.32) \cdot 10^{11}$	$(3.22 \pm 0.12) \cdot 10^{10}$	-
Nominal	$(4.84 \pm 1.45) \cdot 10^{12}$	$(1.76 \pm 0.53) \cdot 10^{11}$	$(4.16 \pm 1.25) \cdot 10^9$

Number Concentration of Gold Nanoparticles in Suspension: SAXS and spICPMS as Traceable Methods Compared to Laboratory Methods

A. Schavkan, et al., Nanomaterials 9 (2019) 502



30 nm Au

# VAMAS TWA34 Project 10

## Nanoscale



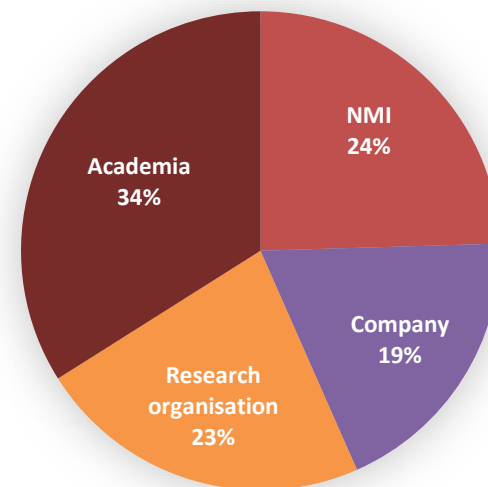
### PAPER



Cite this: *Nanoscale*, 2022, 14, 4690

### Versailles project on advanced materials and standards (VAMAS) interlaboratory study on measuring the number concentration of colloidal gold nanoparticles†

Caterina Minelli,<sup>1</sup> Magdalena Wywijas,<sup>2</sup> Dorota Bartczak,<sup>3</sup> Susana Cuello-Nuñez,<sup>4</sup> Heidi Goenaga Infante,<sup>5</sup> Jerome Deumer,<sup>6</sup> Christian Gollwitzer,<sup>7</sup> Michael Krummy,<sup>8</sup> Karen E. Murphy,<sup>9</sup> Monique E. Johnson,<sup>10</sup> Antonio R. Montoro Bustos,<sup>11</sup> Ingo H. Strenge,<sup>12</sup> Bertrand Faure,<sup>13</sup> Peter Høghøj,<sup>14</sup> Vivian Tong,<sup>15</sup> Loic Burr,<sup>16</sup> Karin Norling,<sup>17</sup> Fredrik Höök,<sup>18</sup> Matthias Roesslein,<sup>19</sup> Jovana Kocic,<sup>20</sup> Lyndsey Hendriks,<sup>21</sup> Vikram Kestens,<sup>22</sup> Yannic Ramaye,<sup>23</sup> Maria C. Contreras Lopez,<sup>24</sup> Guy Auclair,<sup>25</sup> Dora Mehn,<sup>26</sup> Douglas Gilliland,<sup>27</sup> Annegret Potthoff,<sup>28</sup> Kathrin Oelschlägel,<sup>29</sup> Jutta Tentschert,<sup>30</sup> Harald Jungnickel,<sup>31</sup> Benjamin C. Krause,<sup>32</sup> Yves U. Hachenberger,<sup>33</sup> Philipp Reichardt,<sup>34</sup> Andreas Luch,<sup>35</sup> Thomas E. Whittaker,<sup>36</sup> Molly M. Stevens,<sup>37</sup> Shalini Gupta,<sup>38</sup> Akash Singh,<sup>39</sup> Fang-hsin Lin,<sup>40</sup> Yi-Hung Liu,<sup>41</sup> Anna Luisa Costa,<sup>42</sup> Carlo Baldisserrì,<sup>43</sup> Rid Jawad,<sup>44</sup> Samir E. L. Andaloussi,<sup>45</sup> Margaret N. Holme,<sup>46</sup> Tae Geol Lee,<sup>47</sup> Minjeong Kwak,<sup>48</sup> Jaeseok Kim,<sup>49</sup> Johanna Ziebel,<sup>50</sup> Cedric Guignard,<sup>51</sup> Sebastien Cambier,<sup>52</sup> Servane Contal,<sup>53</sup> Arno C. Gutleb,<sup>54</sup> Jan "Kuba" Tatarkiewicz,<sup>55</sup> Bartłomiej J. Jankiewicz,<sup>56</sup> Bartosz Bartosewicz,<sup>57</sup> Xiaochun Wu,<sup>58</sup> Jeffrey A. Fagan,<sup>59</sup> Elisabeth Elje,<sup>60</sup> Elise Rundén-Pran,<sup>61</sup> Maria Dusinska,<sup>62</sup> Inder Preet Kaur,<sup>63</sup> David Price,<sup>64</sup> Ian Nesbitt,<sup>65</sup> Sarah O' Reilly,<sup>66</sup> Ruud J. B. Peters,<sup>67</sup> Guillaume Bucher,<sup>68</sup> Dennis Coleman,<sup>69</sup> Angela J. Harrison,<sup>70</sup> Antoine Ghanem,<sup>71</sup> Anne Gering,<sup>72</sup> Eileen McCarron,<sup>73</sup> Niamh Fitzgerald,<sup>74</sup> Geert Cornelis,<sup>75</sup> Jani Tuoriniemi,<sup>76</sup> Midori Sakai,<sup>77</sup> Hidehisa Tsuchida,<sup>78</sup> Ciarán Maguire,<sup>79</sup> Adriele Prina-Mello,<sup>80</sup> Alan J. Lawlor,<sup>81</sup> Jessica Adams,<sup>82</sup> Carolin L. Schultz,<sup>83</sup> Doru Constantin,<sup>84</sup> Nguyen Thi Kim Thanh,<sup>85</sup> Le Duc Tung,<sup>86</sup> Luca Panariello,<sup>87</sup> Spyridon Damilos,<sup>88</sup> Asterios Gavriilidis,<sup>89</sup> Iseult Lynch,<sup>90</sup> Benjamin Fryer,<sup>91</sup> Ana Carrazco Quevedo,<sup>92</sup> Emily Guggenheim,<sup>93</sup> Sophie Briffa,<sup>94</sup> Eugenia Valsami-Jones,<sup>95</sup> Yuxiong Huang,<sup>96</sup> Arturo A. Keller,<sup>97</sup> Virva-Tuuli Kinnunen,<sup>98</sup> Siiri Perämäki,<sup>99</sup> Zeljka Krpetic,<sup>100</sup> Michael Greenwood<sup>101</sup> and Alexander G. Shard<sup>102</sup>



