

### CHARACTERIZATION STUDIES OF THE CANDIDATE REFERENCE MATERIALS

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- Practical approaches
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- Certification

#### **DEFINITIONS:**

#### REFERENCE MATERIAL (RM)

Material sufficiently homogeneous and stabile with respect to one or more specified properties witch has been established to be fit for its intended to use in a measurement process.

#### CERTIFIED REFERENCE MATERIAL (CRM)

Reference material accompanied by documentation issued by relevant body and provide one or more specified property values with associated uncertainties and a statement of traceability, characterized by a metrological valid procedure.

#### **DEFINITIONS:**

PRODUCTION OF REFERENCE MATERIAL All necessary activities and tasks leading to a reference material.

CANDIDATE REFERENCE MATERIAL
Material intended to be reference material.

CHARACTERISATION OF CANDIDATE REFERENCE MATERIAL Value assignment – The estimation of the mean value of quantity of candidate material.

Characterization of candidate reference material is in general process of determination of assigned value for specific measurand.

There are two main approaches:
 1. Characterization by a single method
 2. Characterization by multiple methods and/of multiple laboratories

NOTE: Both approaches should be able to make their measurements traceable to the references

An appropriate approach can be chosen depending on:

- The type reference material
- Knowledge of the specific matrix
- End-use requirements
- Qualifications laboratory involved
- Quality of method(s) / Measurement capabilities
- Ability to estimate the uncertainty
- Intended use of the material

NOTE: Each aproach requires a good knowledge of statistical modeling of data

Establishing and demonstrating traceability is important requirement of reference material in its role as a measurement standard.

> There are several possibilities for achieving traceability:

 Property values should be made traceable to SI units and expressed in corresponding units

#### ESTABLISHING AND/OR VERIFYING TRACEABLITY



- Property values can be made traceable to standard method and/or SOPs developed on the basis od the standard methods
- Property values can be made traceable to other measurement standards of artifacts, including CRMs and RMs

NOTE: Choosing approach should be made based on the intended use of the CRM

- > Includes experimental set-ups known as *collaborative study*
- Used measurements procedures should be made traceable to (preferably) SI units
- Group of measurement methods that can be used is formed by primary methods of measurement

#### CCQM DEFINITION:

- Primary methods of measurement is a method having the highest metrological properties, whose operation can be completely described and understood for witch a complete uncertainty statement can be written down in terms of SI units.
- Primary direct method measures the value of unknown without reference to a standard of the same quantity.
- Primary ratio method measures the value of ratio of unknown to a standard of the same quantity.

CCQM has identified several methods with potential of being primary methods of Measurements

- Isotope dilution with mass spectroscopy
- Coulometry
- Gravimetry
- Titrimetry
- $\geq k_0$  Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis ( $k_0$ -INAA)

- ENVCRM 01 Elements in River Water CRM
  - Se characterization value



#### **APPROACH 2:** *one or more methods in multiple laboratory*

- The concept of determination based on agreement among method(s) and/or laboratories is based on:
  - There exist a population of methods and laboratories that is capable in determination of characteristics of the RM to provide results accurate enough
  - The differences between individual results, both, within and between methods/laboratories are statistical regardless

#### **APPROACH 2:** *one or different methods in multiple laboratory*

- The general procedure for the characterization of a candidate reference material using Approach 2 can be described as follows:
- Preparation of the material
- Stability and homogeneity testing
- Sending the proper amount od candidate material to laboratories

This step includes providing to participants the clear instructions regarding storage of sample, number of measurement (ect)

#### **APPROACH 2:** *one or different methods in multiple laboratory*

- Collecting the results
- Estimation of assigned value and measurement uncertainty
- Certification of material

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#### **APPROACH 2:** *one or different methods in multiple laboratory*

- Results from different methods should be checked in order to see whether they agree within uncertainties.
- The minimum number of participating laboratories in the characterization study is variable, depending on complexity of the measurement procedure.
  - Well established methods the number can be small as 2 or 3
  - The more complex procedure, the larger between laboratory variation can be expected increase the number of laboratory

#### **APPROACH 2:** *one or different methods in multiple laboratory*

UME CRM1201 – Elements in Spring Water CRM



#### **APPROACH 3:** *two or more reference methods in one laboratory*

- Each technique should be validated and metrologically traceable.
- Results from different methods should be checked in order to see whether they agree within uncertainties. Bias tests should be performed.
- Combination of primary and conventional methods is possible.