■ NMI ■ Company ■ Research organisation ■ Academia



TWA 34

# Participant pack:

Buffer salts to prepare dispersant

Filters, to filter dispersant

Empty vials, to prepare sample dilutions

Weights to test variability of scale for mass measurements.

5 vials of test material [LGCQCC5050](#), consisting of 30 nm gold nanoparticles.



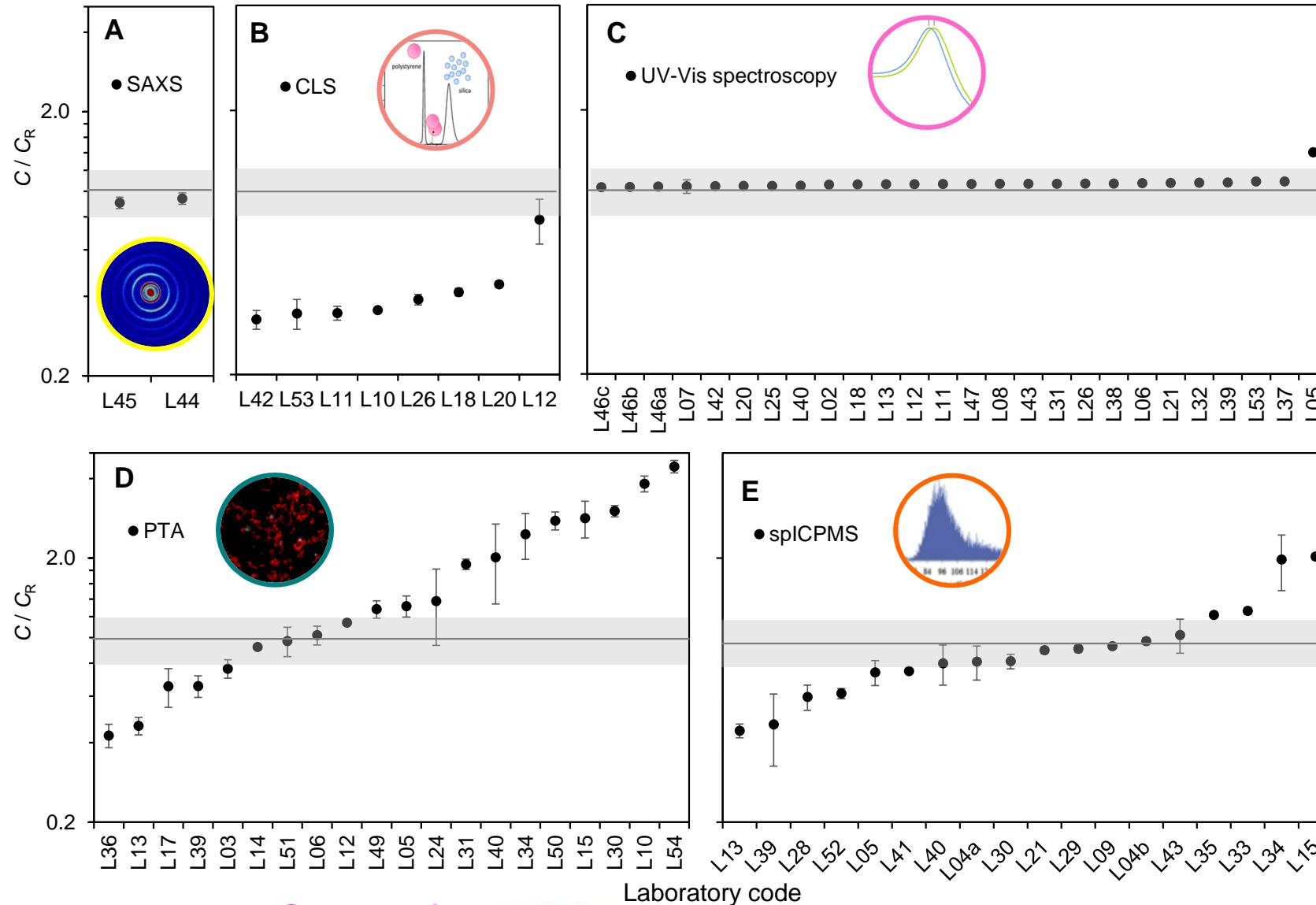
Experimental protocol for the measurements.

# Interlaboratory study results

*This video is a courtesy of James Burgon and the training team at NPL.*

*This material as part of a training course on method validation now available on the NPL e-learning portal.*

# Interlaboratory study results



## Population-average methods:

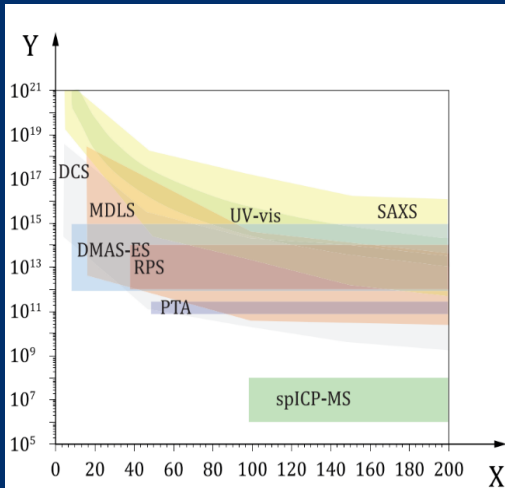
- Concentration value is typically derived from a mathematical formula.
- High precision.
- Requires knowledge of other experimental values and materials properties.
- Can be calibrated for sample losses in the system.

## Particle-counting methods:

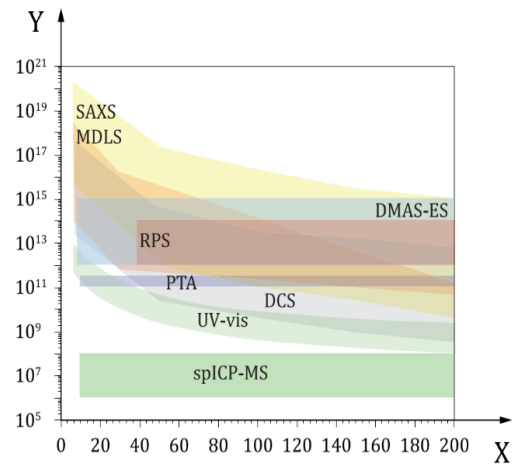
- Concentration value is typically derived from “counting” the signal from individual particles.
- Significant variability.
- Samples typically require high dilutions, which may cause sample instabilities.
- Software typically requires manual setting of signal thresholds.

# ISO technical documents

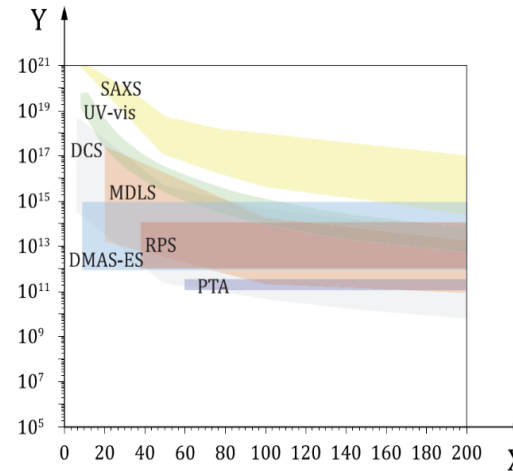
## ISO/TC 24672



a) Silica



b) Gold



c) Polystyrene

TECHNICAL  
SPECIFICATION

ISO/TS  
24672

First edition  
2023-11

**Nanotechnologies — Guidance on the measurement of nanoparticle number concentration**

*Nanotechnologies — Conseils pour la mesure de la concentration en nombre de nanoparticules*

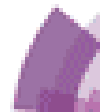
Also relevant:

- ISO 23484:2023 – SAXS
- ISO/TS 19590:2017 – spICP-MS
- ISO/DIS 19430 – PTA – *in preparation for publication*