#### **APPROACH 4:** *method dependent measurement results*

- The measurand is a parameter measurable with certain protocol (e.g. International standard) or an operational procedure.
- Traceability of measurements is still very important.
- Method dependent certification.

#### Approach 1: single method in one laboratory

The assigned value should be average from a designed study using more than one items of candidate reference material and after applying appropriate outlier tests using suitable measurement method.

Appropriate measurement method is previously explained!

#### Approach 1: single method in one laboratory

The assigned value should be estimated under more than one measurement conditions.

Different time of measurement, analyst, etc.!

The assigned value should be estimated using sufficient number of replicate measurements.

Series of repeated test on each candidate material item!

#### Approach 2: one/multiple method in multiple laboratory

- The assigned value can be determined using interlaboratory comparison study.
- The assigned value is the estimate of robust mean, median or arithmetic mean, calculated using appropriate procedure.
- Each laboratory is required to provide a standard uncertainty with their results.

#### Approach 2: one/multiple method in multiple laboratory

#### > MEDIAN

- statistical technique robust to outliers
- estimator of the population mean for symetric distribution

To determine median:

- Sort data into increasing order
- Calculate:

#### Approach 2: one/multiple method in multiple laboratory

- Middle of a sorted series of data (odd No. of laboratories)
- Average of the two middle values of a sorted series of data (even No. of laboratories)

$$med(x) = \begin{cases} x_{\{(p+1)/2\}} & p \text{ odd} \\ \frac{x_{\{p/2\}} + x_{\{1+p/2\}}}{2} & p \text{ even} \end{cases}$$

#### Approach 2: one/multiple method in multiple laboratory

#### MAD - Median of absolute deviations

- Robust standard deviation
- Estimate of the population standard deviation for normally distributed data

Approach 2: one/multiple method in multiple laboratory

To estimate MAD:

- Calculate absolute differences

$$d_i = \left| x_i - med(x) \right|$$

MAD = median of absolute differences

- Calculate MADe:

MADe(x) = 1,483 med(d)

#### Approach 2: one/multiple method in multiple laboratory

#### CONCENSUS VALUE: ISO 13528 algA

- Statistical technique robust to outliers
- Robust estimates of the mean and standard deviation of the data

#### To estimate robust mean and std:

- Sort data into increasing order

#### Approach 2: one/multiple method in multiple laboratory

- Use robust estimate of median and MADe
- Update values as follows:

$$x^* = \text{median of } x_i \qquad (i = 1, 2, ..., p)$$

$$s^* = 1,483$$
 median of  $|x_i - x^*|$  with  $(i = 1, 2, ..., p)$ 

- Recalculate x\* = ARITMETIC MEAN
- Recalculate s\* arithmetic mean and 1.134s

#### Approach 2: one/multiple method in multiple laboratory

- The robust estimates of mean and standard deviations may be derived by an iterative calculation
- Process converges there no change from one iteration to the next

#### CERTIFICATION

- CRM is accompanied by a certificate providing at least following:
- Properties of interest
- Their values
- Their uncertainties
- Statement concerning metrological traceability

#### CERTIFICATION

Certificate accompanied a CRM is a summary of program of work, involving selection od material, assessment of homogeneity and stability, method of characterization, validity of the certificate, description of the sample, instructions for use, etc. INSTITUT ZA MJERITELJSTVO BOSNE I HERCEGOVINE \* ИНСТИТУТ ЗА МЕТРОЛОГИЈУ БОСНЕ И ХЕРЦЕГОВИНЕ \* INSTITUTE OF METROLOGY OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

## **Questions?**

# Thank you for your attention!