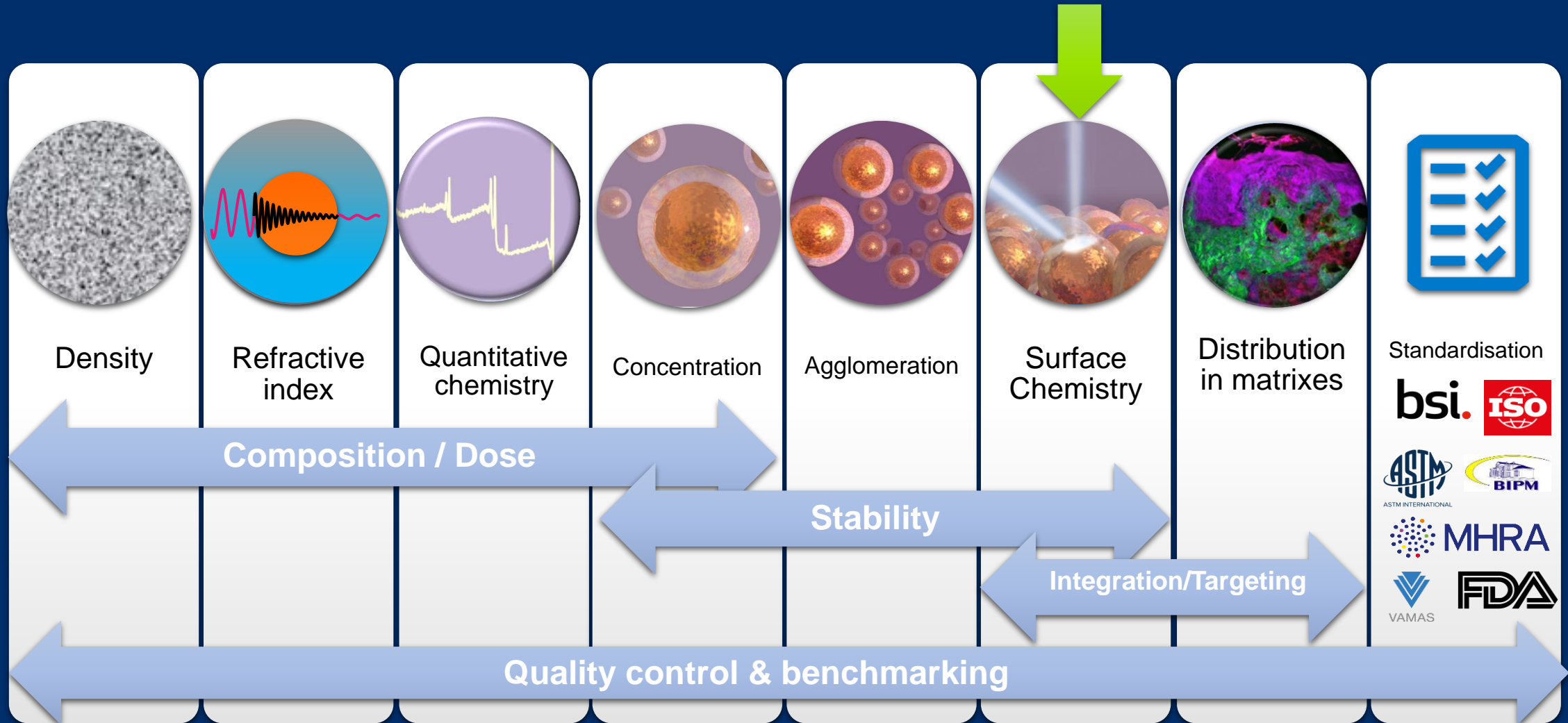


# Long term impact

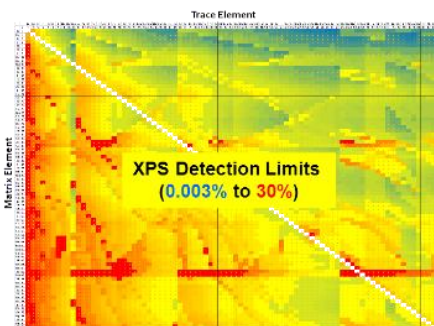
- LGC, who was partner in the EU project, has commercialised the test material, which is now available to the community.
- A BIPM interlaboratory comparison took place to certify the number concentration of the test material.
- Anyone can purchase the material, run the measurements and compare the results to those of the VAMAS studies to validate and benchmark their measurement capabilities.
- We translated the knowledge developed within these studies into three ISO documentary standards.
- We applied the methods in industrial collaborative R&D.



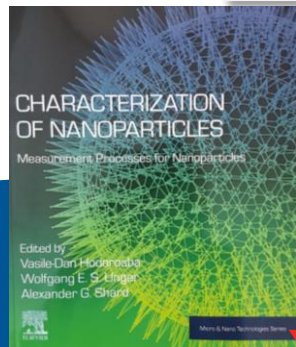
# Measurands & Performance



# XPS methods for nanoparticle timeline



2016: VAMAS lead, Nanoparticle coating Thickness and composition



2020: first demonstration of 200 nm information depth HAXPES instrument with Royce Institute



2019: first calibration of a HAXPES instrument with Kratos Analytical and IUK



2020: VAMAS lead, XPS intensity calibration using polyethylene



2021: Application of HAXPES to nanomedicines



2022: PoC of CryoXPS for nanomedicines



2015: VAMAS lead, Composition measurement in organic depth profile



BIPM P190

BIPM K157



EMRP Biosurf project

EMPIR Innanopart project

20+ industrial projects

2015: International workshop at Peckforton Castle.



2014-2017: NPL leads EMPIR Innanopart project on nanoparticle coatings

2017: ISO 19668, XPS detection limits



2019: ISO 22415, Ar cluster yield volume



2021: ISO 23173, Nanoparticle coatings



2020: Addressing Reproducibility Crisis In JVSTA



2020: RSC Industrial Analytical Chemistry Award

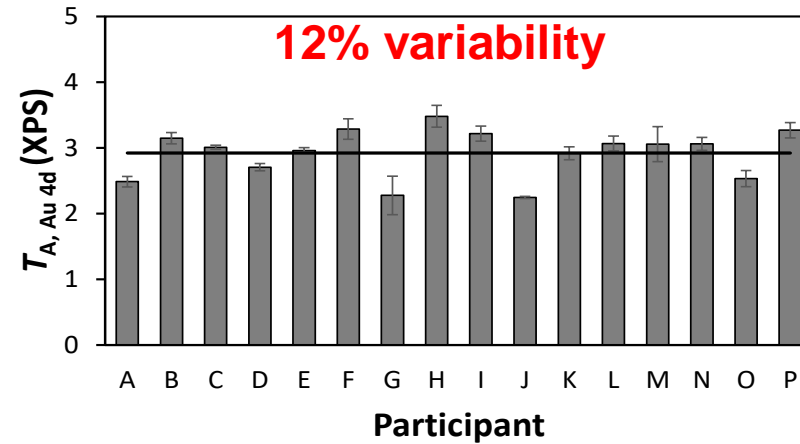
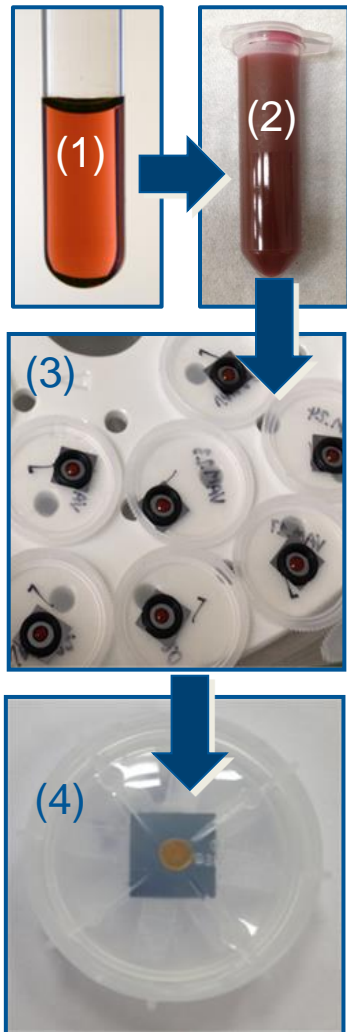


● Publications

# VAMAS inter-laboratory study

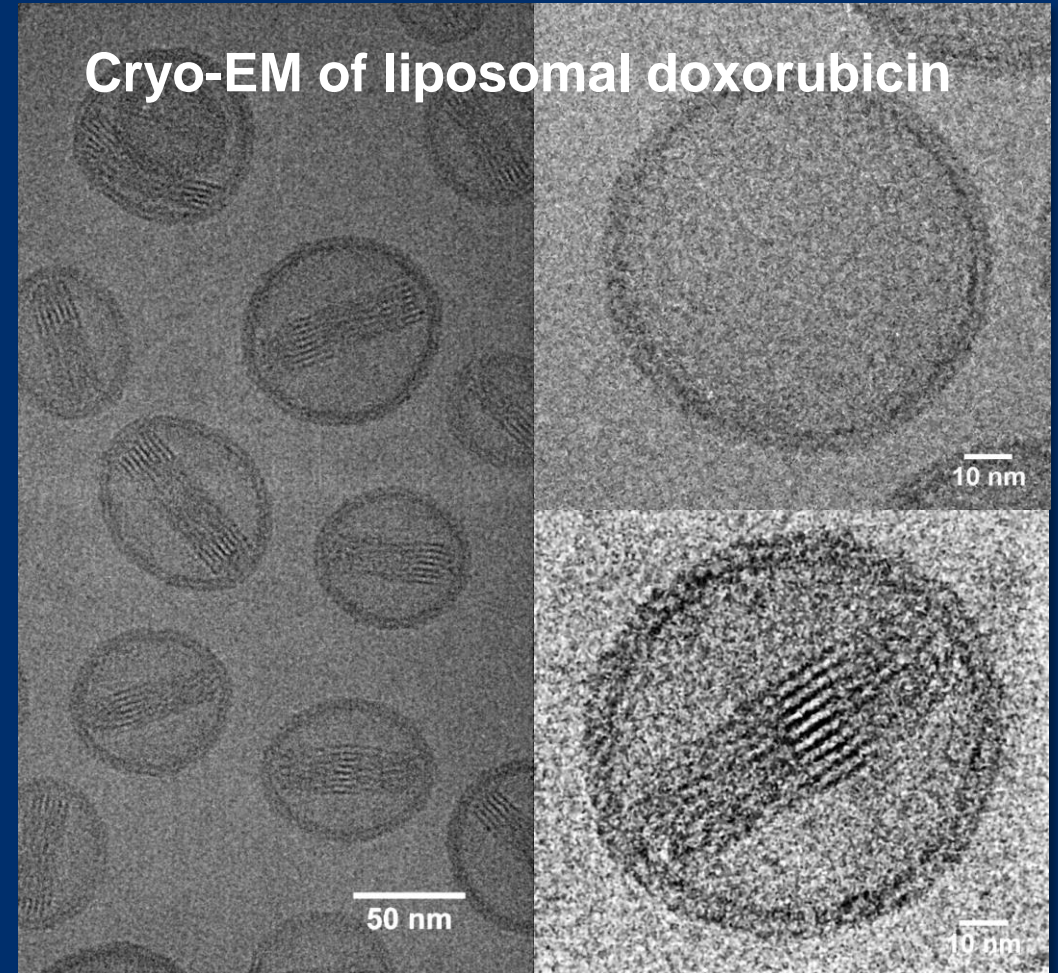


## Measurement of chemistry and thickness of coatings

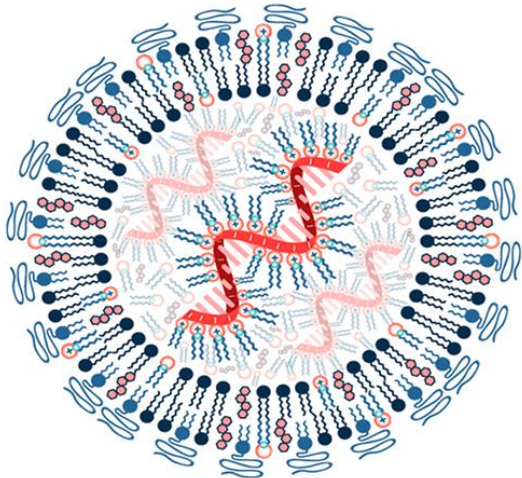


# Challenge with soft materials

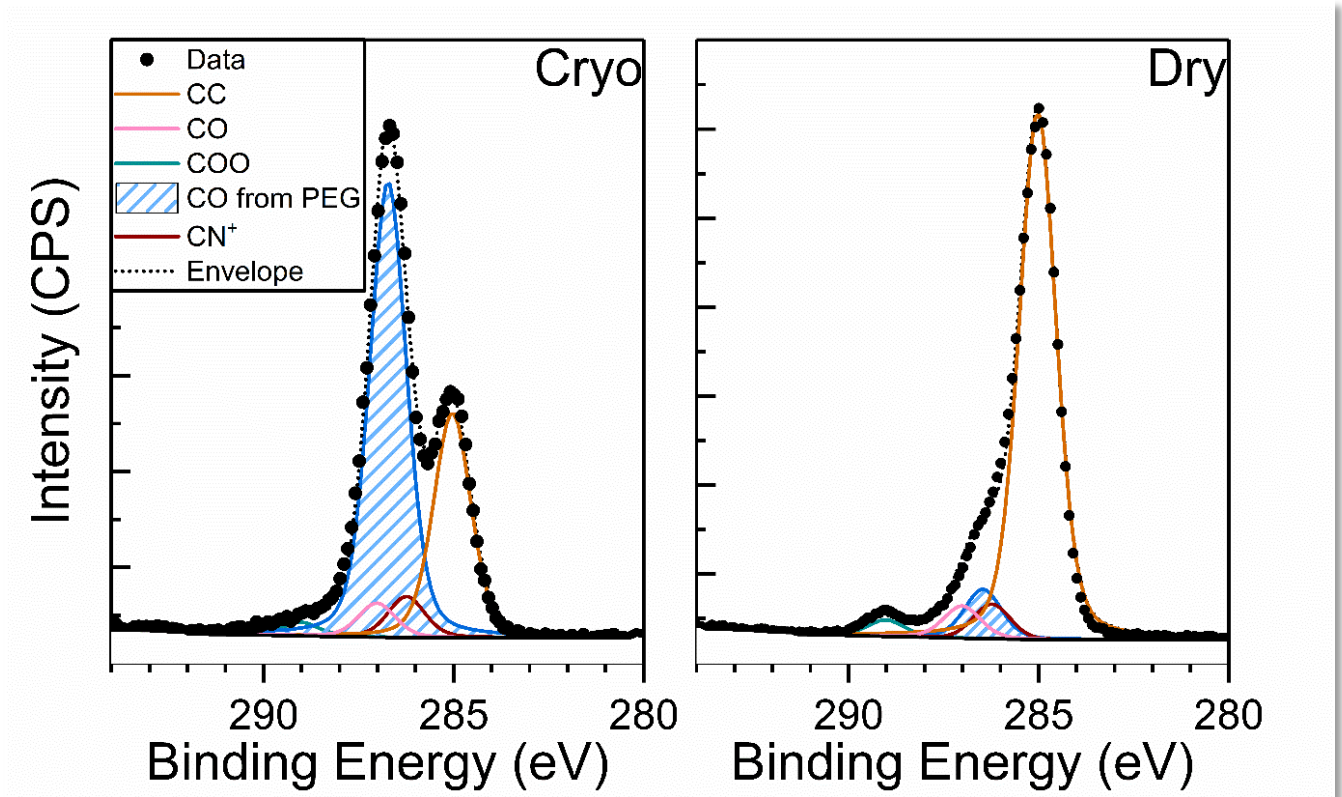
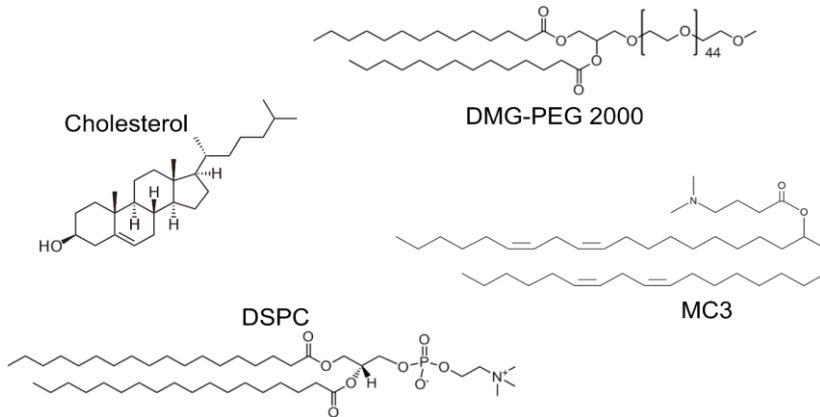
- Introducing soft materials such as LNPs in vacuum is a challenge as structure is generally disrupted.
- However, vacuum methods holds the potential for robust chemical analysis for
  - Functional surfaces
  - Quality of encapsulation and drug distribution
  - Chemical composition and drug loading
- Potential approaches to the preparation of materials include:
  - Lyophilisation
  - Cryogenic preparation



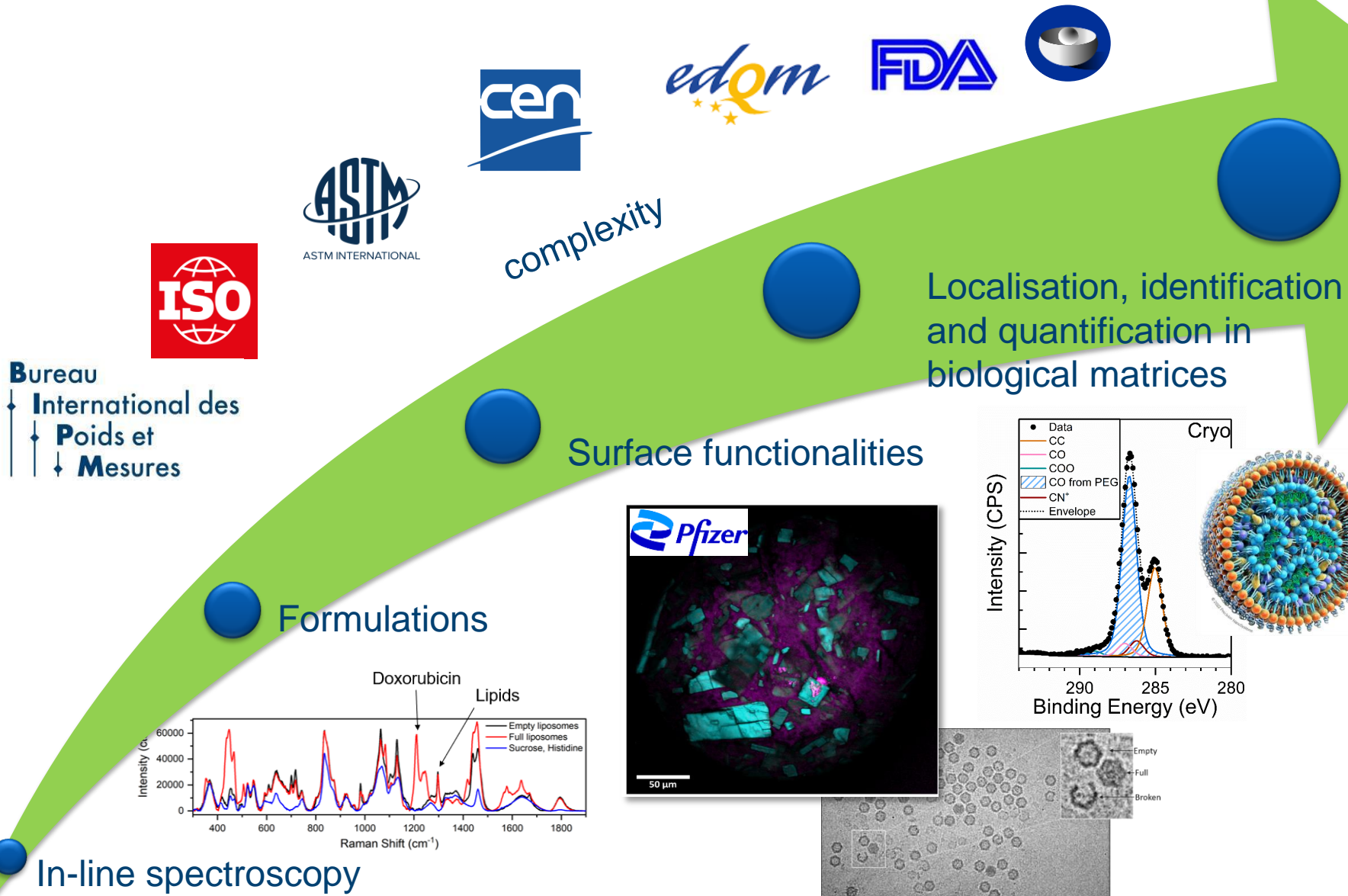
# CryoXPS of RNA loaded LNPs



- PEG-lipid
- Charged ionizable lipid
- Cholesterol
- Neutral ionizable lipid
- DSPC



# Metrology for precision delivery



Bureau  
International des  
Poids et  
Mesures



complexity

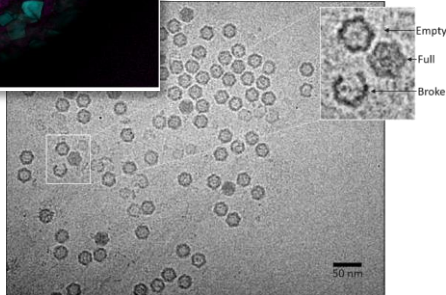
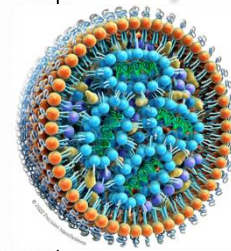
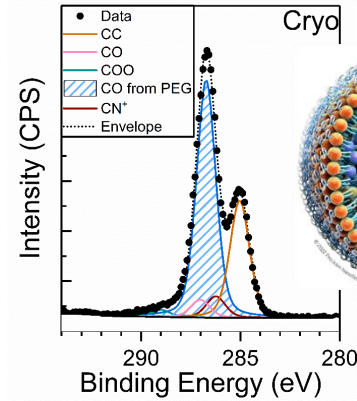
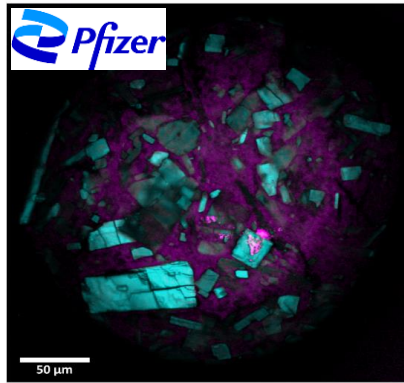
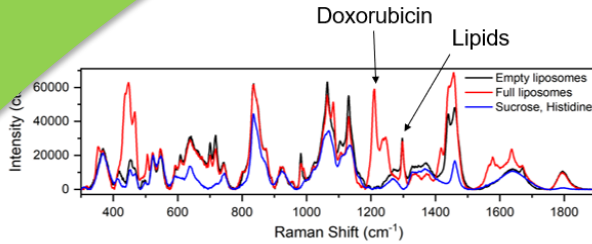
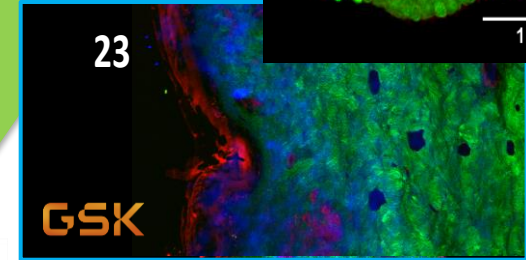
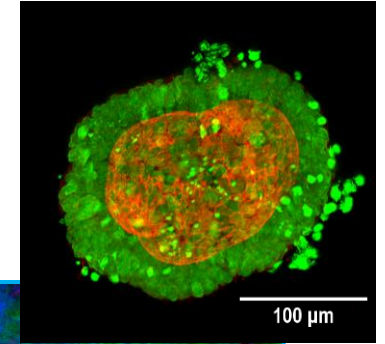
Potency,  
therapeutic  
index

Localisation, identification  
and quantification in  
biological matrices

Surface functionalities

Formulations

In-line spectroscopy



# 2023 Workshop on the international standardisation roadmap for nanomedicine (Paris)

Speakers from the EC/Joint Research Center, SINTEF Industry, international National Metrology, PHOENIX and SAFE-n-MEDTECH Open Innovation Test Beds, EDQM, CEN, ISO, ASTM and VAMAS.

Platform to gain insights into ongoing initiatives and to advocate for a more active role of the European Metrology community in fostering connections among the diverse stakeholders involved

The development of standard test methods and reference materials are key priorities for the European Commission, international metrology institutes, industrial stakeholders and regulators.

However, the standardisation framework is very complex with multiple independent bodies.

## Recommendation:

- **create a European interest group on standardisation focusing on nanomedicine**
  - A specific Working Group “*Nanomedecine*” under CEN/TC 352 *Nanotechnologies* could be created aiming at mapping the ongoing and existing standardisation efforts developed by ISO, ASTM, CEN, and to propose a standardisation nanomedicine roadmap.
- strengthen interactions between standardisation committees and dedicated organisations specifically associated to the quality assessment of pharmaceutical products such as the ICH and the EDQM.
- create a dedicated European Metrology Network (EMN).
  - In the meanwhile, **the newly formed CCQM Task Group on Particle Metrology** in collaboration with relevant Joint Research Projects such as MetrINo and/or specific associations of stakeholders (e.g. NanoMesureFrance, or the ETPN- Nanomedicine European Technology Platform) could initiate specific networking actions.



# Take-home message

- Interaction with stakeholders is critical at identifying metrology gaps.
- Standardisation is a long process.
- Stakeholder participation to the process is important to ensure best practice is fit-for-purpose and adopted.

## Acknowledgements



metrino

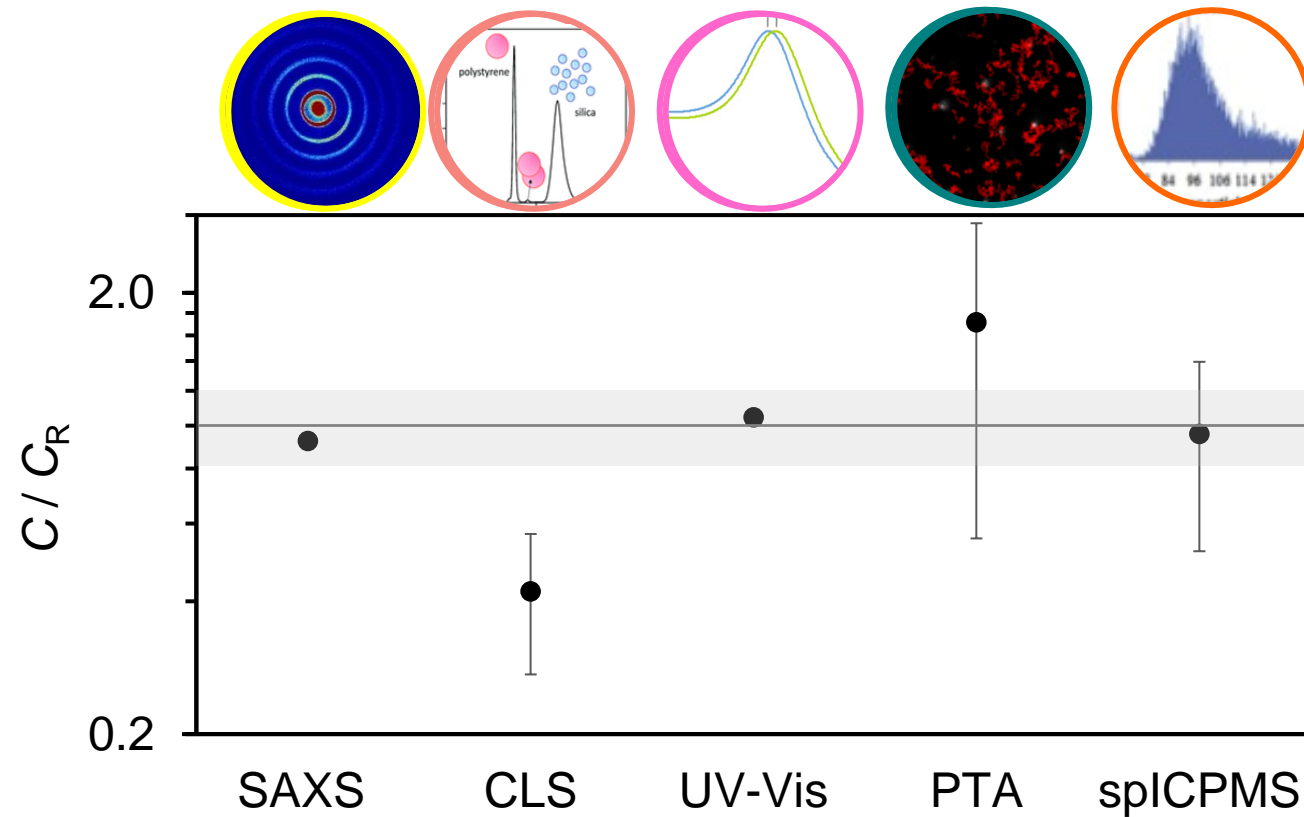


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# Measurement reproducibility



within-lab variability	5 %	5 %	0.5 %	11.3 %	8.9 %
between-lab variability	3 %	11 %	1.2 %	68 %	45 %

# Analytical challenges for nanoparticles

- Variety of nanoparticles – one size does not fit all.
- Complexity – What critical quality attributes? full characterisation can be cost prohibitive.
- Heterogeneity – but what tolerance? What analytical specifications?
- Generics/biosimilars, scale up manufacturing – but how much similar?
- Measurements at relevant concentration and in relevant matrixes.
- Some technologies are advancing fast, outpacing the analytical capability.
- New manufacturing paradigms, such as continuous manufacturing, require a shift from quality control of products to quality assurance of methods.
- Digital tweens and other digital tools require quality data for training and prediction. What specifications?